

Southern Region

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May 30, 2008

Ms. Anne K. Quinlan, Esq.
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
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RE: Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

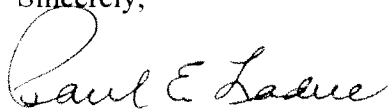
I am an experienced employee of CN, having worked for the company for 30 years in a variety of managerial positions. My family and I have been Illinois residents for 8 years.

As indicated in the above docket, CN has indicated our desire to acquire a major portion of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway (EJ&E), in an effort to be able to provide more efficient service to our customers. I am very familiar with the challenges all railroads face in the Chicago area today, and our reuse of the EJ&E, an existing and lightly used line of railroad, can eliminate a lot of uncertainty and inefficiencies not only in our own operations, but more importantly, in the operations of our customers, who are the businesses and industries that use CN's transportation services and who are major employers around the country.

It is widely reported in the media here about your work to study the environmental impacts of the transaction on the communities along the EJ&E line that will see more trains as a result of the transaction. I trust that you are also keeping in mind the larger, more widespread transportation benefits that this transaction will bring, if allowed to proceed as CN envisions. These benefits will also extend to the entire Chicagoland region, as rail congestion is reduced and the strains on car and truck traffic are also partially alleviated.

I urge you to complete your environmental impact study as quickly as possible, for the benefit of surface transportation in the United States.

Sincerely,



Paul E. Ladue

cc:

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