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June 26, 2008

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

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

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

As a retired employee of the Chicago Transit Authority, I know firsthand how horrible the rail congestion throughout Chicago is and therefore, support CN Railway's proposal to acquire a portion of the EJ&E rail line as a solution to this problem. If given approval, CN will then be able to move forward with their plan to redirect much of their freight traffic to this existing railway that runs through a less densely populated area.

I have lived in Riverdale since 1995. During my time at the Chicago Transit Authority, I worked as a bus driver and later, as a train conductor. As a bus driver, I would encounter horrendous traffic on a daily basis due to the railway congestion. When trains would block streets, I would often leave enough room to make sure I had the ability to make a U-Turn, in order to avoid extended delays.

Now that I am retired, I encounter the most congestion at 142nd Street in Dolton, as well as the tracks near my home. There have been times where I have waited 45 minutes to an hour for trains to pass. This is a serious problem that will only worsen unless something is done to resolve it. For this reason, I urge you to put your support behind this acquisition by giving it your approval.

Yours,

Luella Butler