



Environmental Impact Statement



CN | EJ&E

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?

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- **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: 1-800-347-0669.
- **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.

SEE ATTACHMENT

Surface Transportation Board

CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

Log and Distribution

Date Recd:

EDR File No:

Scanned (Initial):

STABCT#:

Cc: Original - Job File

HDR

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

YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT!

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

Name: P. JAMES PERILLE

Address: 485 WHITE OAK LANE

City, State, Zip: LAKE BARRINGTON, IL
60010

Date: 01/24/08

ATTACHMENT

**Scoping Comment for the Proposed
Canadian National Railway Company
Acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and
Eastern Railway Company
STB Finance Docket No. 35087**

The proposed purchase and expanded use of the EJ&E Railway will route 20 or more freight trains over eight (1) surface crossings. This will adversely impact traffic congestion and the health, safety and welfare of residents in the Barrington area, and should be denied.

The Village of Barrington was built around the main line of the Union Pacific Railroad, and serves as a major commuter station for Metra service to Chicago. This rail line has four major surface crossings (2) that have been well integrated into the development of Barrington over the last 100 plus years.

Historically, Barrington has served as the central focus or hub of banking, commercial, cultural and residential concentration for the 80 square mile Barrington Council of Governments (BACOG) area. The Canadian National Railway proposal will have a devastating impact on this entire area. Much of this area's viability will be destroyed. The Barrington central business district will be in lock-down mode during rush hours and many times in-between.

The quality of life and health, safety and welfare of residents as well as all public safety, school, park, church, library, forest preserve facilities and assets will be devalued.

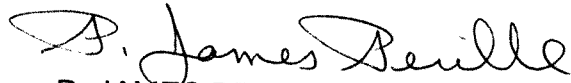
The area serviced by Barrington School District #220 coincides closely with the BACOG area. The Illinois Department of Revenue reports that the total taxable market value of School District #220 was \$9.8 billion as of January 1, 2005. It is reasonable to add 20% to this value to update it to a January 1, 2008 market value of \$11.8 billion. Properties not included in the tax roles would bring this figure to \$15 billion. This would then include schools, churches, village administration, police and fire, library, park and forest preserve land and facilities.

(1) Penny Road, Otis Road, Lake Cook (Main Street), Highway 59 (Hough Street), Highway 14 (Northwest Highway), Lake Zurich Road, Cuba Road and Ela Road

(2) Dundee Road, Hillside, Lake Cook (Main Street), and Highway 59 (Hough Street)

An effective 20 percent (i.e., ranging from 10-40%) loss in value for all of these properties and facilities would equate to a loss of \$3 billion through the implementation of the Canadian National Railway proposal.

There is bound to be ripple effects over a much larger region than BACOG through the loss in viability of Barrington and its commuter facilities. Approval of the Canadian National Railway proposal would be a tragedy too difficult to contemplate. It should be denied.



P. JAMES PERILLE

Former Two Term Director and Chairman of Civic Affairs for
Fox Point Homeowners Association, Barrington

Former Trustee, Village of Barrington. 1975 - 1979

Former Vice President of Land Use, North Barrington
Area Association

Former President and Current Director

Barrington Enlightened Taxpayers Association (BETA)