



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?

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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: 1-800-347-0689.
- **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.

I was disappointed that there were no presentations given. I would have liked to hear the pros and cons regarding this merger. I learn more from the give and take between people.

Surface Transportation Board

CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

Log and Distribution

Date Rcvd:

HDR File No: ☒

Scanned (Initial):

STAECT#:

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: *Barbara Lupien*

Address: *5071 St. Louis Lane*

City, State, Zip: *Richton Park, IL 60471*

Date: *1-15-08*

Questions pertaining to the proposed purchase of the E&J train corridor from a Frankfort/Prestwick resident who will be directly impacted by the purchase.

1) Please confirm the # of trains expected to utilize the tracks PER DAY. Please breakdown by both weekday and weekend if different:

Current: 6

Proposed: _____ Percentage of increase: _____

2) What is the proposed increase in LENGTH and # of cars per train as compared to the current train length.

Current _____ Proposed _____

Percentage of increase: _____

3) SAFETY ISSUE:

As the following ingress/egress streets are impacted by the tracks, how many streets can be blocked at any given time? Pheiffer Road, Center Road, Sauk Trail, Harlem Avenue, Central Avenue, Ridgeland Avenue, and Cicero Avenue. # of streets _____

What guarantees will be in place to assure that longer trains will not obstruct multiple road crossings? _____

How much are the fines? _____ Who gets the revenue? _____

How long can any given street be blocked by a train? _____

How much are the fines and who gets the revenue? _____

4) SAFETY ISSUE:

In an emergency situation, time is of the essence and can be the difference between life and death. The Prestwick area of Frankfort is impacted by the above stated streets on the north, east and west and when blocked, emergency response time may be increased or prevented entirely while the trains are on the track. What procedures are fire, police and other emergency response teams prepared to make to guarantee the safety of all homeowners, visitors, commuters etal both in their homes and on the streets?

Will taxes have to be raised in order to increase manpower etc. so that homes south of Rt. 30 will always have emergency personnel available and police on patrol in the area?

Will additional fire protection stations need to be built? _____

How paid for?

5) SAFETY ISSUE:

We have heard that trains will be increased to 28 per day, resulting in an average of more than one per hour. How will traffic be impacted and monitored so that the flow will remain safe and bottleneck free? _____

Will traffic lights be installed on Harlem Avenue at Sauk Trail so that this dangerous intersection will provide safe travel? _____

(708) 369-5440

Who pays for the various improvements that may be necessary in order to elliviate potential or real logistic problems? _____

6) PEACE and SOLITUDE:

Currently, the noise of the train's warning horns can be heard throughout Prestwick. With the increased trainload, how will resident's right to quiet enjoyment be assured? At what level is the noise deemed 'noise pollution' and what regulations/fines are in place to assure compliance? _____

7) PROPERTY VALUES:

It is a real concern that the property values of homes directly impacted by the train tracks will be diminished if the safety, traffic, and noise issues are not addressed and resolved properly. How is this concern being addressed?

If property values are negatively impacted, what plans are in place with the assessors office to assure a quick tax adjustment (other than the normal reassessment period)?

8) MONETARY COST:

Who is representing the interests of the towns/residents directly affected by the sale of the train corridor? _____

Have the efforts of the various towns consolidated their legal teams or is each town waging it's own fight? _____

Who is paying for the legal fees _____

What is the projected legal fees involved for each town _____

9) Has there been a study to determine how the increased train traffic will impact local flora and fauna in addition to the human disruption? _____

Has the EPA been invited to participate in any studies? _____

Questions submitted by: _____