

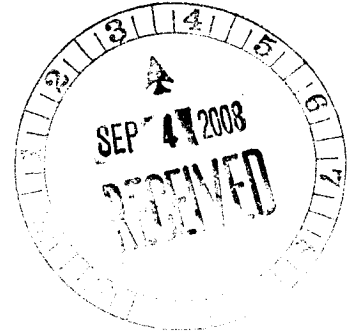
wheatland

T O W N S H I P

Robert Biedron
Supervisor

August 18, 2008

The Honorable Anne K. Quinlan, Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-001



RE: STB Finance Docket No. 35087 (Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation – Control - EJ & E West Company)

Dear Ms. Quinlan:

The Wheatland Township Board met on Thursday, August 14, 2008, and unanimously supported Resolution #08-02-R, Statement of Wheatland Township's Opposition to the Canadian National Railway Purchase of the EJ&E. This purchase will negatively impact our township with the tremendous increase of rail traffic and will severely affect our residents' quality of life.

Enclosed is a copy of Resolution #08-02-R to be included with all documents to aid the Surface Transportation Board when making its' decision. We thank you in advance for your support on this critical issue. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the Wheatland Township Office, 630.851.3952.

Sincerely,

Robert Biedron
Supervisor Wheatland Township

Enclosure

CC: The Honorable Judy Biggert
The Honorable Barack Obama
The Honorable Richard Durbin
The Honorable Peter Roskam
The Honorable Melissa Bean
The Honorable Bill Foster
The Honorable Tom Cross
The Honorable James Waldorf
The Honorable Darlene Senger

OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISOR

RESOLUTION 08-02-R
WHEATLAND TOWNSHIP, WILL COUNTY

**STATEMENT OF WHEATLAND TOWNSHIP'S OPPOSITION TO THE
CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAY PURCHASE OF THE EJ&E**

- WHEREAS,** on October 30, 2007, the Canadian National Railway Corporation, along with its United States subsidiary, Grand Trunk Corporation (collectively, "CN") filed an application with the federal Surface Transportation Board ("STB") seeking approval to acquire the EJ&E West Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company (collectively, "EJ&E"); and
- WHEREAS,** the undersigned speaks for many communities made up of over a million or more people who would be negatively impacted by the overwhelming increase of freight traffic CN plans to run on the EJ&E railroad based on its current projections as well as the traffic onslaught that would ensue with planned expansion of the Port of Prince Rupert, Canada; and
- WHEREAS,** our communities are united in a concern that the negative community impacts on safety, traffic gridlock, property values and overall quality of life along the EJ&E created by this acquisition cannot now or ever be adequately resolved to accommodate transforming the EJ&E from the equivalent of a small country road into a rail freight "superhighway;" and
- WHEREAS,** this purchase would further aggravate commuter gridlock into the future by precluding the use of the EJ&E for the planned Metra commuter rail Star Line; and
- WHEREAS,** a business wishing to open or develop in an American community is required to be a good citizen and make infrastructure investment that integrates it into the community in which it is locating; and
- WHEREAS,** the cost of fully mitigating the community problems CN would create through its operations on the EJ&E would run into the billion of dollars and CN has committed to shouldering only \$30 to \$40 million of these costs; and
- WHEREAS,** it is not in the interests of American taxpayers – nor their obligation – to underwrite mitigation costs for a private business deal that benefits only a foreign corporation; and
- WHEREAS,** we acknowledge that freight congestion in Chicago is a reality and that fixing this problem is a matter of careful planning followed by a commitment of substantial dollars to get the job done, and that this planning has already occurred through a project started a decade ago called CREATE.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. CREATE should be pursued as the regional solution for freight congestion;
2. If it chooses to pursue the acquisition of the EJ&E then Canadian National Railway should be held to the same corporate community standards as American businesses are held to in 2008;
3. Until the Canadian National Railway is willing to invest the dollars necessary to alleviate the problems it is creating in our communities, our communities will stand united in opposition to this transaction.

Approved this 14th day of August, 2008.

Surface Transportation Board
CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

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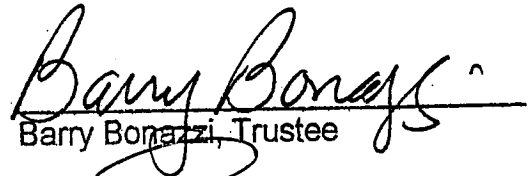
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Cc: Original - Job File

Wheatland Township Board



Robert Bledron, Supervisor



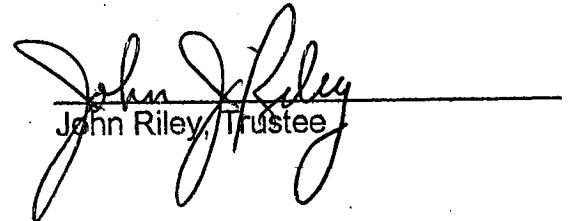
Barry Bonazzi, Trustee



Douglas Haddad, Trustee

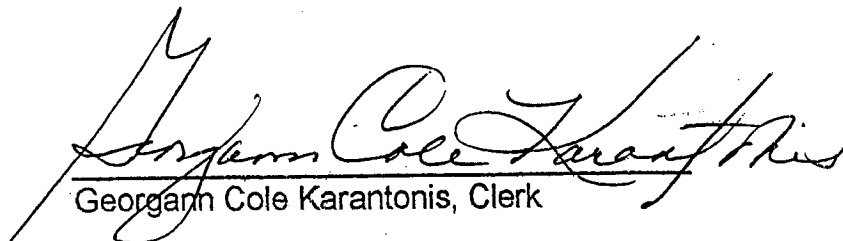


Diane Para, Trustee



John Riley, Trustee

ATTEST:



Georgann Cole Karantonis, Clerk

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Absent: 0