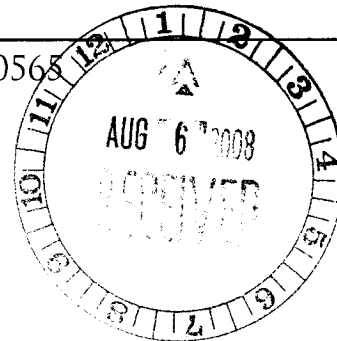


10086

GERALD A. CASSIOPPI

1829 ARABIAN AVENUE • NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS 60565



August 1, 2008

The Honorable Anne K. Quinlan, Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board (STB)
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-001

Docket #35087- Canadian National Railway Company (CN)/ Grand Trunk Corp. - Control - EJ&E West Co.

Dear Ms. Quinlan:

I am a candidate for the DuPage County Board, representing District 5. I am keenly interested in this matter as it directly impacts this District's residents, businesses and neighborhoods in that a principal line runs its entire length.

I have attended several local meetings where the CN proposal has been discussed, including the Naperville Area Chamber of Commerce Special Business Briefing on May 16, in Lisle, where Jim Foote, a CN Executive VP spoke and was attended by local government and business leaders. I also attended the Call to Action Meeting on July 23 at Waubonsie Valley High School in Aurora, sponsored by The Regional Answer to Canadian National (TRAC), where many concerned government officials spoke in support of TRAC and over 750 impacted residents attended.

I am also aware of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement recently issued July 25 and would oppose the CN proposal as currently structured until the following concerns are addressed:

Traffic Congestion: At-grade crossings along the EJ&E are strategic links within the region for moving residents, employees and goods, e.g., Route 34 is a major state highway, with 45,000 daily vehicles. More train traffic will increase delay, congestion and emissions unless the CN is forced to grade separate the highest volume crossings.

STAR Line: Communities have invested millions of dollars in support of the STAR Line commuter rail which will decrease congestion in the region through intersuburban commuter rail. The acquisition should not impact the future of the STAR Line from a cost or feasibility perspective.

Increased Train Traffic Noise: Noise impacts, including engine noise and surface vibration, must be addressed.

Costs to Communities and Illinois: Enormous costs will be incurred to offset the impacts of the increased train traffic. The region's businesses and residents should not bear the costs of CN's operational efficiency.

Increased Hazardous Material: CN's estimate of 43 carloads per day growing to 380 carloads is a serious concern. The STB must ensure that the CN's safety programs can effectively manage any hazardous materials issues.

The impact to our residents and businesses along the EJ&E line are real and are not to be dismissed through this transaction's consideration. Please consider these concerns as opposition to the CN proposal as currently structured.

Very truly yours,

Gerald A. Cassioppi

cc: Hon. Judy Biggert
Hon. Peter Roskam
Hon. Barack Obama
Hon. Richard Durbin
Hon. George Pradel
Hon. Tom Weisner
Hon. James Healy
Hon. Darlene Senger
Hon. Lynda Elmore