

PETER J. ROSKAM

6TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

CHAIRMAN
SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

SELECT COMMITTEE
ON BENGHAZI



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-1306

February 15, 2017

2246 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4561

2700 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE
SUITE 304
WEST CHICAGO, IL 60185
(630) 232-0006

roskam.house.gov
facebook.com/RepRoskam
twitter.com/PeterRoskam

Chairwoman Ann Begeman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20003

242710
FD 35087 Sub No. 8
ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
February 27, 2017
Part of
Public Record

Dear Chairwoman Begeman,

I am writing in support of the of the petition filed by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and the Village of Barrington seeking that the Surface Transportation Board (STB) extend its oversight of the Canadian National Railroad (CN) and require CN to institute additional grade crossing mitigation measures.

As you are aware, the Board established oversight of CN's acquisition of the EJ&E Railway Company in 2009, and has extended their oversight on several occasions. The purpose of this oversight was to ensure CN's compliance and to address any negative impacts on the communities affected by the acquisition. While some progress has been made to address concerns, increased CN rail traffic and duration of blocked crossings at US Highway 14 in Barrington warrants further consideration by STB. As part of the Chicagoland Strategic Regional Network this crossing connects both US Interstate 90 as well as commercial and residential areas, yet it is the only Federal highway that does not have a single grade separation from the EJ&E line.

A quarter of all freight in the nation originates, terminates, or passes through metropolitan Chicago. Nearly half of the nation's intermodal shipments go through Chicago as well. In light of the fact that CN rail traffic has continued to increase, I believe it is important that the STB extend its oversight in order to ensure CNs commitment to safety and quality. The creation of a grade crossing would give CN the opportunity to grow, ease the flow of traffic, and safeguard the community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

PETER J. ROSKAM
Member of Congress