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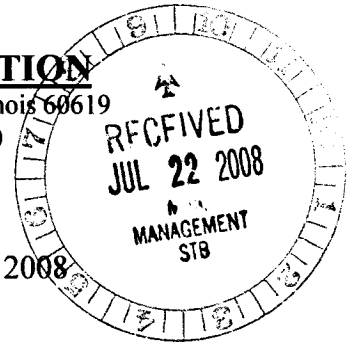


CHATHAM BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

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"Your Doorway To Opportunity"



May 23, 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 Acting Secretary Quinlan:

Please accept Chatham Business Association ("CBA") letter of support for the proposed acquisition of the Elgin Joliet & Eastern Railway Company by Canadian National Railroad ("CN"). CBA is an organization formed thirty-five years ago to ensure the social, political and economical growth within the Chatham community. We feel this proposal is a step in the right direction that will improve railway traffic on the south side of Chicago.

According to the 2002 Illinois Commerce Commission report, five of the ten grade crossings that cause the most motorist delays in our State are located on the city's south side. Should CN's proposal be accepted, urban rail lines will become far less congested, resulting in all rail traffic moving more efficiently. Fewer trains (and motorists) will be left to idle, needlessly burning fuel and omitting pollutants. CBA will expect to see several economical improvements to the Chatham communities like the creation of additional jobs and business development, as well as improvements to passenger and commuter services.

While a small number of communities may see an increase in train traffic with CN Railway's proposal, overall more communities will see great benefits from the proposed acquisition. We truly believe re-routing freight traffic as a fair solution that will stop the freight train traffic overload that occurs daily in the city.

Again, on behalf of the Chatham Business Association, I urge you to support Canadian National Railroad's proposed acquisition for the reasons stated above.

Very truly yours,

William Garth
Chairman & CEO