

Glossary

303(d) list	A list of threatened and impaired waters prepared biennially by a state and submitted to the US EPA under the Clean Water Act. The list specifies streams with known or foreseeable future pollution or other biological impairments. Listing a stream as impaired may have implications in water quality related permitting, including the NPDES and 401/404 programs.
abandonment	The discontinuance of service on a rail line segment and the salvaging and/or the removal of railroad-related facilities from the line and the national rail transportation system pursuant to authority issued by the Board.
absolute block	A length of track that no train is permitted to enter while the track is occupied by another train.
absolute signal ("A" block)	A block or interlocking signal without a number plate, or designated by an "A" marker.
accelerometer	An electromechanical device that measures acceleration forces such as vibration.
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP)	An independent Federal agency charged with advising the President and Congress on historic preservation matters and administering the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
adverse environmental impacts	Any adverse change to the environment wholly or partially resulting from the action before the Board.
acceptable mobility	Mobility is acceptable in a community if: 1) roadways operate at LOS D or better, 2) queue lengths do not block a major roadway, and 3) roadways operating at LOS E and F have an alternate route.
alternate route	One or more other routes that have the capacity to handle additional traffic volumes and are within a mile of a congested street that is sometimes blocked by a train. Alternate routes may or may not be grade separated.
Amtrak	Amtrak is the operating name of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation, a federal government-owned corporation that was organized in 1971 and now provides intercity passenger rail services to more than 500 destinations in 46 states on a 21,000-mile route system within the United States.
Applicants	Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation; also referred to as "CN" in this EIS.

aquifer	A subsurface zone that yields economically important amounts of water to wells. The term is synonymous with water-bearing formation. An aquifer may be porous rock, unconsolidated gravel, fractured rock, or cavernous limestone.
Area of Potential Effects (APE)	From the National Historic Preservation Act, the Area of Potential Effects is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if such properties exist. The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking and may be different for different kinds of effects caused by the undertaking.
arterial	A class of street that allows significant traffic movements for travel between major points and provides regional connectivity.
attainment	Compliance with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) promulgated under the Clean Air Act.
Beltway Corridor	Planned rail line segment designated by CREATE that would primarily handle freight traffic between Franklin Park and South Holland, Illinois.
bill of lading	A shipping form that is both a receipt for property and a contract for delivery of goods by a carrier.
Board	The Surface Transportation Board (STB) is the federal agency that is charged with approving proposed acquisitions, such as this. See Surface Transportation Board.
branch line	A branch line is a rail line which serves one or more rail station(s) beyond the junction of the main line or another branch line.
brownfields	Abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial and commercial property where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by environmental contamination.
Canadian National Railway Company	A rail carrier that controls its U.S. rail subsidiaries through Grand Trunk Corporation, a noncarrier holding company.
Central Corridor	Planned rail line segment as designated by CREATE that would primarily handle freight traffic between Franklin Park, Illinois and Chicago.
census block groups	The U.S. Census Bureau uses this geographical unit, which is between the census tract and the census block. It is the smallest geographical unit for which the bureau publishes sample data, i.e., data that is only collected from a fraction of all households.

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)	Formed in 2005, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning integrates planning for land use and transportation in the seven counties of northeastern Illinois.
Chicago Subdivision	One of five rail lines that converge in Chicago; this subdivision approaches Chicago from the south and constitutes the former Illinois Central (ICRR).
Chicago Terminal District	A 2,800-mile network of rail lines within the Chicago area.
Chicago Terminal Zone	CN's Waukesha, Freeport, Joliet, Chicago, and Elsdon subdivisions.
Class I, II, III railroads	The Surface Transportation Board's regulations divide railroads into three classes based on annual operating revenues (in 1991 dollars): Class I railroads, with annual carrier operating revenues of \$250 million or more; Class II railroads, with annual carrier operating revenues of more than \$20 million but less than \$250 million; and Class III railroads, with annual carrier operating revenues of \$20 million or less (49 CFR 1201, General Instruction 1-1[a]).
classification	The sorting and assembling of rail cars in station or delivery order for making up or breaking up trains. Rail cars are sorted and assembled by their destination.
classification yard	A facility used for sorting and grouping rail cars in accordance with movement requirements, such as the destination point of the rail cars.
Clean Air Acts	Enacted in 1963 and 1970 and amended in 1977 and 1990, this Federal legislation authorized the development of comprehensive Federal and state regulations to limit emissions from both stationary (industrial) sources and mobile sources and also substantially expanded enforcement authority.
CN	Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation; also referred to as "the Applicants" in this EIS.
construction limits	The physical limits of all disturbance due to construction and construction-related activities.
Coastal Management Zone	An area in the Great Lakes region that is part of a nationwide Federal-state partnership established under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, which established the national Coastal Zone Management Program. To provide public access for recreation, preserve and restore historic, cultural, and esthetic coastal features, and protects natural resources.

