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Phyllis Cabrera

2332 Broadway Street
Blue Island, IL 60406

June 17, 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:

I am writing to get your support for CN Railway's plan to purchase a portion of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern line. CN plans to reroute a majority of the line's freight traffic out of the Blue Island area onto the less-congested EJ&E line.

If you are not familiar with my area, Blue Island is practically surrounded by railroads. The number of trains passing through Blue Island makes it extremely difficult to travel in any direction without delays. One can often find themselves stuck inside the city, unable to get out. The west side of Blue Island is the only fairly reliable exit, but even this area still gets blocked off by freight trains. I find this to be an issue of high importance to me as this problem caused by the freight congestion can mean life or death in an emergency situation when time is truly of the essence.

Though I have been able to time my travel by car to avoid the trains, I am still caught by the freight cars running late or even early, and I often find myself stuck at a crossing. The trains are of course, slow, loud and emit contaminants. Of course, all of the backed up vehicles pollute as well. It seems clear to me that adjusting the route of freight traffic is a reasonable alternative to doing nothing while our area continues to grow in size and population. Our residents continue to lose out as the trains stifle our quality of life.

I hope that you will approve CN's plan to reduce congestion in our communities and finally give local residents the break they deserve.

Yours truly,

Phyllis Cabrera

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cc: Senator Dick Durbin
Senator Barack Obama
Congressman Bobby L. Rush