

02337

011408. RUTSON. PCTE. GO 507. X. N. REPLY

50 934

From: Vicki Rutson@stb.dot.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2008 3:45 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: Request for Open House in Aurora, Illinois (CN-EJ&E Proposal)

Victoria Rutson
Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis Surface Transportation Board
(202) 245-0295 (phone)
(202) 245-0454 (fax)

OUB^» 103
5011408
R1/002

_ Forwarded by Vicki Rutson/STB on 02/12/2008 03:44 PM —

Vicki Rutson/STB

01/14/2008 04:44 PM

To

cergo@aurora-il.org

CC

Subject
Request for Open House in Aurora,
Illinois (CN-EJ&E Proposal)

Surface TraT^pctafcn Board

CN-EJ&E PROPOSAL

Large and Disruptive

Request

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

STALCI

Cc. Cft 0001 - E-File

Dear Ms Ergo,

Ken Blodgett of my staff forwarded me your email and brought me up to speed on the Mayor of Aurora's interest in having the Surface Transportation Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) expand its schedule of scoping open house meetings to include Aurora.

We selected seven communities for open house meetings based on their location along the EJ&E arc where the acquisition would result in increased train traffic or within the arc where the acquisition would result in decreased train traffic. Also, we are hosting a meeting on Thursday, January 17 in West Chicago, about 15 miles from Aurora. We hosted a meeting in Joliet last week, approximately 22 miles from Aurora. The open houses are informal. There are no presentations by the Board or SEA.

People may look around the room at information on the environmental review process and the proposed changes in rail traffic in areas located on the EJ&E line and on CN rail lines inside the EJ&E arc. People may fill out comments at the open house, or may take the comments sheet home and mail it to the Board by Feb. 1, 2008. There are no speeches, just conversations with representatives of SEA.

THESE ARE EARLY DAYS IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS. We are simply gathering comments about what issues we should examine in the Environmental Impact Statement we are preparing. We consider equally oral comments and written comments. The citizens of Aurora are welcome and encouraged to submit comments on the Board's website using the E-FILING system, or may call toll free and leave a comment on the Board's environmental hot line number for this proposal: 1-800-347-0689. They may also send written comments following the information in the Federal Register, Board decision, and available on the Board's website (consisting of mailing a letter to the Attention of Phillis Johnson-Ball at 395 E. Street, SW,

Washington, DC 20423) Comments on this early phase of the environmental review must be postmarked by Feb. 1, 2008. There will be other opportunities for public involvement.

All the information available at the open house meetings will be available on the Board's website at www.stb.dot.gov, by clicking on Environmental Matters, Key Cases, and Canadian National/EJ&E West.

Wf LPL

I hope this information is helpful. We value the input of the citizens of Aurora and wish that we had the resources, time, and ability to host open houses in each of the many communities along the EJ&E line where train traffic may increase and along the CN lines into Chicago where train traffic may decrease.

Please don't hesitate to call me if you would like to discuss this in person.

Sincerely,

Vicki Rutson

Victoria Rutson
Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis Surface Transportation Board
(202) 245-0295 (phone)
(202) 245-0454 (fax)