

Village of Homewood

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January 15, 2008

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

Subject: *Canadian National Railway Co., et al. - Control - EJ&E
West Company, STB Finance Docket No. 35087*

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

I am the President of the Village of Homewood, Illinois, and I am submitting this letter in support of the proposal by Canadian National Railway Company (CN) to acquire control over the EJ&E West Company.

The Village of Homewood is fortunate to be the location for the headquarters of CN's Southern Region, which encompasses the operations of all of CN's U.S. subsidiaries. CN is an excellent corporate citizen of Homewood, and through my extensive experience with their management, I can attest that they deliver on the commitments they make, and are conscious of their civic responsibilities to the communities through which they operate.

The acquisition of the EJ&E will result in improved rail service for customers throughout the Chicago region and beyond, and will result in a reduction of rail traffic and rail congestion through the center of Chicago. Indeed, the Village of Homewood will experience a significant reduction in daily train traffic (from an average of more than 13 trains per day to 8 trains per day). Other communities along the EJ&E line route will experience higher levels of traffic as a result of the re-routing of trains; however, based on my experience with this company, these communities can expect that the CN will deal with them in good faith to find ways to minimize the impact of additional traffic.

Finally, I recommend that the Board approve this transaction in an expeditious manner. The impacts of the transaction are on balance clearly positive, both for the transportation network and for the environment. Certainly, the environmental review process should be thorough so that all impacts are identified and appropriate mitigation considered, but the process should not be needlessly delayed.

Surface Transportation Board Please enter these comments into the official record of these proceedings.
CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087 Thank you.

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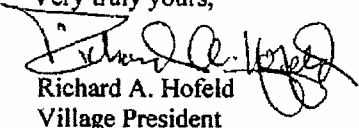
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CC: Original - Job File

Very truly yours,


Richard A. Hofeld
Village President



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have this 17th day of January, 2008, served copies of the foregoing letter, transmitting the statements of The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor of Chicago, The Honorable Bart Stupak, United States Representative, and Richard A. Hofeld, President of the Village of Homewood, Illinois, upon all known parties of record in this proceeding by first-class mail or a more expeditious method.


Jared H. Powell

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CN-16

January 17, 2007

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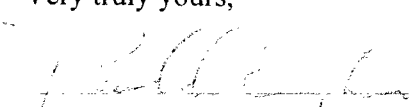
The Honorable Anne K. Quinlan, Esq.
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Office of the Secretary
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

**Re: Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation –
Control – EJ&E West Company (STB Finance Docket No. 35087)**

Dear Ms. Quinlan:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced docket are statements by The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor of Chicago, The Honorable Bart Stupak, United States Representative, and Richard A. Hofeld, President of the Village of Homewood, Illinois in support of the transaction proposed in the Railroad Control Application (CN-2, filed October 30, 2007). We understand that the parties are mailing their signed originals directly to the Board.

Very truly yours,


Paul A. Cunningham
Counsel for Canadian National Railway Company
and Grand Trunk Corporation

Enclosure

cc: All parties of record