Code of Federal Regulations	The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) is the codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government. It is divided into 50 titles that represent broad areas subject to Federal regulation. Each volume of the CFR is updated once each calendar year and is issued on a quarterly basis. The Board's regulations are in Title 49 of the CFR.
common carrier	A carrier that transports people, goods, or services and offers its services to the general public.
containment basin	A structure used to contain liquid spillage, particularly of hazardous materials.
Control Point (CP)	A location where remote control operators divert trains onto different tracks.
Council on Environmental Quality	Federal agency responsible for developing regulations and guidance for agencies implementing the National Environmental Policy Act.
CREATE	The objective of the Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency (CREATE) Program is to enhance the efficiency of freight and passenger rail service in the Chicago area by making significant improvements to railroad infrastructure.
crossbuck	A regulatory sign that requires vehicles to yield to trains and stop if necessary. The U.S. Federal Highway Authority's (FHWA) 2003 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) requires the crossbuck sign for all highway approaches to railroad grade crossings.
crossover	Two turnouts that form a continuous passage between two nearby and generally parallel tracks.
cut-through traffic	Traffic that used local streets rather than the collector/arterial roadway network to avoid congestion.
daily exposure	The total number of potential conflicts at each rail-rail crossing based on the number of trains that cross the location in a 24-hour period
dB	Decibel: A sound's intensity is determined by how much its pressure fluctuates above and below that of the atmosphere and is expressed in units of decibels (dB). The range of normally encountered sound can be expressed in values between 0 and about 140 dB.
dBA	A-weighted decibel: Since the human ear does not respond equally to all frequencies (or pitches), measured sound levels often are adjusted or weighted to correspond to the frequency response of human hearing and the perception of loudness. The A-weighted decibel (dBA) scale is most widely used for this purpose.

Dixie and hump leads	The two lead tracks providing access to Kirk Yard in Gary, Indiana.
double track	A second railroad track immediately adjacent to an existing track designed to perform railroad activities similar to those occurring on the existing track.
drift thickness map	A map that shows the total thickness of Quaternary deposits covering bedrock.
dynamic braking	A method of train braking where the kinetic energy from the train movement generates current at the locomotive traction motors and is dissipated in a resistor grid on the locomotive.
East-West Corridor	Planned rail line segment as designated by CREATE that would primarily handle freight traffic between Chicago and Bridgeview, Illinois.
EJ&E arc	The EJ&E main line extends in an arc around Chicago. The area inside the EJ&E arc includes the portions of Lake, Cook, DuPage, and Will counties in Illinois and Lake County in Indiana located within the arc formed by the EJ&E main line between Waukegan, Illinois; Joliet, Illinois; and Gary, Indiana.
EJ&E main line	EJ&E's principle railroad track consisting of their eastern and western divisions and includes sidings, spurs, and yards at a number of different locations to serve train meets, customers, and/or hold freight cars.
EJ&E rail line	A rail line in northeastern Illinois and northwestern Indiana that extends in a 120-mile arc around the city of Chicago.
EJ&E West Company	An Illinois corporation that was formed on August 16, 2007, and is a wholly owned noncarrier subsidiary of Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company (EJ&E); if the Board approves the Applicants' proposed acquisition, EJ&E West Company would assume the EJ&E name.
Elsdon Subdivision	One of five rail lines that converge in Chicago; this subdivision approaches Chicago from the southeast.
Emergency Response Plan (ERP)	A guide upon which actions and decisions can be based to govern the immediate response to an emergency. The intent of the ERP is to identify certain responsibilities delegated to various teams and employees, present details of the notification procedures, and describe alternate measures and response actions.
emergency service provider	Usually includes police, sheriffs, the highway patrol, fire departments, and emergency medical providers such as clinics and hospitals.

