**Section 810.40 Eligibility Process: Review of Proposed Project**

a) A person or entity asking for financial assistance shall submit a formal, written request for State assistance to the Illinois Department of Transportation, Chief, Bureau of Railroads. Technical assistance, moreover, is also offered and can encompass the Department's review of engineering plans, project specifications and estimates for track construction or rehabilitation, as well as assistance to those faced with a downgrading or potential loss of rail freight service through abandonments.

b) Following the receipt of the request, the Department will immediately begin an analysis, as described in Section 810.60, of the potential benefits and costs of each proposed project. Each proposed investment option will be analyzed by the Bureau of Railroads.