

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD TO HOLD NOVEMBER 18 PUBLIC MEETING, IN WASHINGTON, D.C., ON PREPARATION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT RE "CANADIAN NATIONAL'S" PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF "ELGIN, JOLIET & EASTERN" RAILROAD

The Surface Transportation Board today announced that it will hold a public meeting on **November 18, 2008**, at its Washington, D.C. headquarters, concerning the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) now being prepared in *Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation—Control—EJ&E West Company*, STB Finance Docket No. 35087. During the public meeting, the Board Members will be briefed by, and will discuss the EIS with, staff of the agency's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA). The meeting will be open for public observation but not public participation.

On **Tuesday, November 18**, the public meeting will begin at **10:00 a.m.** in the Board's **Hearing Room** on the **1st Floor** of the agency's headquarters at **Patriots Plaza, 395 E Street, S.W., Washington, D.C.**

On October 30, 2007, the Canadian National Railway Company (CN) and Grand Trunk Corporation (collectively, "CN") filed an application with the Board seeking the agency's approval to acquire control of the EJ&E West Company, a wholly owned, non-railroad subsidiary of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company (EJ&E). EJ&E is a Class II railroad operating approximately 200 miles of track in northeastern Illinois and northwestern Indiana.

On November 26, 2007, the Board issued Decision No. 2 in STB Finance Docket No. 35087 announcing that SEA would prepare an EIS assessing the potential environmental impacts that could result from the proposed acquisition. The Draft EIS was issued to the public on July 25, 2008, and public comments on it were due by September 30, 2008. SEA currently is preparing the Final EIS in response to comments received.

The Board's decision announcing the public meeting in [STB Finance Docket No. 35087](#) was issued today, November 7, 2008. That decision is available for viewing and downloading on the Board's Web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>, under "**E-Library**," then under "**Decisions & Notices**," beneath the date "**11/07/08**."

A video broadcast of the hearing will be accessible via the Web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>, under "**Information Center**"/"**Webcast**"/"**Live Video**" on the home page.

###