

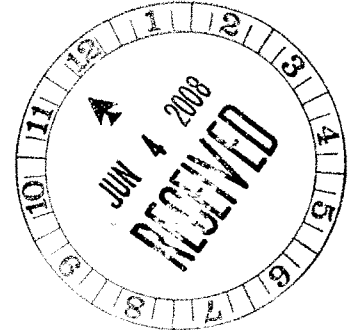
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Village of Lyons

David A. Visk
Village President



May 21, 2008

Ms. Anne K. Quinlan
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Office of the Secretary
395 East Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

RE: STB Finance Docket N. 35087, Canadian National Railway Company Purchase of Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

Enclosed, please find a certified copy passed by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lyons, Illinois supporting the purchase of the Elgin, Joliet, and Eastern Railway by the Canadian National Railroad Company. As noted in the resolution, the current route taken by these trains runs through the middle of the Chicago metropolitan area. Not only does this often result in trains taking up to twenty-four hours to traverse the metro region, it also means delays by thousands of commuters waiting for trains to pass, thus exacerbating the air quality by the idling automobiles and trucks.

Please give serious consideration to this purchase. It would greatly enhance fuel economy, business, the environment, and quality of life in the six county Chicago area.

Sincerely,

David A. Visk
President

DAV/rw

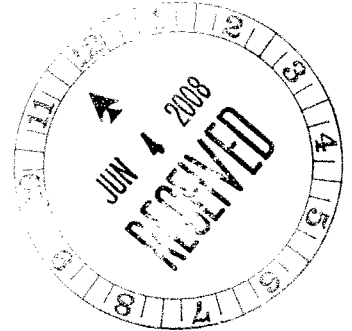
c: West Central Municipal Conference



Village of Lyons

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF ILLINOIS }
COUNTY OF COOK }
VILLAGE OF LYONS }



I, ROY T. WITHEROW, DEPUTY VILLAGE CLERK of the Village of Lyons DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing:

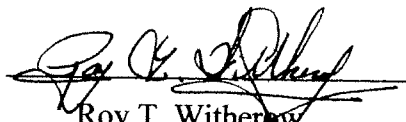
RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF THE ELGIN, JOLIET AND EASTERN RAILWAY BY THE CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILROAD RESOLUTION #05-20-08-R2

Is a true and correct copy of RESOLUTION # 05-20-08-R2 now on file in the clerks office, which said was approved and passed by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Lyons, Illinois

aforesaid on the 20TH day of MAY 2008.

I DO HEREBY FURTHER CERTIFY that the original of which the foregoing is a true and correct copy, is entrusted to my care and safekeeping.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Corporate Seal of the Village of Lyons aforesaid, at the Village of Lyons, in the County of Cook and the State of Illinois, this 22ND day of MAY 2008


Roy T. Witherow
Deputy Village Clerk
Lyons, Illinois

RESOLUTION 05-20-08-R2

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF THE ELGIN, JOLIET, AND EASTERN RAILWAY BY THE CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILROAD

WHEREAS, one third of the nation's freight rail traffic moves to, from, or through the Chicago area every year making it the transportation hub of North America; and

WHEREAS, rail congestion has significantly slowed freight traffic through the Chicago region to the point where it can now take a freight train 24 hours to travel the thirty miles through the City of Chicago, slowing rail transportation nationwide; and

WHEREAS, opening up capacity on urban rail lines means that all rail traffic will move more efficiently and smoothly through the city; and

WHEREAS, freight trains are three times more fuel-efficient and emit one-third less pollution than trucks carrying comparable loads, thereby lessening the drain on the nation's energy reserves; and

WHEREAS, a typical freight train carries the equivalent of 280 truck-trailer loads, thereby alleviating highway congestion by keeping time-sensitive freight on the rails rather than diverting to highways; and

WHEREAS, if the problem of rail congestion in the region goes unchecked, it could cost the region \$2 billion in production with impacts on 17,000 jobs over the next two decades; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency Program (CREATE) a model public private-partnership, initiated more than five years ago and developed a comprehensive long term plan that would revitalize the area's transportation network by reconfiguring rail traffic through the Chicago metropolitan region; and

WHEREAS, the CREATE comprehensive plan still hasn't received full government funding, even though it has had wide support from every level of government, the private sector and a broad cross-section of non-governmental groups and organizations; and

WHEREAS, Canadian National Railway Company, a founder and strong proponent of CREATE since its inception, has proposed rerouting its traffic from the congested urban rail lines to the under-utilized Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway at its own cost and expense, thereby opening up new capacity on those urban lines; and

WHEREAS, by rerouting its traffic, Canadian National Railway Company will relieve freight congestion on many of the Chicago's region rail lines, thereby reducing travel times, pollution from idling trains and costs resulting from shipping delays, and

WHEREAS, the West Central Municipal Conference has voted unanimously to support the acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway by the Canadian National Railroad Company, and has requested member municipalities to pass similar resolutions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Board of Trustees of the Village of Lyons, County of Cook, State of Illinois urges the Surface Transportation Board of the United States Department of Transportation to approve the application of the Canadian National Railway Company to acquire the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company as a valuable enhancement of the region's rail network; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Acting Secretary of the Surface Transportation Board.

PASSED THIS 20th DAY OF MAY, 2008.

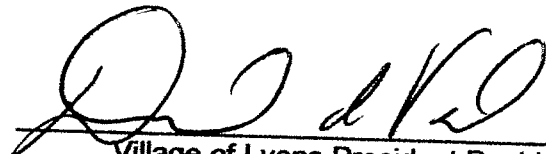
AYES: 6

NAYS: 0

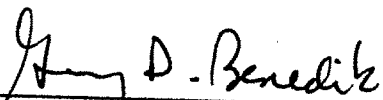
ABSENT: —

ABSTAIN: —

APPROVED THIS 20th DAY OF MAY, 2008.


Village of Lyons President David Visk

ATTEST:


Village of Lyons Clerk Gary D. Benedik