

Other Submissions

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My comment relates to the proposed Canadian National Railway acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Railway Company. I'm sure that many have already commented on the increased traffic, noise and other harmful effects that this acquisition will result in--clearly that is indisputable given the amount of increased traffic the additional trains and size of the trains will bring to our small village of Frankfort. What surprised me most about this proposal was the involvement of the cities, towns and villages who feel that they will "benefit" by the removal of this noise and traffic from their own areas. Clearly, that should not even be a consideration by this Board. It seems to me that it is not beneficial to consider a problem "solved" by simply placing that problem on someone else's doorstep. If you owned a company, you wouldn't take a bad employee and simply transfer him to another department and consider the problem "solved." You don't take your trash and dump it on your neighbor's lawn and say "See? My own lawn is nice and clean." The same logic applies here. If these communities had issues with these trains, they should take more pro-active steps to solve these issues, not simply dump them in their neighbors' laps. Transferring trains to communities that are ill-prepared and ill-equipped to deal with them (and whose citizens have not planned around them as opposed to the citizens in the communities where they already exist) is not the answer.