

SECTION III

Community Leader Notices

Elected officials and other community leaders were kept abreast of project activities through a variety of communication mediums, and provided input for the project through several sets of project meetings.

1. Public open house meeting reminder—On January 21, 2008, SEA provided a reminder to 19 Chicago-area lawmakers and community leaders about the public open house meeting to be held January 22, 2008 via email and fax.
2. Notice of scoping comment period extension—On February 5-6, 2008, SEA emailed or faxed notices to 302 elected officials publicizing the extension of the comment period on the Draft Scope of Study.
3. Notice of close of scoping comment period thank you letter—Following the comment period, SEA mailed follow-up letters on March 10, 2008 to 20 elected officials on the updated environmental distribution list acknowledging the receipt of comments and participation in the scoping process.
4. Low-income and minority outreach – SEA developed procedures to reach out to low-income and minority communities. Following the plan detailed here, SEA placed telephone calls and sent emails and letters to leaders in a variety of positions. Individual meetings with low-income and minority leaders were held starting April 18, 2008, continuing through the Draft EIS review period.

A-III.1 Community Leader Scoping Meeting Reminder



FAX

DATE: Jan. 21, 2008
TO: (Title)
FAX: (Number)
PAGES: 2
FROM: HDR Engineering
RE: **Reminder: Public Meeting Jan. 22**

COMMENTS:

On behalf of the Surface Transportation Board, we'd like to remind you about the following public open house scoping meeting, as a part of the Environmental Impact Statement process for the proposed Canadian National Railway Acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway. Please see the attached information for additional details.

What: Public Open House Scoping Meeting
Who: Surface Transportation Board, community residents
When: Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2008
1 to 4 p.m.
6 to 8 p.m.
Where: Crowne Plaza Chicago-Metro
733 W. Madison
Chicago

There will be no formal agency presentations; STB staff will be available to answer questions and take comments. For more information, please call Martha Swaney at 312-285-9622.

A-III.2 Elected Officials' Notice of Scoping Comment Period Extension



FAX

DATE: Feb. 6, 2008
TO: Illinois leaders
PAGES: 3
FROM: HDR Engineering
RE: Notice: STB deadline extended to submit comments on EJ&E

COMMENTS:

On behalf of the Surface Transportation Board, please note that the deadline to submit public comment – to be considered as a part of the Environmental Impact Statement process for the proposed Canadian National Railway acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway – has been extended to Feb. 15, 2008. Please see the attached information for additional details.

For more information, please call Martha Swaney at 312-285-9622.

A-III.3 Elected Officials' Notice of Close of Scoping Comment Period Letter



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Section of Environmental Analysis

March 10, 2008

[Salutation, First & Last Name]
[Primary Address]
[Primary Address]

Re: Proposed Canadian National Railway Company Acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company, STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear [Title & Last Name]:

Thank you for your ongoing interest in the Surface Transportation Board's (Board) review of Canadian National Railway Company's proposed acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company. Both the transportation merits process and the environmental review of this proceeding are moving forward. The Board welcomes your participation and that of your constituents.

During the scoping period for this proceeding, which concluded on February 15 of this year, the Board received approximately 3,000 comments from the public. The Board is now in the process of fully considering the comments in the Final Scope of Study for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Once completed, the Final Scope of Study will be available to the public. Then the Board will proceed with preparing the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, which, when completed, will be made available to the public for review. The Board will again host several public meetings in the Chicago and northwest Indiana region to gather public comments on the Draft EIS for inclusion in the Final EIS.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and look forward to your continued participation in the process. If you have any questions, please contact me directly at 202-245-0295. You may also visit the Board's website (www.stb.dot.gov) and look for Key Cases under Environmental Matters.

Sincerely,

Victoria J. Rutson
Chief

Section of Environmental Analysis

A-III.4 Minority and Low-Income Population Outreach



MEMORANDUM

March 24, 2008

TO: John Morton, Rich Christopher, Stephanie White, Greg McKnight
FR: Martha Swaney, Tina-Marie Adams cc: John Foyer
RE: **Environmental Justice Outreach: Operational Plan**

Included below is an outline of the proposed approach to outreach in communities targeted for Environmental Justice public involvement from mid-March through the beginning of June. Outreach to municipal leadership and state legislators as well as courtesy letters to the members of Congress representing these areas would be sent to inform them that we'll be conducting meetings in their district. The need for additional contact with Phillis or Vicki can be determined after preliminary conversations and meetings.

