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Elaine Nekritz
State Representative • 57th District

Committees:

Appropriations-Higher Education
Elections & Campaign Reform (Chair)
Environment & Energy
Environmental Health
Judiciary I - Civil Law
Railroad Safety (Chair)
Renewable Energy
Commission on Government Forecasting & Accountability

August 5, 2008

Ms. Phillis Johnson-Ball
Deputy Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

Re: Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

I recently received the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) issued by the Surface Transportation Board (STB) for the Proposed Canadian National Railway Acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway Company.

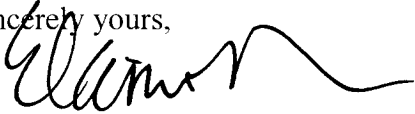
I represent several communities along the existing CN line in suburban Chicago that will see a reduction in freight train traffic as a result of the proposed transaction. I hear from many constituents, both individuals and organizations, who support the transaction and are interested in having their voices heard. However, none of the Public Meetings are scheduled to be held anywhere close to the affected line. These residents will be required to travel long distances in the heart of rush hour in order to attend an Open House and Public Meeting as detailed in the draft EIS.

I ask that the STB schedule at least one additional hearing in northwest suburban Chicago somewhere near the existing CN line. This will provide impacted residents a realistic opportunity to get additional information on the proposed transaction and have the same opportunity to voice their opinion as those who live along the EJ&E. In addition, I am happy to provide assistance in arranging such meetings.

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Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. I look forward to hearing from you on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elaine Nekritz', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Elaine Nekritz
State Representative – 57th District

cc: Chairman Nottingham
Vice Chairman Mulvey
Board Member Buttery
Hon. Anne K. Quinlan