

Ida Stewart

16412 Wabash Avenue
South Holland, IL 60473

June 16, 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

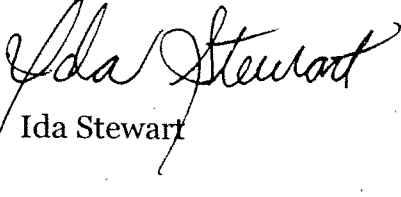
Dear Secretary Quinlan:

CN has come up with a reasonable solution to the problem of freight train bottlenecks in the Chicago metropolitan area. Their proposal to purchase a portion of the EJ&E Railway to re-route a number of trains to the outskirts of the region will help us both in the way of traffic flow and in terms of economic development.

My community of South Holland is greatly impacted by the large numbers of freight trains that move through on an hourly basis. They also come through late at night and sound their horns, making their presence widely known. Moreover, idling at railroad crossings leads to increased automobile traffic and ultimately, a decrease in the number of people willing to come here and patronize local businesses. With confidence, I can say that several establishments in the area have closed their doors as a result of this problem.

I know that CN's solution is the most practical one since nothing else that we have tried has led to any significant changes. A few years ago, for instance, I submitted a petition to the village government on this very issue, and nothing was done. CN operates on a large enough scale to make the necessary changes beyond the boundaries of South Holland. Given this, I strongly recommend that you approve their purchase. Thank you very much for your time.

Regards,



Ida Stewart

cc: Senator Dick Durbin
Senator Barack Obama