



Environmental Impact Statement



STB | 17330

Comment Form

**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

Date: 9/15/2008

Comments must be submitted by September 30, 2008.

The Canadian Railroad would make a terrific change in the Barrington Area. As a 40 year resident and the mother of two children and 3 grandchildren who graduated from Barrington High School, I am concerned with the impact of this railroad on our entire community.

The trains would cross 4 main roads in the village and 3 additional crossings in the area. It would affect the emergency response, day and night noise, and safety on the highways. This is further evidenced by the reality that one single 6,000 foot freight train (an average sized freight train) could block all four central Village of Barrington rail crossings at one time as the distance between the four is only 5,918 feet. Clearly, freight traffic induced gridlock threatens the functionality and future viability of the entire region.

Tom Leonard from Barrington Community District 220 told us that there are 9200 students and 1000 employees in the schools. 840 bus routes cross the tracks daily and a third of the students walk in the village over the tracks. An estimated 15 additional trains would challenge safety, efficiency and cost to the school district.

On September 9 at about 6 p.m., I traveled east on Rte 12 in Lake Zurich expecting to turn south on Ela Road. A long E.J.&E train was crossing Ela Road and the traffic was backed up onto Rte 12. When the gates went up and traffic resumed, an Ambulance was at the front of the northbound traffic. I waited about 7 minutes; I do not know how long the northbound traffic on Ela was held. Cars were backed beyond Cuba Road. A second ambulance was in the traffic as well. This real incident illustrates the situation we face if hundreds of trains are crossing at estimated greater speed. Would you like to be in that ambulance getting to the hospital?.

Please investigate alternatives to this sale—a sale that would be devastating to Barrington.

Elizabeth Reed

YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT!

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Please check the public meeting you attended:

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