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July 1, 2008

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

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Subject: CN Railway Company/EJ&E
STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

As a resident of South Holland I am writing to ask for your support of CN's plan to purchase a segment of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern rail line. CN intends to reduce the abundant rail congestion that plagues Chicago, and I support that.

I live in South Holland and commute to Thorton. The route to work crosses the path of rail road tracks. If blocked, I must go around. However, regardless of which direction I travel I run into congestion caused by the trains. While I can understand the sense in shipping goods by rail, I fail to see why the train companies deserve a right of way while area residents are forced to sit and wait. It is especially frustrating when one of those alternative routes - the 170th Street crossing - is broken. This creates a hazard that could cause potential harm to drivers. If this were not enough there is the added bother of the noise caused by the trains which negatively impacts the quality of life for locals. CN's plan offers a reasonable solution. One that would cut traffic congestion, reduce pollution and give a bit of relief to local residents in South Holland.

I hope you will recognize how much we need an alternative to this current situation and join me in supporting CN's proposal.

Sincerely yours,



Karon Pettiford