

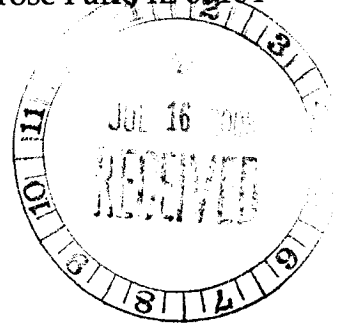
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Sandy Sowa

901 Roy Avenue ♦♦♦ Melrose Park, IL 60164

July 2, 2008

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



Subject: CN Railway Company/EJ&E
STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

The freight train congestion experience in my community is both frustrating for residents and detrimental to the community's economic growth. Significant action to rectify the situation is long overdue. The proposal made by CN Railway to buy a portion of EJ&E Railway is exactly what Melrose Park needs. If approved, this proposal would allow CN to circumnavigate many of its freight trains to the EJ&E line.

As a resident of Melrose Park, I know that the train congestion just west of here is very bad. Due to slow-moving or idling trains, cars have to wait for long periods of time at the North Avenue and Roosevelt Road crossings. Moreover, the tremendous length of time that it takes trains to get around wastes an inordinate amount of fuel, which has become a significant expense these days. Our whole regional economy is negatively impacted by all of this unnecessary congestion. It has been estimated that failure to address this issue, for example, will cost Chicago \$2 billion in production and 17,000 jobs over the next 20 years.

CN's acquisition of the EJ&E line would help areas like mine on many fronts. You should not hesitate to give CN's transaction approval. Thank you for taking the time to read about my concerns.

Sincerely,

Sandy Sowa