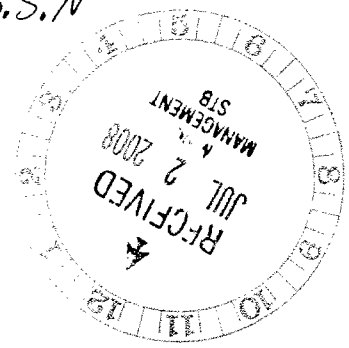




June 20, 2008

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

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

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

I am a proud employee of CN. I have been a railroader for 10 years and am a current resident of the State of Illinois. My current duties are in logistics, and as such I have a unique perspective of the ramifications of surface transportation on commerce. I am writing this letter to express my strong support of the above-mentioned transaction of Canadian National Railway Company (hereby referred to as CN) acquiring the EJ&E West Company. I would like to share some perspective on the leadership role that CN is taking in addressing some well-recognized transportation problems of the Chicago area through this proposed acquisition. If I were to use three words to summarize CN's approach to solving issues and business problems they would be – Change, Innovation, and Proactiveness. As to how these same qualities are demonstrated in the proposed EJ&E West acquisition, is described below:

Change – CN's proposal to acquire the EJ&E lines represents a change – a significant change to the 34 communities who will see a slight increase in the number of trains passing through their communities (and consequently 80 suburbs will see a reduction in trains). However, the enormous environmental and financial benefits it will bring to the whole region by relieving the congestion, improving network fluidity, reducing idling of expensive assets like trains and locomotives, and increasing velocity, far outweigh any concerns related to this acquisition. Furthermore, CN is strongly committed to listening and addressing all legitimate concerns so as to either alleviate or minimize any impact to the affected communities.

Innovation – CN's plan of running its trains 'around' Chicago on EJ&E lines, rather than 'through' Chicago is an innovative idea indeed – one that would require 100 million dollars to upgrade the now underutilized infrastructure of

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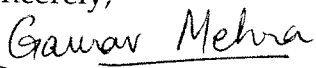
EJ&E. The economic benefits of that investment in terms of job creation and increased business activity in the Chicagoland area are obvious. What is less obvious is the maximization of the currently under-utilized assets of EJ&E due to the low number of trains passing over its lines, when they can be used to do so much more!

Proactiveness – By submitting its application before the STB to acquire EJ&E, CN is taking a proactive step to reduce congestion on the nation's main transportation hub before it comes to a complete halt. That is a scenario we cannot afford to reach and hence something must be done today. In order to maintain the competitive position of United States in this rapidly evolving and increasingly integrated global village, efficiency, speed and time to market are of essence. Already, it was estimated that due to the congestion Chicago lost \$4.0 billion last year. This transaction helps not only to reduce such waste, but also brings service improvements to Shippers in terms of speed, time and possibly savings in cost.

In summary, I would like to say that CN is taking a proactive step in solving one of nation's major transportation problems and hence is in a better position to cope with the external change by anticipating possible issues concerning this transaction and planning strategies for dealing with same. If Chicago's rail congestion problem is not solved shippers will invariably switch to trucks and that would mean more congestion on our highways, greater greenhouse emissions, and a general deterioration in the quality of life. If we want to protect our environment for future generations, maintain a healthy and robust American economy that is globally competitive, we must take action today even if it means some minor sacrifices from the current generation.

I sincerely hope that my arguments illustrate the numerous environmental and economic benefits that this transaction will bring, not only to the Chicago region but also the nation as a whole, and that you will move towards a timely approval.

Sincerely,


(Gaurav Mehra)

CC: *The Honorable Richard J. Durbin*
The Honorable Barack Obama
The Honorable Bobby Rush