

080213 Anderson

This is Bob Anderson. 791 Clear Wood Court, Aurora IL 60504. Phone number is 630-820-1546 and this is a scoping comment regarding the acquisition by the Canadian National of the Elgon Joliet & Eastern Railway and it's an environmental filing for the Surface Transportation Board, finance docket #35087. And this is regarding the acquisition traffic problem, mitigation and costs at the 342 road traffic...auto traffic. If the CN's acquisition of the EJ&E railway is approved, although I don't believe it should be, the acquisition should be approved with requirements that the many highways and roads with at grade crossings be via ducted or over passed in order to mitigate as many auto traffic problems as is possible and to reduce locomotive horn noise at these crossings and to increase safety. And an additional requirement should be attached to the acquisition that CN pay for and bear the full cost of all via ducting overpasses and approach road work. I might add a huge undertaking and huge amounts and the numbers that would be needed and that it is not the responsibility of the U.S. Federal Government, the State of Illinois, Dupage County or any other affected county, the City of Aurora or any other cities or villages affected or any citizens or residents to subsidize Canadian National's plans or growths or efficiencies (especially in lights of all the other problems involved) or pay any of that cost for those necessary and required or even unnecessary changes at grade crossings of which there are many dozens. Both of our governmental institutions are either running deficits or on very tight budgets currently and into the foreseeable future. There is no money available to indulge the Canadian National's acquisition, hear it numerous problems or subsidize its growths as it will likely refill the Chicago routes that it's moving with increase security avoided backdoor business from Canada in the future. And also, important projects already planned for the last 5 or 10 years should not have to wait for another 5 or 10 years to be completed while we're waiting for CN's acquisition problems to be taken care of first. And a third requirement of the acquisition should be that there be little or no increase in rail traffic until all of the required and/or litigated via ducts, overpasses and approach road changes are completed and paid for by the Canadian National Railway. And that is my comment. I will submit it in writing as well although we're getting pretty close to the date. I don't know if it just has to be in the mail or if you guys have to have possession of it but I will try to write this out and get it in the mail today or tomorrow. Today is February 13 I believe and again this is Bob Anderson and I have submitted other comments on two previous submissions. One of 14 pages and one of I think about 5 or 6 pages. So, I won't be sending you another one.

Surface Transportation Board

CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

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