

Charles Isenhart
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
One-Hundredth District
Statehouse: (515) 281-3221
e-mail – charles.isenhart@legis.iowa.gov

HOME ADDRESS
P.O. Box 3353
Dubuque, IA 52004-3353
Home: (563) 557-1261



House of Representatives
State of Iowa
Eighty-Ninth General Assembly
STATEHOUSE
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

COMMITTEES
Environmental Protection
Government Oversight
Local Government
Way and Means
Watershed Planning Council

July 15, 2022

To: Danielle Gosselin, Acting Director, Office of Environmental Analysis
U.S. Surface Transportation Board
From: State Rep. Chuck Isenhart
About: Canadian Pacific acquisition of Kansas City Southern

Dear Director Gosselin:

The City of Dubuque submitted the following input in response to the agency’s development of the scoping study for the environmental review for this railroad merger proposal: “The CP mainline and CP railyard are located in the heart of the former ‘non-attainment’ area covering downtown Dubuque and immediately adjacent to our two most disadvantaged census tracts. Diesel locomotive trains are a known large source of PM 2.5 emissions, and the increased train traffic will create real and adverse public health effects to Dubuque residents.”

Dubuque’s “Path Forward to Improved Air Quality” report issued in 2017 re-affirmed the City’s commitment to “help reduce emissions in order to improve health protections and to remain in attainment” as part of the City Council’s 2013 identification of air quality as a priority.

The Board’s Final Scope of Study for the Environmental Impact Statement issued February 15, 2022, stated that “Commenters expressed concern regarding potential air quality impacts on human health, communities, and wildlife due to emissions from locomotives, vehicles delayed at at-grade crossings, and from activities at rail yards.... The Final Scope reflects that the EIS will consider beneficial and adverse impacts related to air quality and climate change, as well as potential appropriate mitigation measures to address air quality and climate change impacts.

(continued on next page)

I represent the populated neighborhoods that will be most directly affected by increased train traffic in the City of Dubuque. I have visited with constituents who have kept meticulous records of train traffic and blocked crossings.

The City of Dubuque's 2017 report was based on measures from the closest air quality monitor in Potosi, Wisconsin, several miles to the north along the Mississippi River. The placement of the monitor is related to the location of two coal and wood-fired electric generating stations which are no longer in operation.

I recommend that the Surface Transportation Board require, as a condition of an approved merger, that Canadian Pacific pay the cost of establishing an air quality monitoring station in close proximity to its railyard within the City of Dubuque. I further recommend that Canadian Pacific be required to pay the cost of third-party operation of the monitoring station for a minimum of five years.

I thank you for your attention and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chuck Staben".

State Representative,
Iowa House District 100