

March 4, 2008

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The Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20423



Subject: Canadian National Railway Com., et al – Control – EJ&E West Company, STB Finance Docket No. FD-35087-0

Dear Secretary Williams:

On behalf of the Wheeling Park District Board of Commissioners, I am writing this letter to support the proposed acquisition of the EJ&E West Company by Canadian National Railway Company (CN).

The Wheeling Park District is an Illinois special district located in the northwest suburbs of Chicago. The Park District's Community Recreation Center, Family Aquatic Center, and 98-acre Heritage Park are located adjacent to Canadian National's Wisconsin Central Line in Wheeling, Illinois.

Over the past several years, the Village of Wheeling has experienced an increase in train traffic and vehicular congestion along Dundee Road, which has an at-grade crossing with the Wisconsin Central Line. Like many of the neighboring communities, vehicular and train congestion is a problem that requires immediate attention. If approved, the proposed transaction will allow CN to reroute trains from the heavily congested Wisconsin Central line to the less congested EJ&E line. This rerouting should have a positive impact on the entire region.

As you are aware, northeastern Illinois is a vital part of freight transportation in the United States, therefore, any improvement that decreases freight travel times, while improving vehicular traffic, should be strongly considered.

We support this acquisition and encourage the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to review the transaction and move to approve it in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

Jan Buchs, Executive Director
Wheeling Park District

cc: Wheeling Park District Board of Commissioners
Patrick Horcher, Acting President, Village of Wheeling
J. Mark Rooney, Village Manager, Village of Wheeling

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

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