



Illinois Department of Transportation

Office of Chief Counsel

300 West Adams Street / 2nd Floor / Chicago, Illinois / 60606

221417

January 25, 2008

Anne K. Quinlan
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, S W
Washington, DC 20423-0001



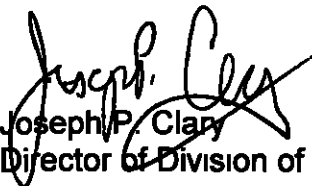
RE: STB Finance Docket No 35087, Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation – Control –EJ& E West Company

Dear Ms. Quinlan:

Pursuant to Decision No 3 in the above-referenced proceeding, this letter serves to certify that on this date the undersigned sent to all Parties of Record copies of the Illinois Department of Transportation's Request for Extension of Time, by first class mail, postage prepaid.

Enclosed is an original and ten (10) copies of our request for Extension of Time. Please acknowledge receipt of this letter by date-stamping the acknowledgement copy, and a copy of the Request for Extension and returning them in the envelope provided

Very truly yours,


Joseph P. Clary
Director of Division of Public and Intermodal Transportation

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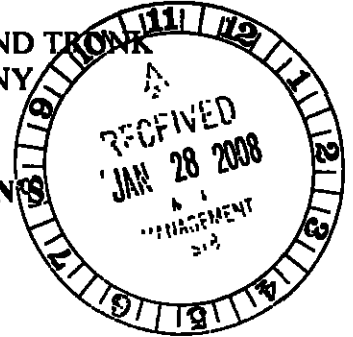
Enclosure

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

STB Finance Docket No 35087

**CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAY COMPANY AND GRAND TRUNK
CORPORATION—CONTROL-EJ&E WEST COMPANY**

**ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**



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Dated January 25, 2008

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

STB Finance Docket No 35087

**CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAY COMPANY AND GRAND TRUNK
CORPORATION--CONTROL-EJ&E WEST COMPANY**

**ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S
REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Petitioner, Illinois Department of Transportation ("IDOT"), pursuant to 49 C F R 1117.1, requests a two-week extension of the January 28, 2008 due date to February 11, 2008, for the filing of its comments, evidence, and argument in opposition to the primary application, and as grounds, therefore, IDOT states as follows:

- 1 The State of Illinois and IDOT, often in partnership with the United States, are engaged in a host of initiatives that increase and enhance the mass transportation of people and goods in the region, and likewise reduce vehicle use and highway congestion
- 2 For example, the State of Illinois, through IDOT, annually contributes approximately \$6.2 million to Amtrak, which uses said funds to provide additional rail passenger service between Chicago and Carbondale, serving Champaign and other significant points between. In addition, the State of Illinois, through IDOT, annually contributes approximately \$13.2 million to support Amtrak passenger service between Chicago and other outlying regions, including Joliet and St. Louis

- 3 Of utmost concern to IDOT is the potential and likely adverse programmatic and financial impact that the proposed unconditional acquisition will have on the State of Illinois' efforts to promote Amtrak and Metra passenger rail service
- 4 For example, under the proposed acquisition, CN has made no commitment under which it would continue to maintain certain tracks between the St Charles Airline and 95th Street (in Chicago)
- 5 Six Amtrak trips between Chicago and Carbondale depend on these tracks, including those trips that the State of Illinois supports with its annual contribution of approximately \$6.2 million
- 6 It is difficult to foresee any scenario under which the lack of maintenance to these tracks will not have a significant and adverse programmatic and financial impact, with the potential to halt or severely disrupt Amtrak service, thereby encouraging or requiring greater highway use and traffic congestion in the Chicago region and other parts of the State
- 7 To assess the likely impact of the proposed unconditional acquisition, IDOT has asked Canadian National Railway Company for data and information, including the actual and projected costs of maintaining relevant tracks, through which IDOT can formulate its position relative to the proposed transaction
- 8 However, IDOT has not yet received the requested data and information
- 9 IDOT anticipates that the two-week extension it seeks will encourage Canadian National Railway Company to come forth with the requested data and information
- 10 If, however, the two-week extension were not granted, IDOT anticipates that it will be forced to object strenuously to the proposed transaction, ask the Board to

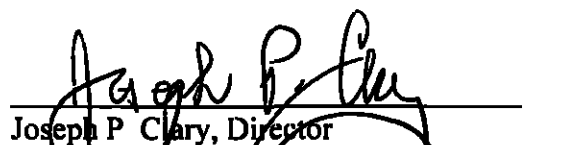
reconsider its determination that the proposed transaction is a minor one; ask that the transaction be declared a significant one; and ask further for leave to proceed with discovery to obtain the data and information sought by IDOT.

11. The requested two-week extension will not unduly delay the proceeding or prejudice any of the parties.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner, Illinois Department of Transportation, respectfully asks that the due date for its submission of comments, evidence, and argument be extended from January 28, 2008, to February 11, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION


Milton R. Sees
Secretary
Joseph P. Clary, Director
Div. of Public & Intermodal Transportation

Dated January 25, 2008

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on this day I caused to be mailed copies of the foregoing Request for Extension of Time of the Illinois Department of Transportation to the Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation, the Attorney General, and each of the parties of record as of this date

Dated at Chicago, Illinois, this 25th day of January 2008



Joseph P. Clary