

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

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STATEMENT OF:

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BONITA DILLARD

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AUGUST 25, 2008

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HOLIDAY INN HOTEL

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500 HOLIDAY PLAZA DRIVE

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MATTESON, ILLINOIS

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19 CHIMNIAK REPORTING & VIDEO

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23 REPORTED BY: Fran Okrei, 84-1074

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8-25-08 Can RR #3.txt
MS. BILLARD: I am Bonita Dillard,

trustee, Village of Park Forest. And I'm
here today to speak on the impact that this
train will have on our community especially
at the Western Avenue part.

Right now we have just sold a
shopping center to a developer who is going
to develop it on Western Avenue. With the
trains coming down Western Avenue, that will
block that center because it's right near it
very close to it.

And as representative -- Jesse
Jackson said and Al Riley and some of our
citizens have already spoken on the subject,
I echo the fact that it will have a harsh
impact on our citizens.

Right now we have a very low economic
situation in Park Forest and our citizen's
taxes, we depend on their property taxes to
help us to continue to provide the services
that we need. That is why Western Avenue
being our main thoroughfare for our economic
development, this will have a devastating
impact as well as the school safety, the fire

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and police and all that was mentioned with
the others.

And I would like to be sure that in
some way, that the mitigation or whatever

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improvement could be made so it will not
block off or Western Avenue. That's all I
have.

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