

Mary Howe

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July 18, 2008

The Honorable Anne K. Quinlan, Esq.
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

Subject: CN Railway Company/EJ&E, STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

Although I do not have eyesight and thus cannot drive, the issue of train congestion touches drivers and passengers alike in many Chicago area communities, including here in Blue Island. CN's proposal to buy part of the EJ&E line and then move many trains to this railway will make a real difference in travel time to Blue Island residents. I encourage you to approve this venture.

Through the transportation service I use, I am frequently delayed at railroad crossings by stopped freight trains. I know that there are scores of cars that wait at the crossings during such periods as well. This creates an infinite number of missed appointments and delays in services rendered. The broader effects on the region may not be calculable, but are no doubt very great.

Since Blue Island is one of the communities most burdened with this railway congestion, we are very grateful for any change that comes. CN's suggested solution to the problem at hand strikes me as very reasonable and balanced. I request that you approve this purchase so that CN can start making a difference. Thank you for your anticipated support.

Sincerely,


Mary Howe