

Hewitt



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July 3, 2008

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

Subject: *Canadian National Railway Co., et al. – Control – EJ&E
West Company, STB Finance Docket No. 35087*

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

I am writing in support of CN's proposed acquisition of the major portion of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway Company (EJ&E).

I represent Hewitt Equipment Limited. Hewitt Equipment and Atlantic Tractors & Equipment Limited, our subsidiary company in the Maritimes, are the Caterpillar Inc. dealers for Cat Engines and Heavy Equipment for the Canadian Provinces of Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island as well as for Labrador West.

Both Atlantic and Hewitt source many of our large earthmoving, construction and mining machines and large engines from Caterpillar plants in central Illinois.

Many years ago, due to significant delays incurred when shipping our large machines by rail, we have resorted, almost entirely, to truck transport from Cat's factories in Peoria, Aurora, Decatur and Joliet, Illinois.

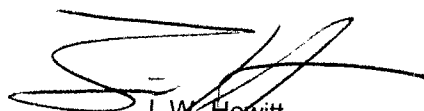
With the rapidly escalating cost of fuel and as we explore more cost effective and environmentally-friendly transportation alternatives, a more efficient rail solution could provide very attractive options.

We understand that CN's proposed acquisition will potentially contribute to the type of improvement we require in order to make rail a more viable option for the transport of our heavy equipment.

I urge the STB to approve this transaction expeditiously, as proposed by CN in its request for establishment of time limits for the environmental review and for issuance of a final decision. I further urge the Board to complete its environmental review process expeditiously, and to approve this beneficial transaction as in the public interest.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,



J. W. Hewitt
President and CEO

JWH:sb

cc: Victoria Rutson, Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis

Head Office

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