environmental justice	The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income by identifying and addressing the effects of transportation projects on the public, especially disproportionately high or adverse impacts on minority or low-income populations.
Environmental Impact Statement	A document that the National Environmental Policy Act requires Federal agencies to prepare for major projects or legislative proposals having the potential to significantly affect the environment. A tool for decision-making, it describes the positive and negative environment effects of the undertaking, and alternative actions and measures to reduce or eliminate potentially significant environmental impacts.
environmental review process	A process conducted by SEA that assesses the potential environmental effects of the Proposed Action on the human and natural environment through preparation of an EIS.
extraction well	A well or a drill hole in an “in situ leach” operation through which the solutions (or groundwater) are extracted to the surface treatment plant. “In situ leaching” refers to the in-place mining of a mineral without removing overburden (see “overburden”) or ore by installing a well and mining directly from the natural deposit thereby exposed to the injection and recovery of a fluid that causes the leaching, dissolution, or extraction of the mineral.
Federal Register	The official daily publication for rules, proposed rules, and notices of Federal agencies and organizations, as well as Executive Orders and other Presidential documents.
FEMA flood zone	Geographic areas that the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has defined according to varying levels of flood risk. Each zone reflects the severity or type of flooding in the area.
fixed-span bridge	A non-moveable bridge that does not open to allow boats to pass through.
flat-switching yard	A yard at which switching depends on locomotive power, with little assistance from gravity, to move cars to and from various tracks in the process of classifying these cars.
floodplain	The area on the sides of a stream, river, or watercourse that is subject to periodic flooding. The extent of the floodplain is dependent on soil type, topography, and water flow characteristics.
floodway	The area regulated by Federal, state, or local requirements to provide for the discharge of the base flood so the cumulative increase in water surface elevation is no more than a designated amount (not to exceed one foot as set by the National Flood Insurance Program) within the 100-year floodplain.
forbs	A non-wooded, broad-leaved plant other than a grass, especially one growing in a field, prairie, or meadow.

Freeport Subdivision	One of five rail lines that converge in Chicago, this Subdivision approaches Chicago from the west.
glaciofluvial	Glaciofluvial deposits were left behind by rivers that helped drain melting glaciers. These deposits are typically composed of coarse-grained soil.
glaciolacustrine	Glaciolacustrine deposits were created by temporary lakes that formed when glaciers were melting. These deposits usually have a high concentration of fine-grained soil.
Glenn Yard	One of CN's three major terminals in Chicago.
grade separated	An intersection of roads or rail lines that is separated by a bridge.
graminoid	Grasses and grasslike plants.
Greenway	A corridor of open space that runs through urban and suburban developments to protect natural and cultural resources, provide recreational opportunities, improve and sustain hydrological functions, and enhance the natural beauty and the quality of life in neighborhoods and communities.
growth factor	Traffic data is not collected by every transportation agency every year, so it is not always possible to directly compare traffic growth among counties and cities. To make year-to-year comparisons possible, traffic counts can be multiplied by a growth factor, a percentage of previous growth, to obtain a realistic estimate of average daily traffic (ADT).
haulage rights	The right (or combination of rights) of one railroad to have its trains operated by another railroad over the designated trackage of that railroad.
haulage trains	Trains that transport another railroad's cars across their system.
Hawthorne Yard	One of CN's three major terminals in Chicago.
hazardous materials	A solid, liquid, or gas transported by a railroad that requires emergency response to protect the public or the environment if released. Any item or agent (biological, chemical, physical) which has the potential to cause harm to humans, animals, or the environment, either by itself or through interaction with other factors. Hazardous materials are defined and regulated in the United States primarily by laws and regulations administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Each has its own definition of a "hazardous material."
hazardous waste	Waste with properties defined under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) that make it dangerous or potentially harmful to human health or the environment.
head protection elements	Devices that limit the potential for puncturing the end of a car in an accident.

