



Environmental Impact Statement

Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Canadian National Railway Company Acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company

Date: Aug. 27, 2008

I think it is deplorable that in 2008 citizens in an affluent American Community can be subjected to practically unfettered commercial expansion against the community's best interest. At least the passage of HR06707 will give a voice to the community and ensure it's ability to accurately assess the impact of proposed development.

I believe that STB must consider the serious shortcomings of the mitigation requirements. These meetings should have been held much earlier in this process as I don't feel the public is aware of the entire situation and what, if anything, they can do to prevent or mitigate the detrimental issues.

I am most concerned with the impact on fire and emergency responses. The increase in hazardous materials being transported is also unacceptable. Finally, although it almost seems second tier to the above, is the impact on housing values, traffic congestion and quality of life in an area that I thought I could raise my children & possibly grandchildren. At this point I will take the financial hit and move on.

Barbara Beardsall

[illegible]

Joliet