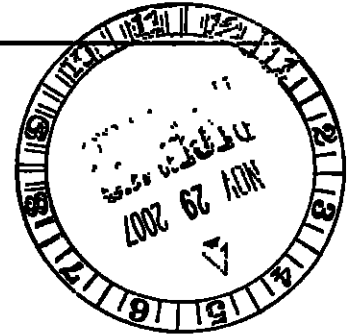




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OSHKOSH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ADVOCACY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LEADERSHIP



November 19, 2007

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

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

**VERIFIED STATEMENT
OF**

**John Casper
On behalf of**

Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce

**ENTERED
Office of Proceedings**

NOV 30 2007

**Part of
Public Record**

My name is John Casper and I am President & CEO of the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce – a position I have held for 17 years. The Chamber is an organization of more than 1,100 members including manufacturers, retailers and service professionals who are devoted to strengthening the business community and to promoting economic growth in Oshkosh and Northeast Wisconsin. We are the foremost voice for the business and our mission is to provide leadership and serve our members so their businesses and our community will prosper. In November 2004, the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce was awarded a 5-Star Accreditation by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

I am writing to you because a critical component of our community's success is good, dependable freight rail service. That's why the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce strongly supports CN's acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern (EJ&E). This transaction will benefit not only our region, but also the entire State of Wisconsin.

Despite the fact that Oshkosh is a long way from Chicago, our manufacturers that rely on good rail service frequently find themselves affected by severe rail traffic in the Chicago hub. We believe CN's acquisition of certain EJ&E assets will more efficiently link our rail traffic coming in and out of Wisconsin. In addition, we will realize benefits from the streamlined rail operations and reduced congestion resulting over time from this transaction. Our business community will also benefit from the new efficiencies and operating improvements the acquisition will bring to CN's network. We understand that many of the planned upgrades to the system as a result of the acquisition are among the

A Five Star Accredited Chamber of Commerce

goals of the CREATE project and that CN's integration of the EJ&F will move forward a number of CREATE's objectives sooner than they might otherwise be implemented
This has to be good news for all stakeholders

Finally, we urge the STB to consider this acquisition as a minor transaction and approve it, so that our businesses and community can begin realizing the benefits of this transaction as soon as next year

Because of the numerous benefits that this acquisition will provide, the Oshkosh Chamber strongly supports the application

Sincerely,


John A. Casper
President

VERIFICATION

STATE OF Wisconsin)
COUNTY OF Winnebago)

John A. Casper, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that (he/she) has read the foregoing document, knows the facts asserted therein, and that the same are true as stated,


Mark Halfen

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th day of Nov, 2007.


Notary Public

My Commission Expires
Feb. 27, 2011