- highway/rail at-grade crossing**..... The general area of an intersection of a public or private road and a railroad where the intersecting rail and highway traffic are at the same level.
- hi-rail**..... A hi-rail is a self-propelled road-rail vehicle that can be legally used on both roads and rails. Sometimes referred to as a “Hy-rail” or “HiRail,” they are normally converted rubber-tired road vehicles that have additional steel wheels for running on rails.
- hostlers** Rail yard employees who operate locomotives around a shop area, taking them in and out of the shop for repair.
- hump** In some classification yards, an artificial hill, or hump, over which rail cars are first pushed and then released to roll by gravity onto specific tracks.
- hydraulic structures**..... Anything that can be used to divert, restrict, stop, or otherwise manage the natural flow of water.
- Incident Command System (ICS)** . A standardized, on-scene, all-hazard incident management concept used in the United States. It is a management protocol originally designed for emergency management agencies and later federalized.
- Interstate Commerce Commission Termination Act (ICCTA)** A statute that eliminated the Interstate Commerce Commission effective December 31, 1995, and transferred certain rail regulatory functions of that commission to the Board, including the licensing of rail mergers and acquisitions.
- interchange** The transfer of cars from one rail road to another.
- interlocking**..... An arrangement of signal equipment so interconnected that train movements must succeed each other in safe, proper sequence. It may be operated manually or automatically.
- intermodal hub or facility** A facility that provides for transfer of containerized cargo or truck trailers between two or more modes of transportation, such as trucks, railroads, and cargo ships.
- Joliet Subdivision** One of five rail lines that converge in Chicago; this subdivision approaches Chicago from the southwest.
- kames**..... A conical hill of sorted drift formed in depression created by a passing glacier.
- karst**..... A geologic formation of irregular limestone deposits that dissolve, forming sink holes, underground streams, and caverns.
- Kirk Yard** A major, automated hump type classification yard at Gary, Indiana, currently owned and operated by the EJ&E that CN would acquire as part of the Proposed Action.
- Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)** A matching assistance program established by Congress that provides grants to pay half the acquisition and development cost of outdoor recreation sites and facilities.

lead track	Trackage connecting a rail yard or an intermodal hub with the main line.
Ldn, Leq	Hour equivalent sound level (Leq) and daily day-night noise level (Ldn).
level of service (LOS)	Level of service (LOS) refers to the efficiency at which a roadway, intersection, or highway/rail at-grade crossing operates, and is a reflection of vehicle delay and congestion. Letters from A to F are assigned to the LOS, with LOS A indicating relatively free-flowing traffic and LOS F indicating extreme congestion.
lift bridge	(see vertical lift bridge)
line-haul carrier	A rail carrier that moves freight over its rail line or part of its rail line.
line occupancy index (LOI)	Line Occupancy Index (LOI) is a ratio between the theoretical train capacity of a line segment and the projected actual train use of a line segment. This analysis calculates the amount of time a train would take to pass through a specific segment, while taking into consideration such factors as train speed and length, track speed, number of tracks, and other related factors that may affect capacity, such as the number of bridge lifts, etc.
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)	
	A group of concerned citizens and officials from local governments, law enforcement, fire and emergency medical services, hospitals, schools, civic and environmental groups, business and industrial facilities, and the news media that prepares for and manages emergencies associated with hazardous materials.
maintenance of way	The repair and maintenance of a railroad's right-of-way.
Markham Yard	An intermodal hub that is one of CN's three major terminals in Chicago.
marshaling	Another word for classification. See "classification" and "classification yard."
metapopulation	Multiple populations of an organism within an area in which interbreeding could occur, but does not due to geographic barriers.
Metra	Metra is a regional commuter rail system that serves more than 100 communities at 239 rail stations within a across a six county service area, which includes Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry and Will Counties, all of which includes the City of Chicago and the surrounding metropolitan area. Known as the Northeast Illinois Regional Commuter Railroad Corporation, Metra is responsible for system wide management of day-to-day operations, fare and service levels, capital improvements and planning of commuter rail services.

