



CN | EJ&E

Environmental Impact Statement

Voicemail Transcript

**Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed
Canadian National Railway Company Acquisition of the
Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company
STB Finance Docket No. 35087**

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Transcript:

I live about 700 feet from the EJ&E line. I just wanted to comment on, first of all, the vibrational studies that were included, I thought they were extremely minimal. At only two points and two or three distances from the line. When I was talking about vibrational problems in the scoping comments, it was more related to the cumulative affect of chronic vibration on structures, including homes or business, and fasteners in homes, like nails, screws and bolts and gas couplings and perhaps plumbing saudered joints. I don't think that was discussed or included in the EIS, i believe it should be. I except that probably some university someplace has done research that could be included and looked at regarding that. Because it's the damage to the buildings that I am worried about, not just the vibrational annoyance level. Comment number two, I think CNs track record in terms of performing upgrades and mitagation is pretty minimal. So I would ask the STB that they require the mitagation package, whatever they decide to do, be required of the CN, not just requested. CN has shown little or no interest in negotiation anything, and they are going to rely on the governmental bodies to pick up the tap for this, and that is a very unfortunate thing. I think the requirement that they do so or that they fund it or put up the funds in some sort of a trust is required. And I think the mitagation needs to be done before any rail traffic increases are allowed, because of that. Regarding the 250 FT line for effect on real estate values. That 250 FT line probably deleniates the line in which properties will have almost no value. I think CN should be required to set up a fund and arbitration procedure or buyout procedure for those properties, I think that would be very fair for people along that line. Currently existing there is a 500 to 600 FT line of properties that back up to this railroad. Having been a real estate professional for 10 years working this area, I can tell you that that exists with properties that have doorways that open to the railroad. They have 7 to 15 percent discounted prices, and often takes 2 to 3 times longer to sell, depending on the market at the time.