



August 28, 2008

Ms. Phillis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

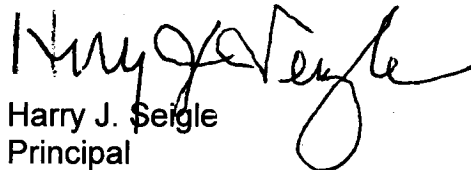
Our company owns commercial real estate throughout the Chicago metro area. Much of this real estate is rail transportation dependent. We strongly support the Canadian National Railway's acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway. The advantages of this transaction are numerous:

1. It will relieve the historical bottle-neck which has delayed the transfer of goods harming commerce;
2. It will make the rail transportation more efficient and less costly to consumers;
3. It will make rail transportation much more energy efficient.

To the extent our position burdens some communities, it benefits many, many more. The acquisition is good for both business and public policy reasons. We urge the Board to support it.

Very truly yours,

THE ELGIN COMPANY



Harry J. Seigle
Principal

HJS/pi