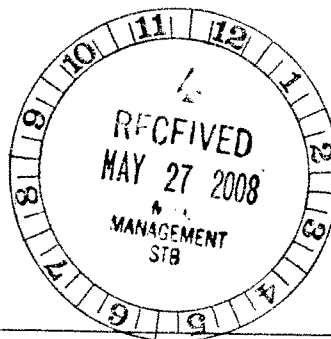




PAKET CORPORATION
9165 S. HARBOR AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60617
PHONE: (773) 221-7300
FAX: (773) 221-7316
QUALITY CONTRACT
PACKAGING
SINCE 1957

The Honorable Anne K. Quinlan
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Re: Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Secretary Quinlan,

As President of Paket Corporation, a private company that employs 52 workers in making consumer packages for retail and food service companies. I am writing to urge the Surface Transportation Board to approve the CN acquisition of the EJ&E Railway line.

Our manufacturing company is located on the southeast side of Chicago adjacent to the underutilized EJ&E Railway line and the Port of Chicago. The EJ&E Railway will link the Port of Chicago on the southeast side of Chicago with an international shipping network. Companies can unload their products at the Port of Chicago onto the CN freight trains and ship them to Pacific coastal ports and, from there, to destinations across the globe. In an area struggling to recover from the loss of the steel manufacturing industry, the EJ&E link with the CN network will provide a much-needed economic boost to the Southeast Chicago/Lake Calumet area. The acquisition will increase the value of the Port of Chicago and will lead to further investment and jobs in the shipping industry.

In addition to the economic benefits to Southeast Chicago, the acquisition will be good for the economy of the Chicago Metropolitan region. Rail congestion slows the transport of goods to and from Chicago businesses, increasing costs of those products. This same congestion adds to shipping costs of businesses such as Paket Corporation. If the congestion in the Chicago region is not addressed, the Chicago region will face a loss of jobs and economic development as the railroads shift their trains to other less-congested transportation hubs across the country, resulting in a loss of revenue and jobs for the Chicago region.

I urge you to approve the proposed acquisition of the EJ&E Railway. It will provide an economic boost to the Southeast Chicago area.

Sincerely,

Mark K. O'Malley
President
Paket Corporation
9165 South Harbor Avenue
Chicago, IL 60617
773-221-7300