



The Development Association
Serving Superior & Douglas County, Wisconsin

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November 20, 2007

220805

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 F Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

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

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
NOV 27 2007
Part of
Public Record

**VERIFIED STATEMENT
OF**

Andrew Lisak
On behalf of
The Development Association

My name is Andrew Lisak and I am Executive Director of The Development Association – a position I have held for over 6 years. I also serve as President of the Wisconsin Economic Development Association.

The Development Association has been in existence for more than 40 years. Its mission is to assist with retention, expansion, creation and recruitment of businesses in Superior and Douglas County which are located in northwestern Wisconsin. The Association's Board of Directors is made up of business owners, economic development professionals and City and County government representatives. The organization also administers the Douglas County Revolving Loan Fund and manages the Superior Business Center.

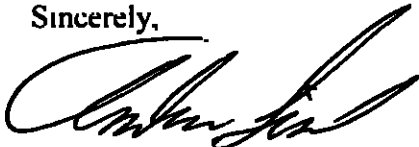
Since our businesses and communities are located more than 400 miles north of Chicago, connectivity to distant markets is critical to our success. Rail service plays a major role in what we do. Anything that reduces transit times moves us closer to the rest of the nation. Conversely, delays to our shipments due to train traffic congestion in Chicago only moves us further away from other markets and makes our region less competitive. That's why the Development Association strongly supports CN's acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern (EJ&E). This transaction moves our region closer to major markets in the United States.

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We anticipate further benefits from the streamlined rail operations, new efficiencies and operating improvements the acquisition will bring to CN's network. We urge the STB to consider this acquisition as a minor transaction and approve it, so that our region can benefit from the transaction as soon as possible. The Development Association strongly supports the application.

Sincerely,



Andrew Lisak
Executive Director

VERIFICATION

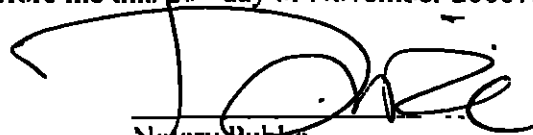
STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS

Andrew Lisak, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he has read the foregoing document, knows the facts asserted therein, and that the same are true as stated.



Andrew Lisak

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of November 2007.



Notary Public

My Commission Expires

7/12/09