

Kathy Houcek
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June 26, 2008

The Honorable Anne K. Quinlan, Esq.
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

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MANAGEMENT

RE: CN Railway Company/EJ&E
STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

Freight traffic in Chicago and the surrounding area is creating considerable difficulties for residents. Something needs to be done, and since CN has put forth a plan that would relieve the rail congestion in the area, I believe it should be given a chance. This plan would allow CN to purchase a portion of the EJ&E rail line that runs on the outskirts of the Chicago area. It requires the approval of your board and I hope you will see fit to grant CN permission for the purchase.

I have been living in La Grange Park since 1982, and in order to avoid delays, our family usually has to utilize round-about routes if we see or hear a train moving through the area. I experience a delay on the way to church almost every third Sunday with a wait of around 10 minutes. Once, it even took 19 minutes as three trains in a row were passing through the crossing. On another occasion, I saw a fire truck obstructed by a train. This is clearly a safety issue.

The freight traffic is simply too heavy for such residential areas and there is an element of danger involving delays to emergency vehicles. Please help to solve this dilemma by approving CN's acquisition of that portion of the EJ&E line that could accommodate a large portion of our current freight traffic. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathy Houcek

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