

Bernard Gallagher

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June 17, 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:

As a retiree, my need to get around town in a timely fashion may not be as pressing as are the requirements of those still working. I can still see, though, how freight train congestion presents enormous problems for the Chicago area, in terms of both traffic and air quality. CN's intentions to purchase a part of the EJ&E line and re-route many of their freight trains to less populous areas represents a welcomed effort to find a solution to these problems.

My town of Berwyn, where I have lived for 26 years, is deeply in need of relief from the number of freight trains we currently deal with on a day-to-day basis. These rail cars create significant traffic problems for all residents. I am regularly delayed for 15 to 20 minutes at a time at various railroad crossings. For people who need to get to work on time, or for emergency service vehicles, this presents a very frustrating dilemma.

Any way one looks at it, the large numbers of freight trains sharing rail lines in areas where many people live is a recipe for inefficiency. This is to say nothing of the air pollution created when so many cars and trains sit idle for such long periods of time. The railway congestion has caused a multitude of problems for the residents of the Chicago area and should be alleviated as soon as possible. CN's solution promises a real breakthrough. I strongly urge you to give it your full approval.

Sincerely,

Bernard Gallagher

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