

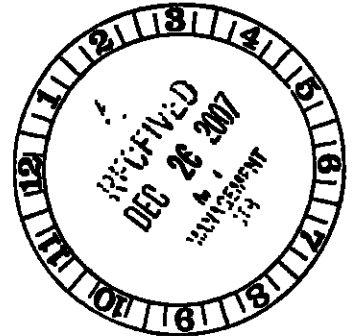
ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

DEC 27 2007

Part of
Public Record

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 18, 2007



Mr. Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

FD 35087

221130

Dear Secretary Williams:

We are writing to express our support for the expeditious consideration of Canadian National Railway Company's (CN) proposed acquisition of railway owned by Elgin, Joliet, and Eastern Railway Company (EJ&E). We believe the proposed transaction provides substantial benefits for both Michigan and Illinois, and the Surface Transportation Board should consider this petition as soon as possible.

Rail transportation is of vital importance to the state of Michigan and to our businesses operating in the state. We support CN's proposed acquisition of EJ&E rail lines because the railroad industry must be able to operate as efficiently as possible to meet customers' needs.

This transaction will improve rail service without having an adverse effect on shippers' competitive options. The acquisition of these new rail lines would allow CN to reroute many trains now traveling through Chicago's city center to the city's periphery thereby streamlining the flow of goods to and from Michigan. Further, other carriers serving the Chicago area would experience fewer delays as fewer trains would be competing for limited track capacity.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this matter, and hope the Surface Transportation Board will advance a decision as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Joe Knollenberg
Member of Congress

Thaddeus McCotter
Member of Congress