

Edward M. Bumbacco
Manager Corporate Logistics, Purchasing and Stores



September 30, 2008

Ms. Phillis Johnson-Ball
Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

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Subject: Draft Environmental Impact Statement on
Canadian National Railway Co., et al. – Control – EJ&E West Company, STB
Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Ball:

I am writing in connection with the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) prepared by the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) on CN's proposed acquisition of the major portion of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway Company (EJ&E). I support this transaction as it will improve rail service in the Chicago metropolitan area, to the benefit of railroads and their customers as well as the Chicagoland region generally.

I represent Essar Steel Algoma, located in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario Canada. CN is one of our largest carriers, providing transportation services to many of our U.S. customers. Competitive transit times and costs are critical to our ability to compete and we believe that the acquisition of the EJ&E by CN, will benefit us, and the customers that we serve in the area.

In addition we understand that CN's proposed acquisition would help to reduce congestion in the Chicago region by rerouting CN traffic from its existing lines to the less congested EJ&E line in suburban Chicago. The more efficient rail operations that will result will benefit CN and other railroads, as well as rail customers such as Essar Steel. Also we understand that the transaction will reduce congestion for communities in the region, bringing meaningful environmental benefits to millions of people. Further we believe that the reduced congestion and increased efficiency that this transaction would bring are important to the health of the nation's freight rail network.

I understand that that CN is working with communities along the EJ&E line to reach agreements to address their concerns. We applaud this initiative.

I urge SEA to keep in mind the many beneficial impacts of this transaction and to complete your work quickly so that the Board may review your findings and issue a final decision on this transaction before the end of 2008.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments on the DEIS.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "E. Bumbacco", written over a horizontal line.

Edward M. Bumbacco