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July 4, 2008

Mrs. Victoria Rutson
Chief, Environmental Analysis Section
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

Subject: *Canadian National Railway Co., et al. – Control – EJ&E
West Company, STB Finance Docket No. 35087*

Dear Mrs. Rutson,

I am writing in support of CN's proposed acquisition of the major portion of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway Company (EJ&E). This transaction will improve rail service in the Chicago metropolitan area, to the benefit of railroads and their customers as well as the Chicagoland region generally.

I represent the Vision 2000 Travel Group, the exclusive supplier of CN's travel needs. Vision 2000 has been offering the finest in corporate travel management to North American Business Communities for over 30 years. A well-functioning rail industry is extremely important to our company. It gives us enhanced access to an expanding range of international opportunities in an increasingly global marketplace. I strongly believe this acquisition will be extremely beneficial to the citizens of the Chicago urban core by significantly reducing rail traffic going through the city center.

The City of Chicago is an important center for North American rail traffic, but the rail corridors in Chicago are congested. Policymakers have long recognized that action needs to be taken to reduce rail congestion in Chicago, and CN's proposed acquisition would help to reduce congestion by rerouting CN traffic from downtown to the less congested EJ&E line in suburban Chicago. The more efficient rail operations that will result will benefit CN and other railroads, as well as the business community that relies on rail service and the many communities in the downtown area that will experience reductions in train traffic.

I also urge the STB to approve this transaction expeditiously, as proposed by CN in its request for establishment of time limits for the environmental review and for issuance of a final decision. I support a meaningful environmental review to examine the impacts of moving train traffic off of downtown Chicago rail lines to the EJ&E, particularly as some communities along the EJ&E right-of-way will experience train traffic increases. The STB's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) has been examining these issues for the last several months and has provided opportunities for community residents and officials to comment on the transaction.



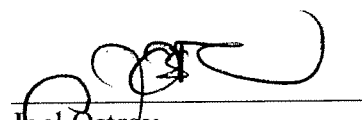


Interested parties also will have the opportunity to provide comments on the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on this transaction once it has been issued.

I urge the Board to complete its environmental review process expeditiously, and to approve this beneficial transaction as in the public interest.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,



Joel Ostrov
President & C.E.O.

JO/dc