



**VERIFIED STATEMENT
OF
MICHAEL A PARTRIDGE
On behalf of
VERSO PAPER**

11/29/07

My name is Michael A. Partridge. I am Director – Supply Chain, for Verso Paper, with offices at 9025 Centre Pointe Drive, Suite 100, West Chester, OH 45069. Verso Paper wishes to express its support for Canadian National Railway's ("CN") proposed acquisition of EJ&E West Company.

Verso Paper is one of the leading North American suppliers of coated papers, which are used primarily in media and marketing application. This includes catalogs, magazines, and commercial printing applications, such as high-end advertising brochures, annual reports, and direct mail advertising. Verso has the leading North American market share in coated groundwood paper, which is used primarily for catalogs and magazines. Our company is also one of North America's largest producers of coated freesheet paper, used primarily for upscale catalogs and magazines, annual reports, and magazine covers.

Verso Paper owns four paper mills located in Jay, Maine; Bucksport, Maine; Quinnesec, Michigan; and Sartell, Minnesota. CN serves the paper mill at Quinnesec, Michigan. The Quinnesec mill ships paper and wood pulp throughout the United States and Canada and receives logs, clay, chemicals, wood pulp, and other inbound commodities.

Although CN directly serves only the Quinnesec mill, Verso Paper ships paper via CN from all of our mills. Some of our customers are located on CN lines and others use warehouses and distribution centers located on CN lines. One of our major distribution centers is located on the Union Pacific Railroad ("UP") in the Chicago area. Verso shipped over 8,000 carloads of paper and wood pulp over the CN during 2006, approximately 6,000 cars of which originated at our Quinnesec mill. The Quinnesec mill also received 7,925 carloads of inbound logs, clay, chemicals wood pulp and other commodities in 2006, most of which were single-line hauls by CN.

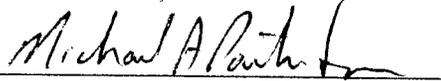
We understand that Canadian National will be seeking authority to acquire and operate the EJ&E West Company, and that EJ&E West Company will own most of the rail lines of the current Elgin Joliet & Eastern Railway Company ("EJ&E") in Chicago. We strongly support this application because we believe the combined company will offer improved speed and reliability for our movements through the Chicago area and new single-line service opportunities to points on the current EJ&E lines.

As noted above, one of our distribution centers is located on the UP in the Chicago area.. If CN is permitted to acquire EJ&E West, it should enable CN to reduce transit times on its movements to that facility. In addition, I believe our company may be able to take advantage of new single-line service opportunities for movements over CN in connection with points on EJ&E's lines that

CN would be acquiring as part of its proposed transaction. In our experience, single-line service reduces costs and improves reliability.

In sum, I believe that the proposed acquisition will provide benefits to Verso Paper and other shippers. Accordingly, Verso Paper is pleased to support CN's proposed acquisition.

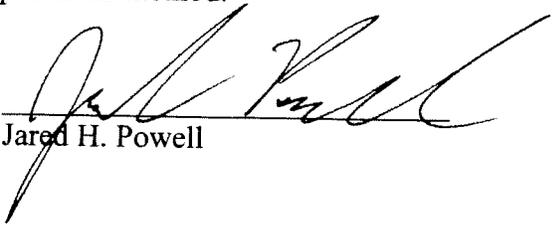
I, Michael A Partridge declare that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. Further, I certify that I am qualified and authorized to file this verified statement. Executed on October 29, 2007.



Michael A. Partridge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have this 19th day of November, 2007, served copies of nine additional statements in support of this transaction (CN-5) upon all known parties of record in this proceeding by first-class mail or a more expeditious method.

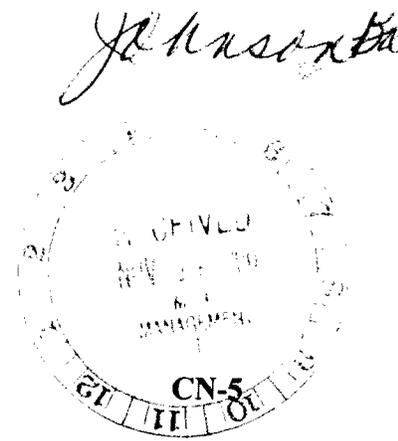

Jared H. Powell

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November 19, 2007

BY HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Office of the Secretary
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
NOV 19 2007
Part of
Public Record

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

Dear Mr. Williams:

Enclosed are the signed originals, and 10 copies, of nine additional statements in support of the transaction proposed in the Railroad Control Application (CN-2, filed October 30, 2007). These include statements by the following:

- A&R Transport, Inc.
- Behr Iron & Steel, Inc.
- Consolidated Grain and Barge
- Hapag-Lloyd (America) Inc.
- Louisiana Pacific Corporation
- Major-Prime Plastics, Inc.
- Ozinga Bros., Inc.
- Parkdale International Ltd.
- Verso Paper

These supplement the sixteen statements of support filed with the application.

Very truly yours,

Paul A. Cunningham

Counsel for Canadian National Railway Company
and Grand Trunk Corporation