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June 20, 2008

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

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

RE: FINANCE DOCKET NO. 35087-CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAY COMPANY AND
GRAND TRUNK CORP.-CONTROL-EJ&E WEST COMPANY

I would like to express my support for CN's transaction of the EJ&E West Company. This transaction would greatly improve the train congestion in Chicago. The six largest railroads in the U.S. all converge in Chicago, creating a major congestion problem. It can take CN more than 24 hours to move freight thirty miles between north and south Chicago. The CN transaction of the EJ&E can deliver a great deal of relief to the Chicago area congestion. When Chicago Regional Environmental and Transportation Efficiency (CREATE) was created five years ago, railroads and policymakers thought a solution had been found, but CREATE has received less than 10% of the public funding it needs and the funding outlook remains uncertain, and the same problem from five years ago, still exists today. CN help found and still supports CREATE, but this congestion problem still remains. The CN transaction of the EJ&E can have region-wide economic and environmental benefits. In Illinois alone, CN spends roughly \$615 million per year, \$97 million payroll and \$19 million in taxes, and more than 1500 of CN's roughly 6600 U.S. employees live, work, and commute in Illinois and Indiana. If the EJ&E transaction fails, and the congestion issue is not solved, it could cost the region \$2 billion in production and 17,000 jobs over the next two decades, according to 2005 CREATE Feasibility Study. Railroads can not fix the problem alone, but this transaction will greatly help the problem, and CN is willing to invest more than \$400 million of its own money to buy and upgrade the EJ&E to help the congestion problem and reduce rail traffic through Chicago. This is a matter that must be reviewed and a decision made. So I ask the STB to make a wise decision to help support Americans of this region, economically and environmentally, and Americans across the nations to help their goods be shipped in a more timely and efficient matter.

Sincerely,

Matt Gann

14407 Riskin Rd.
Cedar Lake, IN 46303

Matt Gann

cc: The Honorable Richard G. Lugar
U.S. Senator
The Honorable Evan Bayh
U.S. Senator

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