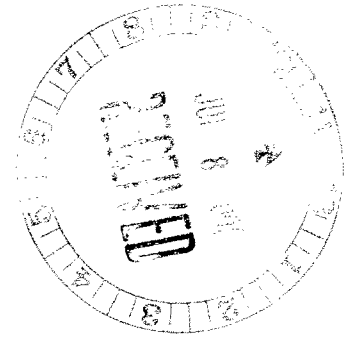


June 26, 2008

Dennis J. Edwards
1502 East 6th St.
Durant, Iowa 52747



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

Re: Finance Docket No. 35087 – *Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation – Control – EJ&E West Company*

Dear Secy. Quinlan:

With this letter, I am asking all board members of the STB to approve the purchase of the EJ&E Railway by the Canadian National Railway (CN) in Chicago, IL., for the following reasons:

1. Current railroad operations by the CN must be routed throughout the Chicago metropolitan area on various foreign railroad routes, which creates unnecessary delays for freight handled by both the CN as well as the many railroads that the CN must travel.
2. Chicago motorists---throughout the city of Chicago, at many locations---are always delayed due to the traffic that the CN must handle through the city. This delay will eventually be eliminated when the CN is allowed to route its trains around Chicago via the EJE route.
3. Freight that is currently handled by the CN Railway will move more freely, more efficiently, and more safely on the EJE route because utilization of the EJE Route will greatly reduce the railroad crossings at grade as well as the number of road crossings vs. the current railroad routes throughout the City.
4. METRA and AMTRK delays will almost be eliminated on the EJE; as of now, the CN's traffic is handled on routes that are heavily used by both METRA trains and AMTRAK trains.
5. Approval of the purchase of the EJ&E railroad by the CN Railway supports the United States' historical practice and tradition of *ensuring the free flow of commerce* whenever possible; indeed, our laws have always encouraged such

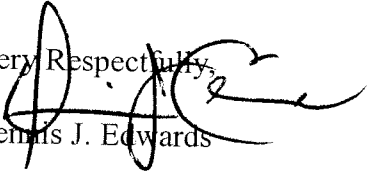
practice and support of this paradigm, resulting in America's dominance of the world marketplace.

Finally, although I currently reside in Iowa, I have recently lived in the Chicago Area where I have experienced delays both as a motorist and as a locomotive engineer (I have operated trains throughout the Chicago Area for nearly four decades, operating both freight trains and passenger trains in and out of Chicago as a locomotive engineer). Coupled with an education that includes a M.S. in *Transportation Safety* and studying law at two law schools, as well as a stint as an FRA Safety Inspector, I am confident that I hold the background, experience, and education that qualifies my arguments provided herein.

I urge each member of the board to seriously consider my points listed above and quickly approve the purchase of the EJ&E Railroad by the Canadian National Railway in Chicago, listed under Finance Docket No. 35087.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the address listed above or call me at 563-210-5336.

Very Respectfully,


Dennis J. Edwards