

**CN / EJ&E**

Environmental Impact Statement

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: 9/24/08

Comments must be submitted by September 30, 2008.

As a 52 year resident of Barrington and a teacher, I have several problems with the DEIS. The list of grade crossings that will be seriously affected is incorrect because the vehicle traffic counts are wrong. The impact of having all of the major north/south and east/west roads in our town blocked at the same time is minimized in the DEIS as regards life and death first responders. The majority of our schools at all grades could be either cut off from first responders or cut off from access to the closest hospital/trauma center. Many schools are close to the tracks. In the event of an accident or spill of hazardous materials, many children's lives could be at risk. The DEIS ignores CN's poor safety record in Canada. It also does not address the risk to our only source for drinking water, a shallow aquifer which serves a large area. The DEIS minimizes disruption to the Metra commuter line and gives false assurances on the Metra STAR line. Noise assessment methodology used is outdated and rejected by the U.S. EPA. There is no long term guarantee in the benefits touted for current CN line construction to counter the numerous long term problems and inconveniences along the EJ+E line. The economic impact on our towns can be devastating if traffic cannot pass, and local businesses cannot be accessed. The only way that our small towns can afford, on their own, the mitigation needed to correct the traffic problems alone.

YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT!

[illegible]

Please check the public meeting you attended:

Matteson

Mundelein

✓ Barrington

Bartlett

Chicago

Aurora

Gary

Joliet