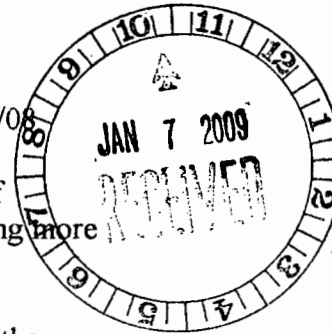


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12/24/08



Dear Sirs,

What a mockery you have made of an institution funded by and for the benefit of American citizens. The kangaroo court you preside over that is the STB is nothing more than a rubber stamp for Big Rail.

Your own process of the STB organization calls for a 30-day review period after the publication of a final EIS. Yet, you choose to execute a loophole to benefit Big Rail in passing the CN/EJE purchase. You have personally voted in favor of subsidizing a foreign organization that tramples over the communities and rights of American citizens.

The issue pure and simple here is the funding of rail/grade overpasses for safety. All other issues combined don't even come close. You had the authority to correct this injustice and instead you folded to pressure from CN, ignored vast quantities of facts, and choose to rubber stamp this effort on Christmas Eve, in the eleventh hour of your kangaroo court. I suspect all three of you wanted to leave the Washington beltway before Christmas so that you wouldn't be too inconvenienced and need to return and satisfy CN the following week. Possibly, you personally calculated that publishing this news during a long weekend would dilute any response you would have to face up to. What a personally embarrassing and cowardly act you have committed.

One can only speculate to what level of corruption you personally find acceptable to your own conscious and how you, your family or friends will personally profit from this American travesty. I suspect you are all pursuing fat consulting contracts or appointments to powerful well-paid positions in the transportation industry that will pay you handsomely after your "government service" is complete. There is no justification for your actions and I find them completely reprehensible. You and your organization represent exactly what the problem is with unchecked government and lack of accountability. You do not understand what public service is. Please do yourself and the country a favor and resign from public service now. I'll take my chances with the next crew in hopefulness they truly want to serve Americans.

I watched on CSPAN how you testified in congress with complete contempt and indifference. I've read the transcripts of your interviews with filled with rhetorical quotes like "...when listening to history..." Just how does one "listen to history" anyway?

Please, the effort of a response is not required as you and your organization are plain and simple corrupt, are of absolutely zero credibility and simply disgust me.

Peter Schaffer
228 Monument Ave
Barrington Il, 60010

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