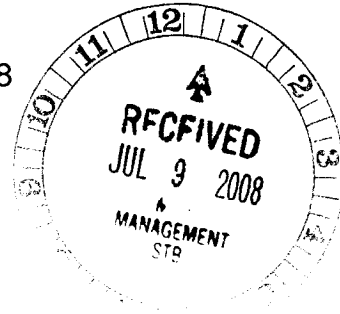


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William Stephenson
502 E 154th Street
Phoenix, IL 60426

May 21, 2008



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

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

I am reaching out to you regarding the issue of train congestion in the Chicago region, and what CN is trying to do about it. CN has proposed acquiring a major portion of the EJ&E line in order to have more freight traffic orbit the city and nearby suburbs. Since this will reduce our city's train and car congestion, I strongly urge you to support this transaction.

One of my biggest complaints about the current situation involves the train crossing 2 blocks from my house at 155th Street. That crossing is blocked almost 7 to 8 hours a day by trains. With all of the loading and unloading that occurs, car traffic gets backed up and a lot of emissions from both train and cars get released into the air. This track also stands along the route to the hospital. As a result, ambulance drivers must take an alternate route when a train blocking the main route – often idling. When faced with a life and death situation, the consequences of such a change in direction can be fatal.

CN's method is a viable course of action, and if their plan comes to fruition it will not only reduce the train congestion, but also the pollution from idling cars and trains. I've been living in the Chicago region for 40 years, and the rail congestion has significantly worsened. The congestion has been a negative factor in the quality of life for residents for a long time and something needs to be done to address this issue. I ask that you please approve their acquisition so CN may move forward with their plan.

Yours Truly,

William Stephenson

cc: Senator Richard Durbin
Senator Barack Obama
Congressman Jesse L. Jackson Jr.