Prioritized Outreach Approach, Targets and Staffing:

	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4
Approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend existing events • Provide materials to organizations for distribution • Meet with local representatives • Provide STB contact information in the event that further clarification on the Board's process is necessary • Work with local media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide materials to organizations for distribution • Meet with local representatives • Work with local media • Provide STB contact information in the event that further clarification on the Board's process is necessary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide materials for distribution • Work with local media • Provide STB contact information in the event that further clarification on the Board's process is necessary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine DEIS outreach and inclusion strategy • Provide STB contact information in the event that further clarification on the Board's process is necessary

A-III.4 Minority and Low-Income Population Outreach



<p>Targets</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gary, Ind. • Chicago Heights • Matteson • Joliet • Fairmont • Crest Hill • West Chicago • Mundelein 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lynwood • Sauk Village • Park Forest • Richton Park • Rockdale • Aurora • West Chicago • Elgin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bolingbrook • Chicago • East Chicago • Griffith, Ind. • Hammond, Ind. • Hoffman Estates • North Chicago • Romeoville • South Barrington • Vernon Hills • Warrenville • Waukegan • Whiting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EJ communities on the inside of the EJ&E arc
<p>Staffing</p>	<p><i>[Note: Ideally, two staff members will be assigned to each meeting; one HDR and one from MWW. HDR experts will be selected in response to the issues each target wishes to discuss.]</i></p> <p>HDR Team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rich Christopher • Resource experts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Environment ○ Traffic delays ○ Noise, vibrations ○ Air quality ○ Freight traffic ○ Others <p>MWW Team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martha Swaney • John Foyer • Ken Chitester • Norma Lopez • (Additional staff as needed) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martha Swaney • John Foyer • Norma Lopez 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martha Swaney • Norma Lopez 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martha Swaney • Norma Lopez

Recommended approach for discussion (Martha Swaney – lead):

1. Initial Outreach: Determine Interest

111 E Wacker Drive, 10th Floor | Chicago, IL 60601-4306 | tel 312.853.3131 | fax 312.853.0955 | www.mww.com
 Chicago Dallas Detroit East Rutherford Irvine London Los Angeles New York San Francisco Seattle Trenton Washington D.C.

A-III.4 Minority and Low-Income Population Outreach



- a. MWW Team to make initial contact:
 - i. Determine interest in meeting, issues of greatest concern:
 1. Community leaders
 2. Mayors
 3. State legislators
 - a. Note: extending the invitation to meet with state legislators is an important step, but it's likely that some will decline, given that the Illinois General Assembly will be in session between April and May 2008.
 - b. Outreach to state legislators is strongly recommended as a part of STB's Environmental Justice outreach, both in smaller communities as well as engaging key leaders within the scope of the greater public involvement work.
 - ii. Inform members of Congress that we'll be in their district, offer to meet
 1. Issue form letter in advance to members of Congress
 2. Send form letter to state legislators, reiterating the request for a meeting, if no response received following initial outreach
 - b. Timing: MWW to begin outreach calls immediately upon HDR approval of approach. Meetings to be scheduled as early as the week of March 31, 2008.
2. **Execution: Meet with Interested Community Leaders**
 - a. MWW team to coordinate logistics.
 - b. HDR team developing materials for delivery.
 - c. Timing: March 31 – May 31, 2008.
 3. **Follow up**
 - a. Thank you for meeting (HDR)
 - b. Address outstanding concerns (HDR/MWW)
 - c. Track activity in database (MWW)
 - d. Timing: as soon as possible, after each meeting

Materials for Distribution (Greg McKnight – lead):

- **Leave behind:**
 - Project C.O.R.A Map
 - Project fact sheet(s): Use existing, edited one-pager (minus “purpose of today’s meeting portion) and add information from boards to include:
 - What is the proposed acquisition?
 - What is the purpose of the acquisition?
 - What changes are anticipated from the acquisition?
 - What process will the SEA follow? (updated to reflect completed activities)

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A-III.4 Minority and Low-Income Population Outreach



- What issues did the draft scope of study identify?
 - How do I submit comments? (We assume this is still appropriate to include even though their comments would not be part of the scoping process.)
 - Background on the Surface Transportation Board
 - Handout materials should be available in both English and Spanish
- **Maps** (for HDR/MWW team to have on-hand, not disseminate):
 - Other project maps used for the initial public meetings:
 - Communities along affected rail line segments

