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# Press Release

## **Canadian National (CN) Purchase of EJ & E Railroad Will Require EIS**

The Surface Transportation Board (STB) announced today that a full environmental impact study will be required before the board makes its determination to authorize, deny or authorize with conditions the application of the Canadian Railway Corporation and Grand Trunk Corporation (together, CN) to acquire control of the EJ & E Railroad. In addition, the board established a procedural schedule and accepted the application as a “minor” transaction under the board’s rules.

Frankfort Mayor Jim Holland commented, “We are very pleased that the Surface Transportation Board is requiring a full environmental impact study before ruling on the issue of the Railroad acquisition. We have been opposed to the significant increase in rail traffic that the acquisition proposes because of the negative environmental and safety impacts that increased rail traffic would bring to our community. By their action, the Surface Transportation Board has indicated that they have heard our concerns and they will require the CN to address those concerns before ruling on the acquisition. This is indeed good news for our residents.”

Environmental Impact Studies commonly take 18 months or more to complete. The board commented that the study is warranted in view of the large projected traffic increases on certain line segments and the resulting potential impacts of the proposed transaction on a number of communities. A Draft EIS will be prepared that will analyze in detail the potential environmental impacts of the transaction. The public will have at least 45 days to comment on the Draft EIS, after which a Final EIS will be prepared that will respond to the public comments and include recommendations for any environmental mitigation conditions. The Board will then take the full environmental record into account in deciding whether to authorize the transaction as proposed, deny it, or authorize it with conditions.

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