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May 27, 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:

I feel that CN's intended purchase of part of the EJ&E railway outlying the Chicago region is a welcome course of action. We have to do something to reduce the train congestion, since it is a big problem in this region. CN's plan will reduce the overall railroad crowding in the city by re-routing freight traffic to lines outside of Chicago.

Recently, my experience with the heavy freight lines was from the perspective of a passenger. I had ridden the train back from Lincoln, Nebraska, and because of a bridge being out in Iowa City, we had to take the freight line back. I personally experienced just how congested these lines are. We frequently were stopped for 20 to 30 minutes on our way into Chicago.

Inside of the city, trains often block crossings, forcing many cars to sit and waste gas. As there has to be a more efficient way to preserve our fossil fuels for future generations, a change is needed now more than ever. For a variety of reasons, therefore, I support CN's plan to reduce the Chicago region's train congestion.

Sincerely,


Lillian Gunnar

cc: Senator Dick Durbin
Senator Barack Obama
Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky