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TASK FORCE

June 27, 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 writing in support of CN's Request for Establishment of Time Limits for NEPA Review and Final Decision, filed in this proceeding on May 13, 2008.

I have represented the Des Plaines area for sixteen years and lived here since the 1960's. As a legislator and resident, I have watched the rail service change and grow so that the community has been increasingly hampered in its flow of traffic. I feel that it is unjust that surrounding communities are taking such a stand, when my district has been affected for years. The substantial reduction of train traffic through my district will create capacity for more frequent Metra Trains while reducing the environmental impact, which will benefit us entirely. We are eager for this transaction to move forward so that we and the Chicagoland region generally can begin to benefit from the reduced congestion that will result if this transaction is allowed to proceed.

I am aware that some are opposed to CN's request that the STB set target deadlines for completion of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and for issuance of a final decision on the proposed acquisition. I agree that the Board should get the information it needs, but CN's proposed schedule provides ample time for it to do so. It is important to remember, however, that the STB has been undertaking its environmental analysis since at least December 2007 and has provided many opportunities for interested citizens, community officials, and government agencies to provide comments, including the scoping meetings held in January 2008 throughout the region and the opportunity to comment on the draft Scope of Study.

I understand that in its final scoping decision, the STB's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) has identified the issues that need to be studied in its EIS. Under CN's proposed timetable, SEA will continue to have sufficient time to complete its study of these issues and the public will have the opportunity to again provide input to the STB during the period that will be provided for comment on the Draft EIS.

This transaction promises important benefits to the Chicagoland region and to individual communities. I understand and support the need for a meaningful environmental review, but I respectfully suggest that the SEA has had sufficient time and resources to thoroughly study the environmental issues involved in this transaction and, under CN's proposed timetable, will still have more time to examine these issues and identify appropriate mitigation, where needed. The principles of good government dictate that governmental processes should not be open-ended. I urge you to adopt the time limits proposed by CN in its filing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rosemary Mulligan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Rosemary Mulligan

cc: Victoria J. Rutson, Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis