

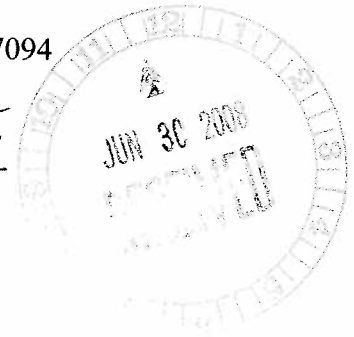


Village of Indian Head Park

201 ACACIA DRIVE
INDIAN HEAD PARK, ILLINOIS 60525
PHONE 708-246-3080 FAX 708-246-7094

www.indianheadpark-il.gov
03909, 061608. ANDREWS, LOCL. 60525.
S.N. LTR

June 16, 2008



The Honorable Anne K. Quinlan
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 East Street NW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Finance Docket # 35087

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

At our Board meeting held on Thursday, June 12, 2008, Mayor Andrews and the Village Board approved Resolution #R6-08-1 regarding "***A Resolution Urging the Surface Transportation Board of the U.S. Department of Transportation to Approve an Application of the National Canadian Railway Company***". The referenced resolution urges the Surface Transportation Board to approve the Canadian National Railroad's acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway.

Residents of the Village of Indian Head Park are impacted by rail congestion on a daily basis. In addition, the economy of the Metropolitan Chicago region is hurt by the inability to efficiently move freight to and from its destinations. Decreasing rail congestion in the region will improve the movement of products to and from industrial and business sites.

I urge the Surface Transportation Board to approve the Canadian National's proposed acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway.

Sincerely,

Richard S. Andrews
President

Attachment

Pc: The Honorable Dick Durbin (Via Facsimile (312) 353-0150
The Honorable Daniel Lipinski (Via Facsimile (773) 767-9395)

RESOLUTION #R6-08-1

Village of Indian Head Park

WHEREAS, one third of to the nation's freight rail traffic moves to, from or through Chicago area every year making it the transportation hub of North America, and **WHEREAS**, rail congestion has significantly slowed freight traffic through the Chicago region to the point where it can now take a freight train 24 hours to travel the thirty miles through the City of Chicago, slowing rail transportation nationwide; and **WHEREAS**, opening up capacity on urban rail lines means that all rail traffic will move more efficiently and smoothly through the city; and **WHEREAS**, freight trains are three times more fuel-efficient and emit one-third less pollution than trucks carrying comparable loads, thereby lessening the drain on the nation's energy reserves; and **WHEREAS**, a typical freight train carries the equivalent of 280 truck-trailer loads, thereby alleviating highway congestion by keeping time-sensitive freight on the rails rather diverting to highways; and **WHEREAS**, rail transportation is crucial to the region economically touching five million jobs nationwide; and **WHEREAS**, if the problem of rail congestion in the region goes unchecked, it could cost the region \$2 billion in production and with impacts on 17,000 jobs over the next two decades; and **WHEREAS**, Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency Program (CREATE) a model public-private partnership initiated more than five years ago developed a comprehensive long term plan that would revitalize the area's transportation network by reconfiguring rail traffic through the Chicago Metropolitan region; and **WHEREAS**, the CREATE comprehensive plan still hasn't received full government funding, even though it has had wide support from every level of government, the private sector and a broad cross-section of non-governmental groups and organizations; and

WHEREAS, Canadian National Railway Company, a founder and strong proponent of CREATE since its inception, has proposed rerouting its traffic from the congested urban rail lines to the under-utilized Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway at its own cost and expense, thereby opening up new capacity on those urban lines; and **WHEREAS**, by rerouting its traffic, Canadian National Railway Company will relieve freight congestion on many of the Chicago region's lines, thereby reducing travel times, pollution from idling trains and costs resulting from shipping delays; and **WHEREAS**, the West Central Municipal Conference having voted unanimously to support the acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway by the Canadian National Railway Company.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Indian Head Park is joining the Municipal Conference in urging the Surface Transportation Board of the U.S. Department of Transportation to approve the application of the Canadian National Railway Company to acquire the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway Company as a valuable enhancement of the region's rail network; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Acting Secretary of the Surface Transportation Board.

APPROVED BY THE VILLAGE OF INDIAN HEAD PARK BOARD OF TRUSTEES, this 12th day of June, 2008:

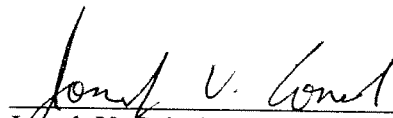
AYES: Anselmo, Bermier, Coleman, Schnaufer, Walsh

NAY: None

ABSENT: Bailey



Richard S. Andrews
Village President
Village of Indian Head Park



Joseph V. Colsolo
Village Clerk
Village of Indian Head Park