

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

10 Marsha Lau
11

12 AUGUST 26, 2008
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14 CROWN PLAZA CHICAGO NORTH SHORE
15 510 EAST ROUTE 83
16 MUNDELEIN, ILLINOIS
17
18
19

20 CHIMNIAK REPORTING & VIDEO

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22
23

24 REPORTED BY: Elsie Delevich, 084-003706

1 Marsha Lau. 27 Squire, Hawthorne Woods.
2 well, we are very concerned about this.

3 We are concerned about the safety. We live right on
4 the tracks, so our house, we will lose at least
5 200,000 easy. But the safety is even worse than
6 that because both my husband and I are 63. If we
7 take a heart attack or our house goes on fire, we
8 are on the opposite side of the railroad, the
9 tracks, to our emergency vehicles.

10 I am afraid for the children. For four
11 decades they haven't had this train traffic and they
12 are just not used to that level of train traffic. I
13 am absolutely petrified for the environment of
14 what -- who is monitoring and how good they are
15 monitoring what is being carried on these trains. I
16 mean, they are going right through communities that
17 for four decades haven't had this traffic and now
18 they will be in the middle of the environment of if
19 they are carrying hazardous waste or hazardous gas
20 or whatever they are carrying, it is very
21 frightening. It is truly, truly frightening. There
22 are many, many issues, but that is just on the top
23 of them.

24 I heard a man in there speaking. He

3

1 was from Buffalo Grove. He spoke. His name was
2 Sherman. And he was telling them they should go
3 ahead, that we were just not-in-my-backyard type of
4 people and we should be concerned about everybody,
5 not just us. But as he left, I said you forgot to
6 tell them you have conflict of interest because you
7 want the trains to be less in your community. So

8 that is why you were saying it, so we would have
9 more and you would have less. And he laughed and he
10 said, of course. Why not? So those people come in
11 and they try and work the system.

12 I have gone on CN's website, and it is
13 as though they are pretending nobody is upset about
14 this, everybody is happy they are doing this. It is
15 frightening and it is terrible, and how do they even
16 know the vibration that all of these homes are going
17 to be able to withstand? They are really changing
18 the lives of a million -- more than a million
19 people, their whole life.

20 How do you get to school? How do you
21 get to the hospital? How do you get emergency
22 service? Is your home going to withstand?

23 We are ready to retire and now we are
24 going to lose a good portion of our retirement.

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1 They don't seem to care.

2 I heard the head of CN, his name was
3 Hunter -- Harris, I think. Hunter something. It is
4 just bedroom communities out there, as though we
5 were not important and we didn't contribute to our
6 society. And you have a foreign company threatening
7 a Federal agency, threatening them they have to make
8 this decision sooner rather than later. Hello? I
9 don't know how you put that down, but I thank you.

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