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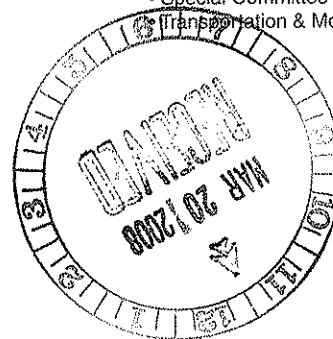
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JAMES D. BROSNAHAN
STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 36TH DISTRICT



March 13, 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,

I am writing in support of Canadian National Railroad's proposed acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway (EJ&E) rail line, a good approach to alleviate the safety, environmental and economic effects of the rail congestion in my district and the greater Chicago Metropolitan region.

The 36th House District is severely affected by Canadian National rail traffic. The passing trains delay ambulances attempting to reach Advocate Christ Medical Center, a level one trauma center, Little Company of Mary Hospital and St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Blue Island. The trains frequently block crossings in close proximity for long periods of time, preventing parents from picking up their children from school and daring middle and high school students from nearby schools to crawl under stopped trains to get to or from school.

The Canadian National acquisition is a privately-funded step towards diminishing the problem of regional rail congestion. The residents of Cook County and the 36th House district need long-sought relief from the daily frustration caused by trains passing through our community.

I urge you and the Surface Transportation Board to approve the acquisition of the EJ&E Railway.

Sincerely,

James D. Brosnahan
State Representative
36th District

JDB/dlj

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

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