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CN-42

June 13, 2008

BY E-FILING

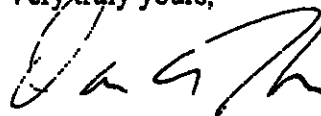
The Honorable Anne K. Quinlan, Esq.
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Office of the Secretary
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

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

Dear Ms. Quinlan:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced docket are letters by the Fire Chief for the Village of Wheeling, Illinois; Chicago Alderman Fred Drenna M. Lyle; the Village of East Hazel Crest, the South Chicago Chamber of Commerce; and Holland L.P. in support of the proposed acquisition of control of EJ&E West Company by Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation. Please note that Holland L.P. also writes in support of Applicants' Request for Time Limits for NEPA Review and Final Decision (CN-33, filed May 13, 2008). We understand the signed originals are being mailed directly to the Board.

Very truly yours,



David A. Hirsh

Counsel for Canadian National Railway Company
and Grand Trunk Corporation

Enclosures

cc. All parties of record



FIRE DEPARTMENT
255 WEST DUNDEE ROAD • WHEELING, ILLINOIS 60090-2676
(847) 459-2662 • FAX (847) 459-2976

June 10, 2008

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

RE Finance Docket 35087 – Canadian National Railway/EJ & E West Company

Dear Ms Quinlan,

As Fire Chief for the Village of Wheeling, Illinois, I am writing in support of the proposed acquisition of the EJ & E Railway by the Canadian National Railway

Currently, the Canadian National Railway traverses our community on a daily basis and affects two (2) critical at grade crossings. As a result of a steady increase in the number of daily trains, these crossings are routinely affected sometimes for more than ten (10) minutes at a time. This train congestion adversely impacts the Wheeling Fire Department's emergency response capabilities to both sides of our community, as well as creates additional motor vehicle congestion within our community.

While I understand that Northeastern Illinois is a critical juncture to the Nation's rail freight transportation system, I believe the acquisition of the EJ & E Railway by the Canadian National Railway will help to lessen some of the rail congestion in our immediate area and enhance our current emergency response capabilities. While this proposed acquisition may shed some additional rail traffic into other areas of Northern Illinois, it will result in a more fair and balanced impact to all concerned.

If you should have any questions or wish to discuss this matter in more detail, please feel free to call me at (847) 459-2662 or contact me by email at knacisaac@wheelingil.gov

Sincerely,

Keith S MacIsaac
Fire Chief

CC J Mark Rooney, Village Manager
Terri Cornelius, CN Community Outreach
File – Canadian National Railway



**CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF CHICAGO
COUNCIL CHAMBER**

CITY HALL ROOM 300
121 NORTH LA SALLE STREET
CHICAGO ILLINOIS 60602
TELEPHONE (312) 744-6868

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

COMMITTEE, RULES AND ETHICS

ECONOMIC AND CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

LICENSE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

PARKS AND RECREATION

TRAFFIC CONTROL AND SAFETY

FREDDRENN M. LYLE

ALDERMAN 6TH WARD
406 EAST 75TH STREET
CHICAGO ILLINOIS 60619
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E-MAIL: WARD6@CITYOFCHICAGO.IL.GOV

June 11, 2008

The Honorable Anne K. Quinlan

Acting Secretary

Surface Transportation Board

395 E Street, S.W.

Washington, D.C. 20223-35087

Dear Acting Secretary Quinlan:

I am writing you today on behalf of the 6th Ward of the City of Chicago in support of Canadian National Railroad's proposed acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway Company.

As you know, the Chicago metropolitan area is a transportation hub for many goods and services passing through or arriving in the Midwest. For years, rail traffic has been on the rise and I believe that if we can collaborate and proceed thoughtfully in an effort to reduce freight congestion, we can preserve and improve Illinois' status as a transportation hub.

Our ability to demonstrate our innovative and forward-thinking leadership skills with respect to this opportunity will position us well for the future.

With your help, CN's acquisition of E J & E can be a big part of a very important solution. This acquisition will streamline rail operations and lead to improved economic and public safety benefits in the Chicago region.

I believe this acquisition is in the best interests of the businesses and residents of Chicago as well as the entire region.

Very truly yours,

FREDDRENN M. LYLE
Alderman, 6th Ward

FML is





VILLAGE OF EAST HAZEL CREST

MUNICIPAL HALL 1904 W. 174th St. • East Hazel Crest, IL 60429-1442

(708) 798-0213 Fax (708) 798-7346

Thomas A. Brown
President

Helen M. Minnis
Clerk

Patricia R. Lazuka
Administrator

Trainers

Zoe A. Ewan
David A. Johnson, Jr.
Kevin Johnson
John M. Kearns
Daniel A. Smith
James Ortiz, Jr.

June 12, 2008

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,

On behalf of the Village of East Hazel Crest, our residents and business owners, I urge the Surface Transportation Board to approve the Canadian National Railroad's acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway.

The Village of East Hazel Crest, our residents and businesses, will not only see a direct benefit of decreased trains in and near our community, but hope to see an economic benefit from strengthening the rail industry in the south suburbs. Diverting rail traffic from overly congested tracks to the under-utilized EJ&E rail line makes sense from an economic standpoint.

