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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 support CN's proposal to reduce the amount of freight trains in this area. Their plan consists of purchasing a large section of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern rail line and redirecting many routes to the outskirts of Chicago. This will help free up traffic and consequently allow for better freight movement.

The trains that I have the most problems with are the ones that are located on 159th and 171st streets. I get stuck at these particular crossings repeatedly. I can take alternate routes from 159th street, although it takes up more time. For the one on 171st, when I try to go via another route, I end up sitting behind the same train on another street. These incessant stoppages have become very disheartening, but if approved, this acquisition will help alleviate much of it.

In addition, I have grandchildren. If my grandkids call me to pick them up, it would really be frustrating trying to get to them because I wouldn't be able to do it quickly. Waiting for the trains so often has got me thinking about how waits must be for those who are in emergency situations. If I am sitting and waiting for a train to pass, I am sure they would have to wait also. This is a dangerous situation that should be handled with great urgency. Fortunately, this proposal will improve all travel, especially for those who are in urgent situations.

I strongly encourage you to throw your full support behind this proposal and approve it quickly. Thank you for hearing me out.

Sincerely,


Shirley England