

INTERNATIONAL
PORT OF MEMPHIS



220776

Donald C. McCrory
Executive Director

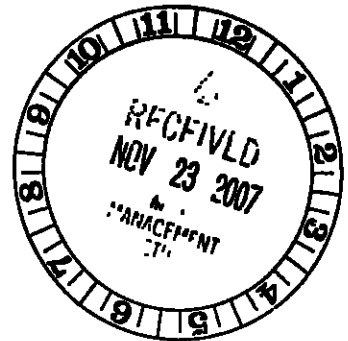
November 21, 2007

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

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Public Record



RE: Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation –
Control – EJ&E West Company (STB Finance Docket No. 35087)

Dear Mr. Williams:

My name is Donald C. McCrory. I am the Executive Director of the Memphis and Shelby County Port Commission's Port of Memphis. The Commission's mailing address is 1115 Riverside Boulevard, Memphis, TN 38106-2504. The Port of Memphis is the fourth largest inland port in the United States, with an annual economic impact of 6.7 billion dollars on the Memphis metropolitan area. The Port of Memphis includes over 200 industries, employing over 5,000 people. I have been Executive Director of the Port of Memphis since July 1983. Prior to that, I was General Cargo Terminal Facility Manager at locations in Tulsa, Oklahoma and Memphis, TN. I have an extensive background in the grain merchandising/operations business.

I am writing to express my thoughts about the proposed acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway (EJ&E) in the Chicago area. I believe this acquisition will immensely benefit the surface transportation system around this country. The International Port of Memphis has had a long and successful working relationship with CN and its predecessor railroad. We believe this transaction will add value to all stakeholders, including the Port and its customers in Tennessee.

Our customers rely on the consistently safe and efficient transportation of their goods. CN and its rail route, in particular, holds great promise as the

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Asian/North American traffic flows continue to mature and grow. As a result of CN's recently started port operations in Prince Rupert, British Columbia, our customers have a very attractive option for their transportation needs. The rail service CN provides is anticipated to deliver product to and from Asia via a superior track network that delivers goods to market more swiftly and efficiently than other transportation alternatives. It is anticipated that many of those products will go to/from the Memphis area. In order to do so today, those shipments incur a considerable amount of time traversing the greater Chicago area. The successful implementation of this acquisition will provide a quick and efficient route around the outskirts of the Chicago metropolitan region, minimizing delay for goods that do not enter Chicago proper, and adding to the attractiveness of the service offering to and from the Mid-South region.

The Port of Memphis views this as another step forward in CN's long-term focus on providing the best possible transportation services to its customers. The Port is excited about the market opportunities afforded to the Midwest region of the United States in regards to Asian/U.S. flows. We recognize that CN has already completed significant investments in a new port facility in Prince Rupert and at their rail/truck intermodal facility in Memphis. We would like to recognize the smooth integration that CN demonstrated in its acquisition of Illinois Central Railroad in the late 1990's, which included their operations in the heart of Memphis. We are pleased that its management team is still largely in place. This gives our business community a great deal of confidence in their proven ability in successful integrations of acquisitions of this nature.

We believe this acquisition will remove one of the last significant challenges to an even better service offering to the Port's customers and allow this region to better compete in the global marketplace that today's realities require.

We see this as an excellent example of private investment being used for the economy's greater benefit. The Port of Memphis whole-heartedly supports it.

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We urge the STB to categorize this as a minor transaction and give its approval. It will provide significant benefits to shippers, especially those competing internationally.

Respectfully submitted,


Donald C. McCrory
Executive Director

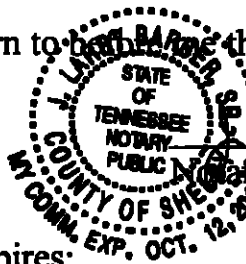
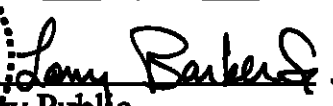
VERIFICATION

STATE OF TENNESSEE
COUNTY OF SHELBY

Donald C. McCrory, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he has read the foregoing document, knows the facts asserted therein, and that the same are true as stated,


Donald C. McCrory

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 21 day of Nov 2007.



Lanny Barker
Notary Public

My Commission Expires:
