

City of Memphis



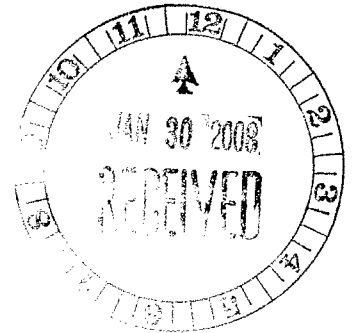
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DR. W. W. HERENTON
MAYOR

TENNESSEE

January 24, 2008

The Honorable Anne K. Quinlan, Esq.
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C., 20423



RE: Comments on Canadian National Railway Co., et al - Control - EJ&E West
Company, STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Acting Secretary Williams:

I and my staff have reviewed the transportation impacts of the proposed acquisition by the Canadian National Railway Company ("CN") and its affiliate to acquire control over the EJ&E West Company. Based upon the results of our review and familiarity with CN's traffic flows in and around the Memphis area, I request the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") to undertake full review of CN's application and recommend approval of the transaction. We believe CN's ownership of the EJ&E West Company will improve the Memphis region's ability to compete for national and international market flows by expediting movements through a chronic point of congestion, the Chicago region.

It is well-documented that the City of Chicago currently suffers from congested rail corridors into and out of the City. This traffic congestion delays movement of trains traveling through the region, including those destined to or originating from the Memphis area. This directly impacts the ability of our local businesses and industries to compete in national and international markets, which award business to the most efficient competitors. Added time in transit means added costs to provide goods and services. A consistent, dependable reduction in time spent traveling through the Chicago region adds value to our business and industries in Memphis. I believe CN's ownership of the EJ&E property will allow them to provide us this dependable decrease in overall transit time.

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JAN 30 2008

Part of
Public Record

The Honorable Anne K. Quinlan, Esq.
January 24, 2008
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I understand that there are some issues with local communities in the Chicago area that will have additional trains through their towns, while others will have less. While certainly significant for those impacted communities, I ask that the STB keep in mind that these same flows have impacts far beyond the Chicago region, and that it weighs those very local issues carefully against the greater good that comes with a more efficient transportation and logistics chain as part of our national surface transportation network.

Please enter these comments into the record of this docket.

Sincerely,



Willie W. Herenton, Mayor

cc: All Parties of Record (Certificate enclosed)

Surface Transportation Board
CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087
Log and Distribution
Date Recd: _____
HDR File No. _____

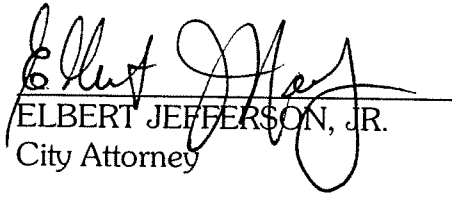
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STB EC No. _____
Cc: Original Job File

HDR

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 24th day of January 2008, the foregoing Comment Letter is being submitted via first-class mail, postage prepaid, on the following:

The Honorable Anne K. Quinlan, Esq.
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C., 20423


ELBERT JEFFERSON, JR.
City Attorney