

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

4 00733.011508.HORNICK.PGT2.60417.0.N.LF
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9 STATEMENT OF:

10 JILL HORNICK

11 JANUARY 15, 2008
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13

14 HOLIDAY INN

15 500 HOLIDAY PLAZA DRIVE

16 MATTESON, ILLINOIS
17

18
19 CHIMNIAK REPORTING & VIDEO

20 Telephone: 312-781-9111
21
22

Surface Transportation Board

CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

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23 REPORTED BY: Fran Okrei, 84-1074
24

HDR

1 MRS. HORNICK: Jill J-I-L-L
2 H-O-R-N-I-C-K, 740 West Kent Avenue in Crete,
3 60417. The first concern would be life safety
4 for the towns south of the crossings in
5 Chicago Heights, towns such as Beecher and
6 Crete and Steger.

7 I have an HMO. I have a child and St.
8 James Hospital in Chicago Heights is the
9 hospital we have to go to. If the trains are
10 blocking the tracks on Chicago Road, it could
11 potentially cause brain damage, even result in
12 death.

13 I understand for every one minute that
14 an ambulance is delayed getting to the
15 hospital, it decreases life expectancy by five
16 percent. So five minutes would decrease your
17 survival rate by 50 percent. If an ambulance
18 is delayed by five minutes, it will result in
19 death.

20 There's no overpass or underpass along
21 these tracks to get to St. James Hospital.

22 Another issue is diesel pollution from
23 the trains. I understand that diesel
24 pollution is a carcinogen. There's a school

1 not too far from the tracks in Chicago
2 Heights, a junior high and I believe there's
3 also an elementary school.

4 Children breath 50 percent more air
5 than an adult, therefore, they are more
6 susceptible to the pollution causing increased
7 asthma as well as long-term health affects
8 such as cancer.

9 Another impact is increased train
10 traffic will prevent people from getting to
11 work on time or getting to the schools to pick
12 their children up. Not only are they the
13 public schools but there's a couple of
14 Catholic schools. St. Agnes is one of them.

15 There are the same types of concerns
16 for other towns along the EJ&E tracks.
17 Frankfort will have the same issues, school
18 children being able to make it to school on
19 time.

20 People who live south of the tracks.
21 People who live south of the tracks getting to
22 their local hospital. People along the
23 railroad tracks being -- having increased
24 health risks related to the asthma, diesel

1 pollution.

2 I understand a Canadian National
3 gentleman told another person here that home
4 values will decrease for the first couple of
5 years. That is totally unacceptable. Home
6 ownership is the American dream.

7 People did not buy their homes with
8 the intent that their home value would be
9 decreased by a railroad putting more trains
10 along the tracks. In this economy, home
11 values are decreasing as it is. It's
12 unacceptable to cause even further devaluation
13 by allowing Canadian National to decrease home
14 values.

15 There should be some kind of funding
16 or mechanism put into place to compensate any
17 homeowner who suffers decreased value.

18 Probably the last thing would be
19 physical damage to people's property from the
20 increased train traffic who live close to the
21 tracks. The vibrations crack walls, crack
22 foundations, crack sidewalks. There needs to
23 be a mechanism to fund repairs to anyone's
24 home caused by the train. That's it.