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June 12, 2008

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

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

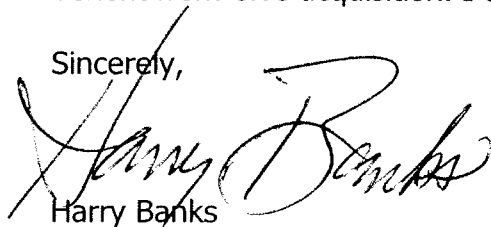
Dear Secretary Quinlan:

I would like to take some time to voice my support for CN's proposed acquisition of a portion of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway. The train congestion experienced in Chicago is a major issue, and CN is doing something about it by expanding their railroad system. If their acquisition of EJ&E goes through, CN will be re-routing some of the freight traffic running through heavily populated areas to a line that runs around the Chicago suburbs, which would greatly reduce the congestion.

The congestion causes a lot of problems for the community. I frequently wait at crossings for long periods of time. I've noticed that the 159th Street crossing in South Holland is particularly affected by the trains. Cars are forced to sit and wait at the crossings for constantly throughout the day, which adds to the pollution in the atmosphere. Additionally, crossing signals will often times malfunction; the cross guards will come down when there's no train coming. This poses a safety problem as there is always doubt on whether or not a train is actually coming, encouraging people to continue across the tracks around the cross guards.

Something needs to be done about train congestion in Chicago. CN's plan is a viable course of action that is a step in the right direction. Chicago could greatly benefit from CN's acquisition. I urge you to please approve CN's purchase.

Sincerely,


Harry Banks