

HALTON TAKES CONCERNS ON CN INTERMODAL TO FEDERAL PANEL

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Halton's municipalities have teamed up to tell a federal review panel that CN's proposed intermodal hub is "likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects" if built in Milton.

A plethora of documents detailing the worries were recently submitted to the panel on behalf of the four local municipalities and Halton in advance of a public hearing that's slated to start on June 19 - the next stage of the joint process for reviewing the rail company's plans.

The intermodal facility is proposed for 400 acres of CN-owned lands bordered by Tremaine Road to the west, Britannia Road to the north and Lower Base Line to the south. It's designed to transfer containers between trucks and railcars and would operate around the clock, with an estimated 1,600 daily truck trips and four intermodal trains.

"The central question to be addressed by the panel is whether, taking mitigation and cumulative effects into account, the proposed CN Milton logistics hub is likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects," explained Halton's commissioner of legislative



Torstar file photo

CN's proposed intermodal hub in Milton would operate around the clock with an estimated 1,600 daily truck trips and four intermodal trains.

THE ISSUE: CN'S PROPOSED INTERMODAL HUB IN SOUTH MILTON.

LOCAL IMPACT: MUNICIPAL STAFF AND EXPERTS CONCLUDE THE FACILITY WOULD HAVE A VARIETY OF ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT.

and planning services Art Zuidema in a report to regional council during its June 12 session.

The report details the extensive work done by municipal staff and experts to examine the potential environmental impacts of the intermodal facility.

In a brief submitted to the panel, which sought the municipalities' technical in-

put, the team concludes that the project is likely to cause "significant adverse environmental effects" on everything from habitat for species at risk to surface water bodies and ambient air quality.

The brief also assesses impacts on road safety and road usage using the re-

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