

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

June 9, 2008



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

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

I support the above transaction as critical to improving the national railroad system in the United States and urge the Surface Transportation Board to approve the transaction without delay.

The rail congestion in Chicago is clogging the nation's rail system. The traffic that comes through Chicagoland includes more than one third of all of the goods and products transported by rail and used by the American consumer. Today, it takes a CN freight train more than 24 hours to travel the 30 miles North – South through Chicago.

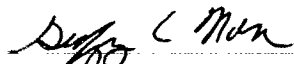
Five years ago CN helped found and still supports the Chicago Regional Environmental and Transportation Efficiency (CREATE) program. As you know this is a \$1,500,000,000 regional plan to address rail congestion in Chicago. By approving this transaction you will be making a giant step in solving the Nation's regional rail congestion issue.

CN is willing to invest more than \$400,000,000 of its own money to buy and upgrade the EJ&E. This transaction, when approved by your board, will reduce the freight traffic through the core urban area of Chicago and its suburbs. This transaction offers a privately funded head start towards solving this serious regional rail transportation issue and is good for America.

This transaction will also reduce motorist's delays at grade crossings by 174 hours per day or 63,510 hours per year by using the EJ&E to reroute our trains around Chicago rather than using the existing Chicago corridor routes. A reduction in grade crossing delays is good for area motorists. Being a local citizen of the Northwest suburbs of Chicago for the past 30 years I know that the citizens of Barrington and the surrounding estate communities that oppose this transaction are using the EJ&E as a sounding post for traffic problems that have plagued the area for decades. They have not owned up to past, current and future traffic problems that have existed for decades due to the major North – South Roadway in the area (Illinois Route 59, aka Hough Street) being a two lane roadway. The area has grown over the last decades, not over the last year when this transaction was announced. The need for roadway traffic flow improvements through this town have existed for years and will not change until the Barrington folks own up to their continuing opposition to any changes in their community.

Being an employee of CN, I can tell you first hand that this company will live up to what we promise to do and will be a responsible corporate citizen for the communities that we travel through. If you and your staff would like to discuss my thoughts on this transaction further, please contact me at (920) 579 6843.

Sincerely,



Geoffrey C. Nokes
1906 Concordia Lane
Schaumburg, IL 60193

CC: The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator
309 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Barack Obama
United States Senator
713 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510