

Dear Review Panel,

It is sad to learn the news that nearly 40 rail cars carrying crude oil by CN derailed near St. Lazare, about 300 kilometres northwest of Winnipeg near the Manitoba-Saskatchewan border. The accident happened on Saturday February 16, 2019, less than 2 weeks after the major CP train derailment on February 4, 2019 near Field, B.C., where 3 employees were killed. Fortunately, there were no injuries or death in this latest accident. Below are the news links to the two major train accidents:

CN Derailment near St. Lazare, Manitoba, on February 16, 2019



<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/train-derails-manitoba-1.5022583>

CP Derailment near Field, B.C., on February 4, 2019,



<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/train-derailment-cp-railway-1.5004622>

The causes of the derailment are being investigated by the authorities and it may take months, if not years, to find out the exact causes.

Whenever I read and heard the news related to CN/CP train accidents, I cannot help but think of the potential impacts if such an accident happens along the proposed CN Logistics Hub in Milton. The current tracks leading up to the proposed Hub run through the Town of Milton, from north to south. There are sections with virtually 90 degree turns and elevated tracks due to road crossings. Existing and new homes are located in close proximity on both sides of the tracks from Main Street West all the way to Britannia Road. With the proposed Logistics Hub, more trains will run through the Town of Milton. If an accident like the one in B.C. or Manitoba happens in Milton, it is going to be a disaster because of the close proximity of those residential homes to the tracks. I am thinking of such a scenario not for the purpose of fearmongering, but I am truly worried and concerned about the potential safety issues associated with the increased train/truck traffic, as a result of the proposed Logistics Hub in Milton.

Thank you for your consideration.

J. W.