



MICHELLE A. HARRIS
ALDERMAN—8TH WARD

PUBLIC SERVICE OFFICE
8539 SOUTH COTTAGE GROVE AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60619
TELEPHONE 773-874-3300
FAX: 773-224-2425

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT
OPERATIONS

FINANCE

HEALTH

POLICE & FIRE

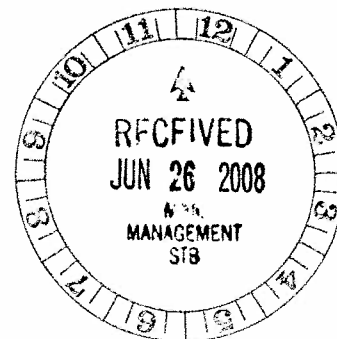
RULES & ETHICS

SPECIAL EVENTS

TRAFFIC

MICHELLE A. HARRIS

CITY HALL, ROOM 200
121 NORTH LASALLE STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602
TELEPHONE 312-744-3075



June 17, 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 in support of Canadian National Railroad's proposed acquisition of the Elgin Joliet & Eastern Railway. I have made a commitment to keeping the 8th ward on the south side of Chicago a desirable place to live. In general, the south side has for years experienced heavy freight traffic and residents are all too familiar with idling trains and unnecessary delays at crossings.

The CN plan to reroute trains around Chicago on the EJ&E will not only alleviate the effects of freight congestion in our neighborhoods, it will help Chicago maintain its position as America's rail hub, which will provide continued economic growth.

I am confident that the many benefits of this plan outweigh the increase in train traffic that some communities will see and overall, will provide a balanced solution to the problem of freight gridlock. The sooner the Surface Transportation Board approves the EJ&E acquisition, the better for Chicago and the entire region.

Sincerely,

Michelle A. Harris
Alderman, 8th Ward

