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

10 JOHN TOLOMEI

11 SEPTEMBER 9, 2008
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13

14 WEST AURORA HIGH SCHOOL

15 1201 West New York Street

16 AURORA, ILLINOIS
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22 REPORTED BY: Laura E. Locascio, 084-004079
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1 MR. TOLOMEI: John Tolomei. 190
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2 North Old Rand Road, Lake Zurich, Illinois,
3 60047.

4 I'm particularly concerned that
5 the definition of what the CN -- I mean,
6 what the STB has stated in their EIS as the
7 scope of the project and eliminated most
8 alternatives is far too limiting.

9 There are many other alternate
10 freight rail lines. In fact, in studying
11 maps, there are three very viable routes
12 farther west that the CN could use to move
13 their freight around Chicago.

14 The disadvantage to the CN is
15 they don't own those lines and they'd have
16 to work with other railroads to use them.

17 So the -- what the scope of what
18 the STB has defined in the EIS seems to be
19 geared just to give the CN their own
20 monopoly on a route around the Chicago
21 area.

22 So that is a fatally flawed
23 scope that they're using that has
24 unnecessarily knocked out a lot of viable

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1 alternatives.

2 And the other issue that it
3 seems to me appalling in this is the short
4 duration that they're willing to look at

5 their freight loading because all one has
6 to do is look at the websites for Port
7 Prince Rupert and CN's own website to see
8 how great their plans are to continue
9 increasing freight for years to come.

10 So having a scope of only three
11 to five years for how long they'll study
12 the impacts is far too short.

13 In the meeting with the CN, as
14 the mayor of Lake Zurich, the first issue
15 we wanted to get settled with the CN is
16 what kind of long-term limitations they
17 would put on their line usage. And they're
18 response was none.

19 So if the STB actually believes
20 that their line cannot be increased, why is
21 the CN so adamantly refusing to take any
22 long-term limitations on the line?

23 No one can plan for impacts
24 unless they know the magnitude of them.

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1 And from all the indications we have, the
2 magnitudes will be much greater in years to
3 come than they are now.

4 So if the CN, indeed, is making
5 statements that they will not increase the
6 limit, then I would request that the STB
7 condition any approval on them not

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8 increasing beyond the limits that are under
9 study right now.

10 (END OF STATEMENT.)

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