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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
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8

9 STATEMENT OF:

10 FAYE SINNOG
11

12 AUGUST 27, 2008
13

14 BARRINGTON HIGH SCHOOL
15 616 MAIN STREET
16 BARRINGTON, ILLINOIS
17
18
19

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1 F-a-y-e S-i-n-n-o-c.
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2 Let me add that just in our area the
3 tracks cross both strategic regional arteries,
4 federal highways, and state highways. And without
5 mitigation, it's a serious risk for evacuation
6 procedures, emergency procedures, basic commerce.

7 Point 2, the role of the federal
8 government should be ensuring a level playing
9 field in the interests of the public as well as
10 general business, and not put all of those at risk
11 to benefit a single company, especially a company
12 with foreign ownership.

13 Number 3, while we recognize that
14 current legislation that is being monitored by the
15 STB is sadly out of date and reflects an America
16 that is no longer current and is no longer facing
17 the challenges that it had when the legislation
18 was drafted, we hope that governmental
19 representatives are not themselves stuck in the
20 19th century and will represent the public
21 interest and issues of public safety, commerce,
22 environmental considerations, the necessity for
23 reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and so forth in
24 their review of the application of CN and will

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1 ensure that appropriate mitigation factors are
2 considered and implemented and funded prior to any
3 change in the railroad network.

4 Fourth, we're very concerned that the
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5 STB's monitoring horizon is only five years, in
6 that we're concerned for the communities of
7 Chicago who expect a reduction in their rail
8 freight should there be a purchase of the EJ&E by
9 the CN. And yet there is no guarantee and no
10 willingness on the part of the CN to make a
11 guarantee.

12 Our concern is with the development of
13 the Canadian port and the development of the port
14 in Memphis, that both avenues will exceed current
15 capacity to the detriment of all in this area.

16 On a personal note, I have yet to see a
17 CN train cross a railroad going at 40 miles an
18 hour. In my last experience it took six seconds
19 for one car to clear a two-lane highway.

20 I think of that knowing that now as
21 school starts, a Barrington school bus crosses an
22 EJ&E track 800 times in a single day.

23 The next point -- then I'll go to
24 five -- and say also I'm very concerned about the

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1 inconsistencies in the environmental impact
2 statement. It was very clear that the
3 consultants, while very conscientious, separated
4 the work, each doing separate sections, and didn't
5 have the opportunity to compare their information
6 and resolve the contradictions. Unfortunately,
7 some of the contradictions are significant,

8 particularly when it comes to such things as
9 capacity of the line.

10 I mentioned all of the roads and the
11 crossings.

12 So thank you very much for our -- for
13 considering all points of view. Please be a 21st
14 century American and recognize the reality of
15 current networks of roads, current patterns of
16 communities, and the interests of the many, many
17 business people who do not send freight between
18 Canada and Memphis.

19 Thank you.

20 (End of statement.)

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