mitigation	An action taken to prevent, reduce, or eliminate potential adverse environmental effects.
MOBILE6.2	A U.S. EPA-approved motor vehicles emissions factor model for official use in particulate matter State Implementation Plans (SIPs) and transportation conformity determinations outside of California. It is used to estimate direct exhaust and brake and tire wear particulate matter emission factors.
moraines	The accumulations of fragments of rock brought down by glaciers.
Mobile Source Air Toxics	The Clean Air Act defined this subset of 188 air toxics. Mobile Source Air Toxics (MSATs) are compounds emitted from highway vehicles and non-road equipment. Some toxic compounds are present in fuel and are emitted to the air when the fuel evaporates or passes through the engine unburned. Other toxics are emitted from the incomplete combustion of fuels or as secondary combustion products. Metal air toxics also result from engine wear or from impurities in oil or gasoline.
mobility	The ease of moving people and goods within a transportation network. In this context, mobility means the ability of the people in a community to move easily from place to place on the local roadway network, which includes the ability to cross active rail lines.
multi-modal	The transportation of goods and people via freight rail, passenger rail, and highway.
National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)	The Clean Air Act requires EPA to set National Ambient Air Quality Standards for wide-spread pollutants from numerous and diverse sources considered harmful to public health and the environment.
Native American	According to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990, as amended (25 United States Code [USC] 3001 et seq.; P.L. 101-601), of, or relating to, a tribe, people, or culture that is indigenous to the United States.
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)	The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, amended, requires Federal agencies to take a hard look at the environmental consequences of their licensing decisions.
National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)	The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, last amended in 2000, established a program for the preservation of additional historic properties throughout the nation and requires Federal agencies to consider how proposed actions could affect historic properties.

New Starts funding	New Starts funds are grants and generally require local matching funds. Projects eligible for New Starts (49 USC 5309) funding from FTA include rapid rail, light rail, commuter rail, automated guideway transit, people movers, and exclusive facilities for buses (such as bus rapid transit) and other high-occupancy vehicles.
nonattainment	Failure to comply with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards promulgated under the Clean Air Act.
Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC)	A regional council of local governments serving the three counties of northwest Indiana. The NIRPC provides a forum that enables local citizens to address regional issues relating to transportation, the environment, and community and economic development.
NO_x and NO₂	Most combustion processes emit nitrogen oxides (NO _x), primarily in the form of nitrogen oxide (NO) and to a lesser degree in the form of nitrogen dioxide (NO ₂). The emitted NO then converts to NO ₂ in the atmosphere as the emissions disperse downwind of a source. While compliance with the NAAQS is measured as NO ₂ , the emissions from sources are typically measured as NO _x (the sum of NO and NO ₂ emitted).
Operation Lifesaver	A non-profit, international continuing public education program established in 1972 to end collisions, deaths, and injuries at places where roadways cross train tracks, and on railroad rights-of-way. Federal, state, and local government agencies; highway safety organizations; and the nation's railroads all cooperatively sponsor Operation Lifesaver.
outwash	A deposit of sand and gravel carried by running water from the melting ice of a glacier and laid down in stratified deposits. An outwash may attain a thickness of 328 feet at the edge of a glacier, although the thickness is usually much less; it may also extend many miles in length.
overburden	Soil or rock overlying a valuable mineral deposit.
ozone	A photochemical oxidant and the major component of smog that is formed through complex chemical reactions between precursor emissions of volatile organic compounds and oxides of nitrogen in the presence of sunlight.
palustrine	Pertaining to a marsh or wetlands; wet or marsh habitats.
particulate matter (PM)	Airborne dust or aerosols.

Passenger Express Corridor	Two planned rail line segments as designated by CREATE that will primarily handle commuter and interstate passenger traffic from Chicago to South Chicago and from Chicago to Oak Lawn, Illinois.
peak period	Often referred to as rush hour, peak period typically refers to weekday morning and evening hours when traffic congestion is at its worst.
placard	A sign affixed to a rail car or truck indicating the hazardous designation of the product being transported in that vehicle.
prime farmland	Land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops and is available for these uses.
Proposed Action	Applicants' proposed acquisition of control of EJ&E West Company and use of the EJ&E rail line to connect all five of CN's rail lines in Chicago.
protective action area	An area of land expressed as a radial distance from the site of a hazardous materials release or fire that depends on a number of factors specific to the hazardous chemical released and the circumstances of the accident.
quadrant	Any of the four quarters into which an area is divided by two rail lines that intersect each other at right angles.
queue	A line of waiting people or vehicles.
queue length	Queue length is the measurement of the estimated number of vehicles in line at a blocked crossing caused by a single-train event at the end of the time the crossing is blocked. Traffic engineers use a formula to determine queue length, which takes into consideration such factors as the length of time it takes for a train to pass a crossing, the number of highway traffic lanes at a crossing, and the volume of traffic at the crossing.
quiet zone	An area along a rail line where crossing safety has been improved so that trains are no longer required by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) to sound their horns at crossings.
rail carrier	An entity providing common carrier rail service.
rail line segments	Portions of rail lines that extend between two terminals or junction points.
rail/rail at-grade crossing	The general area of an intersection of two railroads where the intersecting rail traffic is at the same level.
rail station	A place designated by name in the railroad timetable.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)

