



RIVERSIDE VILLAGE OFFICE

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March 17, 2008

Anne K. Quinlan, Esq.
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Office of the Secretary
395 E. Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

Surface Transportation Board
CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

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

Dear Ms. Quinlan:

I am writing to notify you of the Village of Riverside's support of the CN's proposed purchase of the EJ&E. The Chicago region is very congested with freight traffic. Projections have freight traffic increasing over the next 20 years at alarming rates. We cannot keep putting the increased volumes of freight on the same rail lines that already clog our transportation system and our communities. Riverside is home to two rail lines, the CN and the BNSF. Both experience high volumes of freight traffic which impact our residents and those individuals using the roadways in our community.

The EJ&E is an underutilized freight line in our region. Use of this rail line can provide relief to Riverside and others in the west Cook County area. Freeing up capacity in our region may also allow for new and increased METRA service to communities as well. I hope the STB will look at the regional benefits and the benefits to inner ring communities as a part of its decision-making process. The CN purchase of the EJ&E has the ability to address some needed improvements in the infrastructure to those communities where this line has been underutilized and neglected.

Provide quality municipal services to our residents and visitors in a fiscally responsible manner consistent with our Village's historic tradition and community atmosphere.



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Thank you for allowing the Village of Riverside the opportunity to submit our comments and our voice to be heard in this process.

Very truly yours,


Harold J. Wiaduck, Jr.
Village President

Cc. West Central Municipal Conference
Mayor Richard Scheck, North Riverside