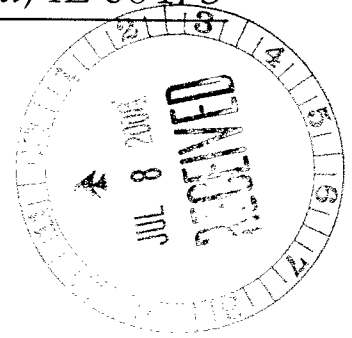


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Paul Holmes
17150 Evans Avenue
South Holland, IL 60473

June 20, 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:

CN has acknowledged that train congestion is one of the major causes of traffic in Chicago and its surrounding areas. Fortunately, instead of turning away from the problem, they have decided to remedy it by acquiring part of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern line. This proposal will give CN the ability redirect many routes to the outskirts of Chicago, which will help to reduce toxic emissions and improve the fluidity of travel.

Although I am retired and do not commute as much as I used to, I still get stopped by freight trains. On one frustrating occasion, as I was waiting for the train to cross, the train stopped and idled when it had only four cars left to cross. Also, there was on instance where I remember waiting for at least 40 minutes to cross the tracks. The time wasted on waiting for idling trains does not seem like a like when you calculate it daily; however, when you add up the time over the course of a few months or a year, days are wasted simply on waiting for a freight train to pass.

Furthermore, when I have guests, it is very difficult for them to relax and sleep because they are not accustomed to the loud noise the trains make. If this continues, then it could prevent friends and relatives from visiting my home. In addition, my neighbor and I were discussing the trains and he alluded me to the fact that the pollutants the trains emit really bother him. He has a disorder that makes it difficult for him to breath in such toxic fumes.

This proposal would prove to be beneficial as it would cut down on traffic and improve air conditions in South Holland. Please support and approve this acquisition so that the residents can travel with more ease and have fewer toxins in the air.

Sincerely,

Paul Holmes