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March 17, 2008

The Honorable Anne K. Quinlan
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Re: Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Acting Secretary Quinlan:

As Alderman of the City of Chicago's 9th Ward, I am pleased to support of Canadian National Railroad's proposed acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway Company. This acquisition will play an important role in strengthening our business community at a critical time, and on behalf of the 9th Ward I urge you to please consider our support of this proposal.

Railway congestion in the Chicago area has been such a daunting challenge for so long that many people assume it will *always* be a challenge; that gridlock is inevitable; that goods and services are destined to move slowly through the region.

I think we can do better. Canadian National Railroad has a plan to restructure rail traffic flow for the better and revitalize our region's business opportunities. Their plan deserves very real consideration moving forward, as the streamlining of rail operations will bring economic, environmental and public-safety benefits to the entire region.

In the 9th Ward specifically, we have extensive traffic along three railways including the Union Pacific Line from 116th through 138th Street, the CSX Line from 125th through 129th Street and the Pen Central Line from 99th Street through 138th Street.

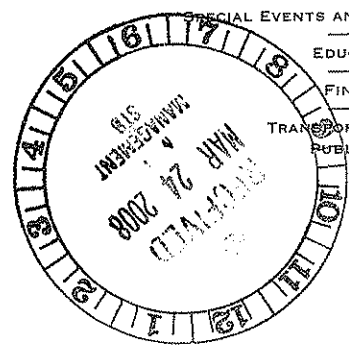
I urge you to please support Canadian National Railroad's acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway Company. Thank you for your consideration.

If you have any questions, I may be reached at (773) 785-1100.

Sincerely,

Anthony A. Beale
Alderman 9th Ward

AB/jrbcc



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CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087
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