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Burnside Neighborhood Association, Inc.
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March 6, 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 Acting Secretary Quinlan:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Burnside Neighborhood Association, Inc., an organization that was founded in 2004 to benefit the south side areas of Chicago. Our organization's mission is to improve the quality of life for everyone who lives in the Burnside community—especially those who are least advantaged. I would like you to consider our position in support of Canadian National Railroad's proposed acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway Company.

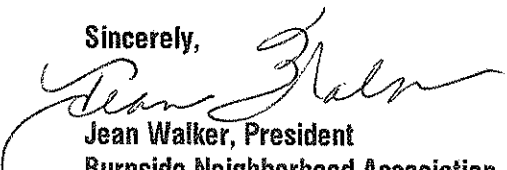
This acquisition is a positive step in helping to improve railway traffic flow in this area. Freight train congestion has become a major area of concern in the greater Chicago region. In its current state, it could take CN freight train traffic longer to go from the north to the south side of Chicago than it would from Chicago to Winnipeg, Canada (860 miles).

With CN's proposal, urban railway lines will open up—resulting in rail traffic moving more efficiently and smoothly through the city, requiring fewer trains to idle on all railroads and curbing the needless waste of burning fuel. It will bring environmental justice to these neighborhoods and give our residents a higher quality of life.

We understand that re-routing freight trains away from Chicago will have other effects on various communities across Illinois; however, we do believe a re-routing solution is the only effective means of stopping the freight train bottleneck that occurs everyday in the city. It is a balanced and fair solution and certainly, its positive results far outweigh any negative ones.

On behalf of the Burnside Neighborhood Association, I urge you to support Canadian National Railroad's proposal, as it will continue to ensure regional prosperity and position the region as the most efficient and well-run transportation hub of North America.

Sincerely,


Jean Walker, President
Burnside Neighborhood Association

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

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