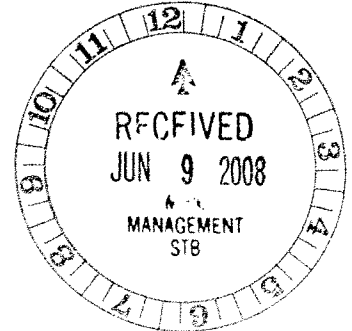


Richard Zell

2239 W. Roscoe Street
Chicago, IL 60618
(773) 325-9805

May 29, 2008

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



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

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

It is with a sense of urgency that I write to you regarding CN's purchase of a portion of the EJ&E Railway line. I am in support of this transaction as it will bring many benefits to the Chicago area, both economic and environmental.

As a longtime resident of the Chicago area, I understand the issues that we are currently facing due to extreme rail congestion. It currently takes approximately 24 hours for a train to pass through Chicago. Most of this time is spent idling, further polluting our air quality. The congestion also delays many residents as trains frequently block main thoroughfares. Furthermore, studies have shown that if the problems surrounding Chicago's railway congestion are not solved, the city could lose \$2 billion in production as well as 17,000 jobs over the next twenty years.

For these reasons, I strongly encourage you to approve CN's proposal. The transportation problems associated with rail congestion must be dealt with in a timely manner and CN has the plan and resources to make it happen.

Sincerely,

Richard Zell

cc: Senator Richard Durbin
Senator Barack Obama
Congressman Rahm Emanuel