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CN | EJ&E

Environmental Impact Statement

Comment Form

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

STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Date: August 27, 2008

Comments must be submitted by September 30, 2008.

I was a Village of Barrington Trustee in 2001-2005. During that time we looked at a proposal to grade separate the trains from the traffic on State Route 59. Because both the EJ&E and the Pacific Northwest line cross RT 59 within about 300 feet of each other the grade separation would have to include both Rail lines. There would be a very long deep corridor on 59, essentially it would become a "ditch freeway" because rt 59 is a State route and must accommodate truck traffic. The construction would require more Right of Way than IDOT currently has. It would result in Emminent Domain. Furthermore, the Homes on Rt 59 would not be able to enter RT 59 because of the enormous grade difference. It would make RT-59 a ditch through the middle of Barrington and then the "proposed" grade separations at Lake Cook & RT 14 would need to somehow link to this RT 59 ditch. Because we would become a community of ditches it would require overpasses and fencing along the ditches to prevent people and animals from falling in! How will our own local streets connect to these ditches? None of this can be done. It is never going to happen.

If it were really possible to mitigate the Road/Rail conflicts, this would already have been done on the inner loop. If it is possible to do it on the inner loop then let the CN do it THERE. It is not possible to do it in Barrington and the CN purchase should be denied.

YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT!

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Please check the public meeting you attended:

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