

A STATEMENT IN OPPOSITON TO THE PROPOSED INCREASE
IN TRAIN TRAVEL IN CHICAGO HEIGHTS

I am an occupational therapist employed full-time for the Chicago Heights School District #170. I am responsible for providing onsite services in all 12 of the elementary schools in this district. I meet with selected students to conduct evaluations of the problems they have with important school-based skills such as handwriting, attention, visual tracking, and fine and gross motor control. My job, as well as the job of two certified occupational therapy assistants, also entails travel from school to school to provide once or twice-a-week direct services for these students and consultation to their teachers and parents.

On a school day, each of us drives to an average of three schools. The number of schools we visit in the course of a day often increases when we attend government-mandated Individual Education Plan (IEP) meetings with parents and staff. Because of all the busy people who are expected to attend these tightly-scheduled meetings, it is important that we be there on time.

On most days, I already encounter at least two train-crossing delays. More trains passing through the area will further interfere with my team's ability to service the school children of Chicago Heights.

As you calculate the costs and benefits of the train rerouting plan, you need to include the costs to the school district of the reduced productivity of itinerant staff like myself. Instead of spending time with children in need, we will be spending time waiting at train crossings.

Surface Transportation Board

CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

Log and Distribution

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Kristine A. Cirn
Kristine A. Cirn, OTR/L

Kristine Cirn
3463 Donovan Drive
Crete, IL 60417

HDR



CN EJ&E

Environmental Impact Statement

Scoping Comment for the Proposed Canadian National Railway Company Acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company STB Finance Docket No. 35087 Comment Form

How Do I Submit Comments?

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- **Written Comments:** Complete and submit this form at the public open house scoping meeting, or follow the directions on the reverse side of this sheet to mail your comments.
- **Recorded Comments:** Provide your comments to a member of the project team or court reporter at this public open house scoping meeting, or call the toll-free project information line: 1-800-347-0689.
- **Electronic Comments:** Submit electronic comments by visiting the Surface Transportation Board's website, www.stb.dot.gov, under the heading "E-Filing."

Please refer to STB Finance Docket No. 35087 in all correspondence addressed to the Surface Transportation Board. Comments must be submitted by February 1, 2008.

SEE ATTACHED SHEET -

Surface Transportation Board

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HDR

What scoping meeting did you attend? (Please circle): Mundelein, Barrington, Joliet, Matteson, Gary, West Chicago, Chicago.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Date: _____

Kristine Cirm

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Jan 15, 2008

YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT!

Comments provided by the public help determine the scope of the environmental review.