



HOFFMAN ESTATES

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

William D. McLeod
MAYOR

August 4, 2008

Ms. Phillis Johnson-Ball
Deputy Chief
Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

**Subject: STB Finance Docket No. 35087
Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation –
Control – EJ&E West Company
Draft Environmental Impact Statement Review Timeline**

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

We have received and started our review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) released by the Surface Transportation Board (STB) on July 12, 2008. The deadline for comments identified in the release is September 30, 2008.

As you know, a substantial number of parties have reviewed and offered comments during the process up to this point. The public hearings scheduled for late August will afford the public another chance to provide input. Given the enormous amount of data and information in the Draft EIS, it will take a considerable amount of time to review and analyze its contents. The time available between the public meetings, our Village Board meeting schedules, and the end date for comments, will make it extremely difficult to complete a comprehensive review and comment by the end of September. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the public comment period for the Draft EIS be extended to 120 days from the present duration of 60 days.

Thank you for your consideration. We all value the public review and input process. An extension of the review deadline is one way to ensure that adequate opportunity to participate is made available.

Sincerely,

William D. McLeod
Mayor