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1 SCOPING MEETING FOR THE PROPOSED CANADIAN NATIONAL
2 RAILWAY COMPANY ACQUISITION OF THE ELGIN, JOLIET
3 AND EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY

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STATEMENT OF:

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ROBERT ZELENIK

11

AUGUST 28, 2008

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BARTLETT HIGH SCHOOL

15

701 SCHICK ROAD

16

BARTLETT, ILLINOIS

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MR. ZELENIK: I just wanted
Page 1

2 to provide a short comment on what has been
3 suggested, that this whole process is
4 simply moving the rail traffic and the
5 problems of the rail traffic from one place
6 to another. That is simply very simplistic
7 thinking.

8 The truth of the matter
9 is the towns on the existing CNR
10 right-of-ways knew that the train traffic
11 there was going to be extensive. They have
12 had between 50 and 100 years to build
13 infrastructure and to consider how they
14 would mitigate those situations.

15 The decisions about the
16 placement of schools, fire stations, and
17 all other of the support things for a town
18 have been made in consideration of the
19 existing rail traffic and the amount of
20 problems that it counts or contributes.

21 On the EJ&E Railroad
22 system, in that corridor, people believed
23 it to be simply a small railroad in a
24 bucolic setting. Decisions about building

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1 homes, putting in fire stations and schools
2 did not consider what was -- what is
3 potentially going to happen with an
4 increase of 5 to 25 trains.

5 The people who built in
6 the existing corridors for the CNR could
7 have even considered the economic benefits
8 of being on a rail right-of-way. Their
9 decisions might have been driven by what
10 the trains can contribute to them. This is
11 also untrue in the EJ&E corridor.

12 The analogy of just
13 moving it from one group to another is sort
14 of like saying if you bring a high school
15 team in with no equipment to play in a
16 professional baseball game, you've got the
17 same chance of winning as if you were a
18 professional baseball team with all of the
19 equipment, experience, and knowledge of
20 being in that sport. It simply is untrue.
21 That's all I have say.

22 (End of statement.)

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