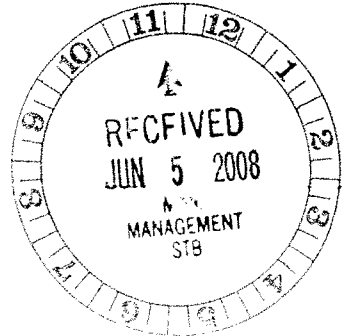


Cedric Forbes

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May 22, 2008

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



Dear Secretary Quinlan:

It recently came to my attention that CN, a major rail operator in the Chicago area, is attempting to address the issues associated with rail congestion by re-routing freight traffic around the city. In order to be able to do this, their effort to purchase a percentage of EJ&E Railway must be approved by your agency. As a resident of the region, I fully support this purchase as a way to reduce congestion and pollution in Chicago.

Personally, I don't travel much. However, here in Harvey I know that there is a large problem with freight trains. It often takes up to 25 minutes for a train to clear the local train crossing. This type of delay occurs a couple of times a week, and it's very annoying for drivers who are blocked there. Diverting the freight traffic around the city is a viable step toward solving this problem. Additionally, if this plan is approved, there will be fewer pollutants in the air caused by idling trains and the attendant idling cars that are stopped at crossings.

Please support CN's acquisition of a portion of EJ&E. Thank you for your attention to this issue.

Sincerely,


Cedric Forbes

cc: Senator Dick Durbin
Senator Barack Obama
Congressman Jesse L. Jackson Jr.