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July 7, 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:

CN Railway has come up with a plan that makes a great deal of sense for the Chicago area. It advocates rerouting freight train traffic along a segment of the EJ&E rail line circling around the city. This is preferable to freight trains rumbling through the center of town and other residential high traffic areas. The project requires your approval of CN's acquisition of this portion of rail line, and I hope there will be no hesitation.

I have been living in Des Plaines for about one year, and I work in downtown Chicago. I am constantly on the go, and I use the interstate or Metra to get to work. When I lived in Elmwood Park, the freight train delays at Grand Avenue would average about half an hour. Previous to that, I lived in Melrose Park and often experienced delays similar to the aforementioned delays at Grand Avenue in Elmwood Park. Usually, I would simply shut off the car and wait.

I am sure I am not alone in these experiences. Multiply my story by tens of thousands with slight variations and you will have an idea of the inconvenience, inefficiency, wasted time and fuel that this current arrangement brings. Please do not leave me and my fellow residents in the lurch. We will be eagerly awaiting your approval of this plan, which will provide Chicago with far more sensible train management.

Sincerely,

*MARIE*  
Carol Franklin

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