In addition to alleviating the travel delays caused by blocked rail crossings across the region, decreasing rail congestion will diminish the environmental effects of idling trains awaiting passage on congested tracks. It will also make it easier for our industry and businesses throughout the region to move product to and from their sites.

In closing, I hope that the Surface Transportation Board moves quickly to approve Canadian National's proposed acquisition of the EJ&E Railway.

Very truly yours,

Thomas A. Brown
Village President

TAB/pp

cc: Senator Dick Durbin
Senator Barack Obama

South Chicago Chamber of Commerce
8826 S Commercial Ave Chicago, Illinois 60617
773-768-1221 773-768-2837 fax
Sechicagochamber@yahoo.com
www.southchicagochamber.org

June 13, 2008

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

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

The South Chicago Chamber has been proudly serving our community on the south side of Chicago since 1924. Our main purpose since day one, was to promote the development of business and commerce to our region.

With this in mind, we find that the proposed acquisition of EJ & E Railroad by Canadian National would bring a potential of a significantly increased and effective networking for international shipping. This in itself will help to address the current high rail congestion here in Chicago.

This congestion is creating a higher cost to firms and could result in a loss of shipping from east and west coast companies that would pose economic and employment losses for the city.

With this in mind, the members of our organization would strongly encourage you to support this proposed acquisition. We feel it would bring positive results.

Most sincerely,


Neil Bosanko
Executive Director

CC: Senator Durbin, Illinois
Senator Obama, Illinois



June 16, 2008

Secretary Anne Quinlan and STB Commissioners
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

Subject: CN Railway Acquisition of EJ&E, STB Docket Number 35087

Dear Secretary Quinlan and Commissioners:

I am writing to express my and my company's support of the CN's proposed acquisition of the EJ&E Railway in Illinois. This acquisition would improve rail service throughout the Chicago area, decongest a major freight rail choke point, and infuse the local economy with a large amount of infrastructure investment.

Holland L.P. currently employs over 500 people working in the railroad services business throughout North America. We have been working with the Canadian National Railroad for over 30 years. During that time we have witnessed the growing importance the Canadian National Railroad has played with in our country's transportation network. It is because of our involvement in the industry that we have a good perspective on the many positive impacts that would result from this merger being approved. The positive impacts would be felt throughout Chicago, the suburbs and the U.S. Transportation Network.

The American freight railroad system is an environmental and economic success story. The U.S. has the world's most efficient freight rail network and that is a major competitive advantage in a global economy. The railroad system is important for the environment because it helps keep trucks off the road and is a much more fuel-efficient way of moving freight. This proposed acquisition would help expand the system and should not be unduly delayed.

Chicago is a major hub for North American rail traffic, which currently suffers from congested rail corridors in and out of the City. Rerouting CN traffic from downtown to the less congested EJ&E line in suburban Chicago will result in more efficient rail operations and no major negative environmental impact. The positive environmental benefits will far outweigh any negatives. This will benefit the railroads, shippers, and the rail contractor and supply community.



I also strongly support CN's Request for Establishment of Time Limits for NEPA Review and Final Decision. We do recognize that as train traffic moves off of downtown Chicago rail lines, some communities along the EJ&E right-of-way will experience train traffic increases. The STB's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) identified in its final scoping decision the issues that need to be studied in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) it is preparing. SEA has been examining these issues for the last several months and has provided many opportunities for interested citizens, community officials, and government agencies to provide comments. Under CN's proposed timetable, SEA will continue to have sufficient time to complete its study of these issues and the public will have the opportunity to again provide input to the STB during the period that will be provided by SEA for comment on the Draft EIS.

I understand and support the need for a meaningful environmental review. However, regulatory review should not be open-ended and should not be used to kill this important and beneficial proposed transaction. I urge the Board to complete its environmental review process expeditiously, and to approve the transaction as in the public interest.

If the review is open-ended, opponents of a project will be able to kill a project just by delaying the transaction and creating procedural headaches. Projects and transactions should be judged on their merits and if the STB decides against them, that is fair. But delays with no end in sight are not reasonable and they create an impossible business environment, especially in a planning based and capital intensive industry such as railroading.

Thank you for your consideration of our views

Sincerely,

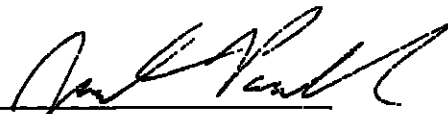
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Flaherty".

Kevin Flaherty
Vice President

cc: Chairman Charles Nottingham
cc: Vice Chairman Francis Mulvey
cc: Commissioner Douglas Buttrey
cc: Environmental Analysis Section Chief Victoria Rutson

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have this 13th day of June, 2008, served copies of the foregoing letter, transmitting support letters from the Fire Chief for the Village of Wheeling, Illinois, Chicago Alderman Freddrenna M Lyle; the Village of East Hazel Crest, the South Chicago Chamber of Commerce; and Holland L.P., upon all known parties of record in this proceeding by first-class mail or a more expeditious method


Jared H Powell