- The United States' primary law governing the disposal of solid and hazardous waste. Congress passed RCRA on October 21, 1976, to address the increasing problems the nation faced from its growing volume of municipal and industrial waste. RCRA, which amended the Solid Waste Disposal Act of 1965, set national goals for 1) protecting human health and the environment from the potential hazards of waste disposal, 2) conserving energy and natural resources, 3) reducing the amount of waste generated, and 4) ensuring that wastes are managed in an environmentally-sound manner.
- recovery well** A well used to remove contaminants from, or otherwise remediating, ground water.
- release** An unwanted discharge of material into the environment.
- release interval** The interval between releases on a segment is essentially the average or expected time that would elapse between two successive release events on a particular rail segment.
- right-of-way** The strip of land for which a railroad has a property right to build, operate, and maintain a rail line.
- riparian habitat** Areas adjacent to rivers and streams with a differing density, diversity, and productivity of plant and animal species relative to nearby uplands.
- repair in place (RIP) track** A designated track or tracks in a rail yard where locomotives and/or railroad cars are set out for minor repairs without removing the units from service, sometimes without even removing a freight load from the car. In some yards, a RIP track may be used for staging locomotives or "bad order" cars for major repairs. Some yards may have more than one RIP track to serve both functions.
- roadway capacity** The maximum traffic flow obtainable on a given roadway using all available lanes; it is usually expressed in vehicles per hour or vehicles per day. A roadway would be considered to at or near capacity if it is at LOS E. It is at capacity or over capacity if it is at LOS F.
- roundhouse** A large, circular or semicircular building which railroads use to service locomotives.
- Safety Integration Plan (SIP)** Plan that Applicants prepare and submit to the Board and to FRA under Board regulations at 49 CFR 1106 to explain how they propose to provide for the safe integration of their separate corporate culture and operating systems, if the Board approves the proposed action.
- scenic corridor** Road corridor consisting of 50 feet between the road right-of-way and the edge of development to provide natural landscaping elements including berming or generous landscaping materials.
- scoping** The process for determining the scope of environmental issues to address in the EIS and their potential significance.

Section of Environmental

Analysis (SEA) The Section of Environmental Analysis is the office within the Board responsible for directing the environmental review process, conducting independent analysis of all environmental data, and making environmental recommendations to the Board. At the conclusion of the environmental review process, the Board considers the entire environmental record, including all public comments submitted during the review process, as well as the transportation merits before making a final decision.

siding A track parallel to a main track that is connected to the main track at each end. A siding is used for the passing and/or storage of trains.

sound exposure level (SEL) The total amount of sound that a person receives from a noise event, such as a train pass-by. SEL values are used in noise models to predict future noise levels from increased train traffic.

Standard Transportation

Commodity Code (STCC) A 7-digit coding structure designed to classify all commodities or articles that move or may move in freight transportation.

staging location A location where trains can wait to proceed through a crossing without blocking other crossings.

State Implementation Plan State Implementation Plans are the regulations and other materials for meeting clean air standards and associated Clean Air Act requirements. State Implementation Plans include: 1) state regulations that EPA has approved; 2) state-issued, EPA-approved orders requiring pollution control at individual companies; 3) in rare cases, federally promulgated regulations, designated as FIPs (federal implementation plans); and 4) planning documents such as area-specific compilations of emissions estimates and computer simulations (modeling analyses) demonstrating that the regulatory limits assure that the air will meet air quality standards.

Study Area Chicago metropolitan area, generally encompassing northeast Illinois and northwest Indiana.

subdivision Smaller entities of the rail lines under consideration in this Draft EIS. Five of CN's subdivisions—Waukesha, Freeport, Joliet, Chicago, and Elsdon—are within the Chicago Terminal District.

Suburban Transit Access Route

(STAR) A proposed commuter service that would use the EJ&E corridor from Hoffman Estates to Joliet, Illinois.

