



Member of the Board

Surface Transportation Board
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

FD 35087 (Sub-No. 8)

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February 7, 2017

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
711 Hart Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tammy Duckworth
G12 Dirksen Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Durbin and Senator Duckworth:

* Thank you for your January 31, 2017 letter in support of the recent petition filed by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and the Village of Barrington (Barrington) requesting specific mitigation efforts and continued Board oversight relating to the 2008 acquisition of the EJ&E West Company by the Canadian National Railway (CN) and the Grand Trunk Corporation. I appreciate hearing from you and knowing of your continued interest in this matter.

As you know, the IDOT and Barrington filed a petition on January 10, 2017, to request that the Board require CN fund 58 percent (\$37.5 million) of the total costs of a grade separation at U.S. Highway 14 in Barrington as additional mitigation for the 2008 transaction authorized in Canadian National Railway & Grand Trunk Corp.—Control—EJ&E West Co., FD 35087 (STB served Dec. 24, 2008). Their petition also requests that the formal Board oversight period for that transaction, which expired on January 23, 2017, be continued for approximately two additional years.

Because the petition is currently pending before the Board, I cannot comment further on the matter or address the merits of the petition. However, please know that the Board is carefully considering the petition, the response filed by CN on January 30, 2017, and other comments received. Ms. Lucille Marvin, the Board's Director of the Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs, and Compliance, will keep your offices apprised of any developments in this proceeding. Should your staff have any questions, Ms. Marvin may be reached at 202-245-0238.

Again, thank you for contacting me. I understand and appreciate your strong interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

Ann Begeman
Acting Chairman