A-III.4 Minority and Low-Income Population Outreach

SEA scheduled private meetings with representatives of the minority and low-income communities to identify issues of interest to their constituents and to solicit their views. A summary of the meetings follows:

TABLE A-III.4 COMMUNITY OUTREACH SUMMARY			
COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE	CITY	DATE	CONCERNS
Sen. Michael Noland (D-22)	Elgin, IL	April 18, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> STAR Line Wanted to know what positions other elected officials, including the Governor, are taking
Sen. Christine Radogno (R-41)	Lemont, IL	April 18, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will County—train traffic volume, noise, rail crossing safety, first responders, length of time tracks blocked, amount of hazardous waste
Rep. Ruth Munson (R-43)	Elgin, IL	April 21, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Property values Elgin - Sherman Hospital will relocate their ER facility in 2010 - increased rail traffic could be an issue STAR Line
(Pastor) Rev. R.T. Mitchell , New Revelations Baptist Church	Gary, IN	April 22, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic impact Gary/Chicago International Airport
Rep. Renée Kosel (R-81)	Mokena, IL	April 22, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very opposed to increased traffic resulting from Proposed Action, noise, and safety \$40m from CN not enough for grade crossings; area still needs gates on some tracks
Sen. Karen Tallian (Indiana)	Chicago, IL	April 23, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reliability of train traffic estimates Lack of ability to enforce limits on train traffic Lack of cooperation between CN, NICTD, and Gary Airport
Sen. Debbie Halverson (via telephone)	Chicago Heights, IL	April 23, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of life Dilapidated tracks Decreased property values Train traffic Emergency response
Sen. Bill Peterson (R-26)	Buffalo Grove, IL	April 24, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noise, inconvenience
Mayor Nick Churnovic	Crest Hill, IL	April 29, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitigation for grade crossings at Cambridge Crest and Autumn Ridge CN came to them with a “hard sales pitch”; acknowledged there would be additional trains, but they would be faster Felt as if they were not being listened to Traffic flow, hazardous materials, residential areas, diesel smell (residents can’t open their windows)
Our Lady of Mount Carmel; Fr. Raymond Corkery	Joliet, IL	April 29, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerned about Silver Cross Hospital, which is located adjacent to the tracks (in Joliet, could move to New Lenox) Noise, train traffic, speeds of trains

TABLE A-III.4 COMMUNITY OUTREACH SUMMARY			
COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE	CITY	DATE	CONCERNS
Rep. Kathy Ryg (D-59) (via telephone)	Mundelein, IL	April 29, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't want to jeopardize Amtrak, focused on expanding weekend service on Metra North Central line • Mundelein, Vernon Hills and Libertyville were recently involved in an Illinois Supreme Court decision which prevents local communities from regulating length of time crossings are blocked by trains
Rep. Linda Chapa LaVia (via telephone)	Aurora, IL	May 5, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asked for STB contact information
Tom Mick, Village Manager, and staff	Park Forest, IL	May 8, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of trains crossing and stalled per day; emergency responders • CN projections provided to STB • Property values, noise, slow speed of trains
James Bragg, Director of Development, New Faith Baptist International Church	Matteson, IL	May 12, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School bus and pedestrian safety • Train traffic volume • Increased hazardous waste shipments • Impacts on emergency responders • STAR Line
Frank Perez, Executive Administrator and Michael Sobo, Director of Projects and Services	Chicago Heights, IL	May 13, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety • Support with conditions; automated interlocking as requested by CSX • Illinois Highway 1 needs grade separation since nearby St. James Hospital needs access for emergency services for IL and IN residents • Concerned about existing agreement for grade separation on Butler Street
Asamblea Apostolica, Pastor Roberto Flores	Joliet, IL	May 28, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was not informed on the Proposed Action • Asked about the positives and negatives of the Proposed Action
Rep. Tom Cross	Plainfield, IL	June 2, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noise and emergency responders
Sen. Linda Holmes	Plainfield, IL	June 2, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerned about CN's accident record in Canada, not just US based • Gridlock due to train length • Who will pay for clean-up if there is an accident? • Train schedules needed • Emergency vehicles
Mayor Tom Weisner (via phone and city staff)	Aurora, IL	June 2, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CN announced at a Naperville meeting 2 weeks ago that "this was a done deal" • Congestion, emergency vehicles; schools
Arthur Velasquez (President) LULAC #5218	Aurora, IL	June 3, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jobs • School bus safety
Jaime Garcia, Centro de Informacion	Elgin, IL	June 9, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STAR Line