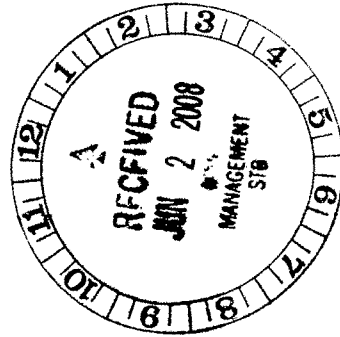


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May 19, 2008

The Honorable Anne K. Quinlan, Esq.
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423



Dear Secretary Quinlan:

As someone who has lived in the Chicago area for the past decade, I understand the importance of transportation to our economic well-being. Freight transportation, in particular, is a noticeable component of our economic portfolio. Unfortunately, however, the great amount of traffic of this sort has become a source of irritation for residents like my wife and me. As a method for addressing this problem, I support the purchase of the greater Chicago section of EJ&E Railway by CN.

The main way in which I experience irritation is by having to wait for 5 to 10 minutes in my car while a freight train blocks the road. I know that countless others experience these delays, and are as unhappy about them as I am. If, as CN intends, many of these trains could be sent along the EJ&E line instead, we could maintain our regional cooperation with the movement of freight while also giving drivers less of a headache. As a solution that benefits multiple parties, I urge you to support this acquisition.

Yours Truly,

Eckhard Blaumueller

Eckhard Blaumueller

cc: Senator Richard Durbin
Senator Barack Obama
Congressman Mark Steven Kirk