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QUALITY CONTRACT
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September 22, 2008

Phillis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

Re: Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Ball:

As President of Paket Corporation, a private company that manufactures consumer packages for retail and food service companies, I am writing to ensure that the final Surface Transportation Board's Environmental Impact Statement reflects the benefits of the CN acquisition of the EJ&E Railway line. The potential economic benefits to the Chicago Metropolitan area and especially the Southeast side of Chicago, an area devastated by the decline of the U.S. steel manufacturing are enormous.

Our manufacturing company is located on the southeast side of Chicago adjacent to the underutilized EJ&E Railway line and the Port of Chicago. The EJ&E Railway will link the Port of Chicago on the southeast side of Chicago with an international shipping network. Companies can unload their products at the Port of Chicago onto the CN freight trains and ship them to Pacific coastal ports and, from there, to destinations across the globe. In an area struggling to recover from the loss of the steel manufacturing industry, the EJ&E link with the CN network will provide a much-needed economic boost to the Southeast Chicago/Lake Calumet area. The acquisition will increase the value of the Port of Chicago and will lead to further investment and jobs in the shipping industry.

In addition to the economic benefits to Southeast Chicago, the acquisition will be good for the economy of the Chicago Metropolitan region. Rail congestion slows the transport of goods to and from Chicago businesses, increasing costs of those products. This same congestion

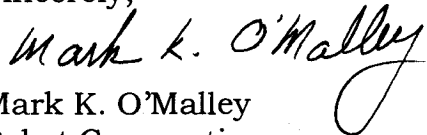
adds to shipping costs of businesses such as Paket Corporation. If the congestion in the Chicago region is not addressed, the Chicago region will face a loss of jobs and economic development as the railroads shift their trains to other less-congested transportation hubs across the country, resulting in a loss of revenue and jobs for the Chicago region.

As current chairman of the Calumet Area Industrial Commission (CAIC) I can say unequivocally that our 130 member companies are strongly in favor of the CN acquisition and also strongly support the Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency Program (CREATE)

Personally, as someone who lived in the Barrington area, currently lives in the western suburbs, and commutes to the SE side of Chicago, the benefits in my view of this acquisition to the overall Chicago Region far exceed the inconvenience of a small minority of communities.

I urge you to include these projected benefits in your final Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed acquisition of the EJ&E Railway.

Sincerely,



Mark K. O'Malley
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