



## Shell Chemical LP

July 1, 2008

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

Dear Secretary Quinlan,

**Canadian National Railway Company (CN) and Grand Trunk Corporation – Control  
– Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railroad (EJ&E) West Company (Finance Docket 35087)**

I am writing to you on behalf of Shell Chemical LP in support for the application filed in the above captioned proceeding.

Shell Chemical LP is an affiliated entity of Shell Oil Company, the US affiliate of Royal Dutch Shell plc. Shell Chemicals LP manufactures base and intermediate chemicals that are turned into a variety of products essential to our everyday lives by our downstream customers. We operate facilities in Texas, Louisiana and Alabama. Bulk products produced at these sites are routed through the Chicago corridor to markets across North America.

Due to its strategic location, Chicago represents a key transportation hub for North America. Six of the seven Class I railroads plus numerous regional rail carriers converge on Chicago. According to the Association of American Railroads, approximately 33% of all goods shipped by rail in the United States move through Chicago. Shell Chemical LP (and its Canadian affiliates) move about 7,000 rail shipments through Chicago every year, 3,000 of these on the Canadian National.

Rail congestion remains a key challenge, particularly in the Chicago area, which can result in additional costs that in the end impact the consumer through higher prices

It appears to us that the Canadian National's proposed purchase of EJ&E will improve the fluidity of rail shipments through Chicago and ease traffic congestion in the wider rail network. Shell Chemical LP is therefore supportive of the acquisition, as it will provide benefits to shippers and manufacturers throughout the supply chain, and ultimately to consumers.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph V. Kelly".

Joseph V. Kelly  
Global Category Manager – Rail Transportation  
Contracting & Procurement  
Shell Downstream, Inc.  
On behalf of Shell Chemical LP