

082708BROG N Palmer.txt

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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

4

5

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STATEMENT OF:

7

NATE PALMER

8

AUGUST 27, 2008

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12

BARRINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

13

616 WEST MAIN STREET

14

BARRINGTON, ILLINOIS

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MR. PALMER: My name is Nate Palmer.
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2 I live at 61 Otis Road, Barrington Hills,
3 Illinois. We live approximately 300 yards
4 from the intersection of Otis Road and the
5 EJ&E railroad. We have lived there for 27
6 years. While we were there and when we
7 purchased approximately five trains per day
8 and night traverse these EJ&E lines. The
9 proposal is 20 trains per day for the next
10 three years, and after that it could go
11 much higher.

12 The trains that were running on
13 the tracks when the EJ&E ran them were one
14 engine and approximately 40 to 45 cars.
15 Currently they are leasing space to the
16 Canadian National. Those trains are
17 running three engines and 145 to 160 cars
18 each.

19 There's three things that are
20 ruining the value of our home as well as
21 the value of the environment. First is the
22 noise of a three-engine train and the noise
23 level that it creates as well as the cars
24 creating noise; two is the length of time

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1 it takes the train to cross the
2 intersection, which is easily two to three
3 times as long as it used to and, therefore,
4 two to three times is obnoxious; and three,
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5 the possibility that these trains will be
6 carrying petroleums, nuclear waste we have
7 heard from overseas, Russia, poses
8 environmental risk to our family that is
9 totally unacceptable.

10 Our home has been on the market
11 for approximately two months, and the value
12 has gone down by one-third, and we have no
13 lookers at all. We live on a lovely lake,
14 and I expected to sell this and retire to
15 New Hampshire. We can no longer do that.
16 Thank you for your time.

17 (End of statement.)