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

STATEMENT OF:
GERHARDUS J. VAN SETTEN
AUGUST 25, 2008

HOLIDAY INN
500 HOLIDAY PLAZA DRIVE
MATTESON, ILLINOIS

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MR. VAN SETTEN: Gerhardus J. Van Setten,
Matteson, Illinois.

I got to complain about the viaduct from Front Street
and from Main Street. They falling apart. For years, they didn't do
nothing, anything about it.

I got pictures, big pieces of concrete laying down.
Everything is rusty. The viaduct itself is damaged.

I complained about it by City Hall. They say they can't
do nothing about it, and that was years ago. Then now they want
to buy that other railroad when they can't keep their own railroad
up.

And when I bought my house, there was no laws
then. Later on I fixed it up. I have to put everything, and they came
down and inspected. Why they get away with it? And this is a
foreign outfit even.

So I don't have nothing against Canada, but when
they can't keep their stuff, why they can buy an American railroad?
That's what I want to know.

And underneath the viaducts, there are walking
places where you can't walk for -- from the water or from the ice in
the winter. And the one on Front Street, you hardly can drive
through in the winter. And in the summer when it is raining, it is
flooded, and the other one sometimes too.

And Metra was cleaning everything up a couple of

years ago, and it looked like hell when you see the one side or the other side.

The one time a couple of years ago, there was a big bang. I asked the neighbors. I said, "You hear it?" And then there's some stairs that goes up to the railroad. I went up there. I watch it.

And a freight train was coming, and the rails was going -- the rail was going down at least 4 inches. The one rail was all rounded off. I called City Hall. What I pay for? They say they couldn't do nothing about it.

Then Metra, they got the pump over there for water. And I told the guys. And they say, well, they can't do nothing about it.

But then I told them, "Your train come from one side, and the other one come from the other side, and it take a nice slip off the rail. What happen to your train?" Oh, yeah.

So I stopped them later when they were finished with work. I said, "Where you go?" "Oh, we going to report it." And then they fix it. But I have to tell them.

And I don't like to play games. But I have to do, I'll have to do. And I can't see how a foreign outfit get away with everything. They have to go by the law.

And then -- and then we got this nice guy, Lipinski. His father was not in good shape. He was a kook. Now he got the

job. And he is all for it. He don't even live close over here.

So when I -- when I can make a big deal out of it, I make a big deal out of it, and I don't stop for nothing. And my neighbors don't like it either, but I'll help them now because I -- it is dangerous, those overpasses, because the one viaduct on Governors Highway -- there are two, they're flooding. And the one in Park Forest is flooding too.

And when those trains stopped over there and there is a big rainfall, then if something calls, the police or anything can't go over there.

So that is it. That is why when you live 48 years in the same place, but then that was a Mickey Mouse town. These all been in existence. It was all farm. But no, I don't like it, what's going to happen, because that is not right. We have to pay for everything because they are talking now that they are paying for new viaducts, but the taxpayer have to pay. Right? Okay.