Surface Transportation Board

.....An economic regulatory agency authorized by Congress to review proposed railroad mergers and acquisitions and rail constructions and abandonments, and resolve railroad rate and service disputes. The Board is decisionally independent, although it is administratively affiliated with the U.S. Department of Transportation.

swing bridge	A bridge over water that can be rotated horizontally on a central pier to allow ships through; also known as a pivot bridge.
switch	The portion of the track structure (consisting of rails and connecting parts) that is used to direct cars and locomotives from one track to another.
switching	The activity of moving cars from one track to another in a yard or where tracks go into a railroad customer's facility.
switching and blockswap facility ...	Used to switch rail cars (5 to 10 at a time) and assemble groups of "blocked" rail cars (25 to 100) in proper sequence routed for a common destination.
switching carriers	Connecting railroads that link all of the major railroads in the Chicago area. Some switching carriers transfer rail cars from one rail line to another; others operate in switching yards, where trains are classified in accordance with movement requirements such as destinations.
terminus	The end of a railroad's ownership of a rail line, often indicated by rail station name.
thermal protection systems	Equipment that protects a rail car and its contents from exposure to nearby fires.
threshold for environmental analysis	A level of proposed change in railroad activities that determines the need for SEA's environmental review.
throttle modulation	Minor adjustments of the throttle for the purpose of controlling tractive effort.
till	Unstratified soil deposited by a glacier; consists of sand and clay and gravel and boulders mixed together.
toxic inhalation compounds (TIH)	Materials that are poisonous or toxic if inhaled.
TPC	A Train Performance Calculator (TPC) is an industry standard model that looks at the performance characteristics of a single train, such as trip duration, speed, fuel use, and fuel efficiency.
trackage rights	The right (or combination of rights) of one railroad to operate over the designated trackage of another railroad.
trail	An off-road route generally used for recreational and leisure purposes that has been created by use over time or by development and construction.
train accident	Reportable accidents are those with equipment damage greater than \$8,500. FRA defines a train accident as "A safety related event involving on-track rail equipment (both standing and moving), causing monetary damage to the rail equipment and track above a prescribed amount."
trainset	A group of railroad cars that is permanently or semi-permanently coupled together to form a unified set of equipment; the term is most often applied to passenger train configurations.

Transaction	The proposed acquisition by Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation of control of EJ&E West Company.
transloading	The direct transfer of bulk materials from train to truck.
turnout	A grouping of two tracks joined together with a frog and switch, so arranged as to allow for the transfer of rolling stock and on-track equipment from one track to another.
undivided arterial	An arterial, whether it is two lanes or four lanes, that does not have a median, such as a strip of land, separating the lanes of opposing traffic.
universal crossover	The location on a double track where trains can change from one track to another.
Urban Heat Island effect (UHI)	The Urban Heat Island effect is used to describe situations in which urban and suburban areas are 2°F to 10°F warmer than the surrounding area. Heat islands form when cities replace natural land cover with pavement, buildings, and other infrastructure.
vehicle exposure	The total number of potential conflicts between highway traffic and train traffic at highway-rail grade crossings at each rail-rail crossing based on the number of trains that cross the location in a 24-hour period.
vertical lift bridge	A bridge consisting of a rigid deck frame held between two tall towers; it opens by hoisting the entire bridge roadway upward between the towers in an elevator-like fashion.
Waukesha Subdivision	One of five rail lines that converge in Chicago; this subdivision approaches Chicago from the north.
waybill	A document covering a shipment and showing the forwarding and receiving station, the names of consignor and consignee, the car initials and number, the routing, the description and weight of the commodity, instructions for special services, the rate, total charges, advances and waybill reference for previous services and the amount prepaid.
Western Avenue Corridor	Planned rail line segment as designated by CREATE that will primarily handles freight traffic from South Holland to Chicago.
wetlands	Areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater for all or some portion of the year and that support vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions.
Wellhead Protection Area (WHPA)	Sites located within or sufficiently close to the capture zone of a potable water supply well that groundwater could be affected by a release of contamination.
Wheel Impact Load Detector (WILD)	A device for the protection of rail infrastructure that continually monitors locomotive and rail car wheel health to ensure safe train operations, managing the wheel impact load spectrum for the targeted removal of defective wheels from service.

- wye track** An arrangement of tracks in the form of a “Y,” used for turning engines, cars, and trains.
- yard** A yard is where rail cars are stored and sorted.

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