

City of Warrenville

June 16, 2008

28W701 Stafford Place • Warrenville, IL 60555
630/393-9427 • FAX 630/393-6948

Anne K. Quinlan, Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001



**RE: Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation-Control—
EJ&E West Company (STB Finance Docket No. 35087)**

Dear Ms. Quinlan:

I am writing on behalf of the Warrenville City Council to express our concerns about the Canadian National Railway's (CN) proposed acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway (EJ&E). I appreciate the manner in which the STB has been attentive to the comment and input of communities like mine and I look forward to continuing to work with you.

My first concern relates to the limited time currently available to provide a thorough review of the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). I am joining with my neighboring affected municipalities and requesting that the comment period be a minimum of 120 days. A 45-day comment period would be inadequate for the small Warrenville staff to properly review the volume of information in the EIS. A 120-day comment period would allow for adequate due diligence and time to represent Warrenville constituents responsibly. The unprecedented public interest and participation in this proceeding warrants an extended comment period.

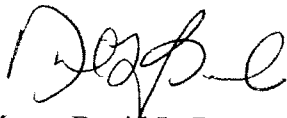
I would also like to register our concern with CN's safety record. The Canadian Parliament's Standing Committee on Transport, Infrastructure and Communities issued a report on rail safety in Canada on May 29, 2008. The report cited many concerns with CN including its management's inattentiveness to the safety concerns of frontline workers, contributing to a "culture of fear" within CN that made employees reluctant to report safety violations. Also, CN received the lowest rating among its peers for implementing Safety Management Systems.

City staff is accustomed to working very closely with the EJ&E's safety coordinator to make sure that the residents along the line are as safe as possible. I am concerned that this relationship will not continue based on the safety concerns noted in this report. Just this month a three-year-old girl was killed on the EJ&E tracks because she was playing too closely. I strongly encourage you to consider the gravity of these safety issues, and the potential impact of CN dramatically increasing operations on a line that borders three Warrenville neighborhoods – many with households with small children - and runs past a major City park and an elementary school.

Finally, I urge the Board to reconsider the viability of CREATE as an alternative to the EJ&E acquisition. CREATE is a public-private partnership that took a great deal of effort to arrange. The region's stakeholders identified this plan, a major \$1.5 billion effort, to relieve congestion and enhance mobility in the region. It is premature to forego CREATE given the concerted thought and effort that the region's stakeholders committed to formulating the CREATE program.

I encourage you to give considerable thought and attention to the issues I have raised on behalf of the Warrenville community and the issues my neighboring communities have raised on behalf of their residents. Thank you for your continued consideration. Should you have any questions, please contact me at 630/393-5741.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Brummel', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mayor David L. Brummel

cc: Judy Biggert, U.S. Representative - 13th District
Bill Foster, U.S. Representative - 14th District

DLB/jm