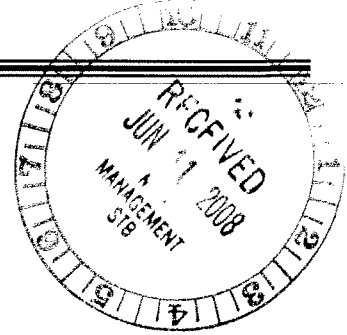


SANDRA WICKER
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DES PLAINES, IL 60016

May 29, 2008

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



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

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

I have lived in Des Plaines for 25 years, and I have seen a great deal of development during that time. The freight train traffic is considerable, and it has become an issue for our residents and many in the Chicago area. CN Railway is proposing a solution that would re-route much of the freight traffic going through Chicago by purchasing part of the EJ&E line that runs west of the city. This would provide much-needed relief for the trains on our urban rails. I fully support this effort and hope that you will grant approval to this project.

I experience delays caused by freight train backups that sometimes go on for up to 10 minutes. This may sound insignificant, but everything is relative. Ten minutes enjoying a conversation with a friend or dining out is nothing, but the same amount of time spent waiting for a train to pass, especially when on the way to work or an important engagement, seems like an eternity and can have substantial consequences. In addition, I know residents who are awakened by freight train sounds at all hours of the day and night.

The plan to re-route a significant amount of freight traffic to the outer reaches of greater Chicago is a concrete step in the right direction. I think that you will come to the same conclusion that I did, and hope you will take swift action to allow this project to get underway. Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

Sandra Wicker
Sandra Wicker

cc: Senator Dick Durbin
Senator Barack Obama
Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky