



CN | EJ&E

Environmental Impact Statement

Scoping Comment for the Proposed Canadian National Railway Company Acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company

STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Comment Form

How Do I Submit Comments?

01436, 012408. O'Donnell. PCT2. 60441. O.N. CF

- **Written Comments:** Complete and submit this form at the public open house scoping meeting, or follow the directions on the reverse side of this sheet to mail your comments.
- **Recorded Comments:** Provide your comments to a member of the project team or court reporter at this public open house scoping meeting, or call the toll-free project information line: 1-800-347-0689.
- **Electronic Comments:** Submit electronic comments by visiting the Surface Transportation Board's website, www.stb.dot.gov, under the heading "E-Filing."

Please refer to STB Finance Docket No. 35087 in all correspondence addressed to the Surface Transportation Board. Comments must be submitted by February 1, 2008.

My family lives in the Heritage Lake Estates subdivision located near the intersection of Division and Gaylord streets in Joliet, Illinois. We believe allowing 42.6 trains a day to run on the tracks near our home is a really bad idea for the following reasons:

- The number of trains that currently run through our neighborhood is already high. Having 42.6 trains a day (an average of 1.77 trains per hour at 2 to 15 minutes each) would make it impossible to get around between the Joliet, Plainfield, Cresthill and Romeoville neighborhoods as you can't get anywhere without crossing the railroad tracks at some point during your commute.
- As many of the tracks in our neighborhood do not have railroad crossings, the engineers blow their horns really long and really loud. This is very disruptive as trains run at all hours of the night when we're trying to sleep.
- The railroad tracks are already in extremely poor condition. We have to come to a complete stop and very slowly roll over the tracks at Division Street. Adding more trains will only worsen conditions.
- We have many children living in the subdivisions in this area. We are also in very close proximity to a major shopping mall. Kids can actually walk to the mall, to movies and to restaurants. Having trains constantly running for 2 to 15 minutes at a time will make it very difficult for those choosing to walk to get across to the mall.
- Kids in our subdivision and many others nearby, go to Plainfield schools. All routes to/from schools require crossing railroad tracks at some point. Kids are already waking up before dawn and waiting for their bus to pick them up in the dark. Additional trains could force even earlier pickup times for the kids.
- I've already seen emergency vehicles unable to get across the tracks. If more trains were added, we could be looking at many more potential casualties. I sure hope nobody in my family is ever injured, has a heart attack or my house catches fire. Everything and everybody I love would be in jeopardy.
- It's ridiculous that builders would be allowed to buy up all the land in this area and entice families to move to this area (one of the fastest growing areas in the state) only to have them all leaving again 15 years later. The politicians in this area need to take a really long hard look at all the affects this could have on their community and the money us families bring to this area.
- Our area is in desperate need of a good commuter line as many of us work in Chicago. If you're going to utilize these tracks, it should be for the good of the community, not some Canadian company hauling chemicals through our neighborhoods.
- A couple years ago an industrial park was built down the road from our homes. This is already causing the value of our homes to decrease. Let's not even talk about the current real estate market. More than doubling the number of trains coming through our neighborhood will only decrease our home values even more.

What scoping meeting did you attend? (Please circle): Mundelein, Barrington, Joliet, Matteson, Gary, West Chicago, Chicago.

Date Recd: _____

HDR File No: _____

Name: Maureen O'Donnell

YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT!

Address: 3213 Sunset Court

Comments provided by the public help determine the scope of the environmental review.

Scanned (Initial): _____

ECT #: _____

City, State, Zip: Lockport IL 60441

Cc: Original - Job File

Date: 1/24/08