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July 8, 2008

Environmental Analysis Section Chief Victoria Rutson
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

Subject: *Canadian National Railway Co., et al. – Control – EJ&E
West Company, STB Finance Docket No. 35087*

Dear Chief Victoria Rutson:

I am writing in support of CN's proposed acquisition of the major portion of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway Company (EJ&E).

I represent CXT Inc. Concrete Tie Division. CXT designs and sells pre-stressed concrete railroad ties to a variety of customers from three locations located within the United States; Spokane WA, Tucson AZ and Grand Island NE. We have produced over 14 million concrete ties since 1976, including 4 million for CN. Our annual production is based on repeat customers like Canadian National Railway supporting our business and shipping our products across America in a timely manner.

The bulk of our CXT concrete ties are shipped via rail car. Although the railroads do a very effective job moving and tracking our cargo in North America the current transportation infrastructure will not be capable of handling additional large volumes unless these types of projects are approved. I know the City of Chicago is a very important center for North American rail traffic, but like many other rail corridors in Chicago and North America it is congested and needs vast improvements.

I feel the CN's proposed acquisition would help to reduce congestion by rerouting CN traffic from downtown to the less congested EJ&E line in suburban Chicago. This transaction will improve rail service in the Chicago metropolitan area, to the benefit of railroads and their customers as well as the region in general.

I ask the STB to approve this transaction expeditiously, as proposed by CN in its request for establishment of time limits for the environmental review and for issuance of a final decision. I support a meaningful environmental review to examine the impacts of moving train traffic off of downtown Chicago rail lines to the EJ&E, particularly as some communities along the EJ&E right-of-way will experience train traffic increases.

I urge the Board to complete its environmental review process expeditiously, and to approve this beneficial transaction as in the public interest.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,



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