



a Genesee & Wyoming Company

E1

16291

FD 35087

December 10, 2008

Ms. Anne K. Quinlan, Esq.
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

In my capacity as President of the St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad (SLR), I fully appreciate the importance of our connection with the Canadian National Railway Company (CN), providing our customers in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont expedited, direct rail freight access throughout the United States and Canada. In 2007, we interchanged approximately 23,000 carloads of freight with CN, by far the largest interchange partner of SLR.

The proposed CN acquisition of part of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway (EJ&E) will help improve the flow of freight across the Chicago gateway, including traffic originating or terminating on the SLR. With considerable interest I have been following the events associated with this transaction. It is extremely encouraging that CN has reached agreements with numerous local governments potentially impacted by its proposed acquisition of the EJ&E main line. I am also encouraged that last week the Surface Transportation Board released the Section of Environmental Analysis associated with the CN - EJ&E transaction.

I respectfully request that the Surface Transportation Board complete its review of the CN - EJ&E transaction as soon as possible, and announce its decision before the end of this year.

Very truly yours,

Mario Brault
President