

090908KOCEK Murphy Vol III.txt

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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 "Alan Murphy"
11

12 September 9, 2008
13

14 WEST AURORA HIGH SCHOOL
15 1201 WEST NEW YORK STREET
16 AURORA, ILLINOIS
17

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1 MR. ALAN MURPHY: Resolution, a
Page 1

2 resolution of the West Chicago Park
3 District which objects to the acquisition
4 of the EJ&E West Company by the Canadian
5 National Railway Corporation.

6 whereas, on October 30th, 2007,
7 the Canadian Railway Corporation, along
8 with U.S. Subsidiary, Grand Trunk
9 Corporation (collectively called "CN")
10 filed an application with the Federal
11 Surface Transportation Board ("STB")
12 seeking approval to require the EJ&E West
13 Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of the
14 Elgin Joliet & Eastern Railway Company
15 (collectively "EJ&E"); and.

16 whereas, the proposed
17 acquisition by CN would involving shifting
18 a significant amount of train traffic that
19 currently moves over CN's rail lines in the
20 city of Chicago to sections of the EJ&E
21 rail lines west and south of the city of
22 Chicago, including a segment that runs
23 through the City of West Chicago; and

24 whereas, the increase in freight

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1 train traffic resulting from the proposed
2 acquisition by CN will create adverse
3 impacts on the communities along the EJ&E
4 line, including, but not limited to,
Page 2

increased noise and vehicle traffic delays;
and

whereas, the average number of
daily trains that run along the segment of
the EJ&E rail line that runs through west
Chicago, north of the Union Pacific tracks,
will increase from 4.4 trains to 24.4
trains per day; and

whereas, the average number of
daily trains that run along the segment of
the EJ&E rail line that runs through west
Chicago, south of the Union Pacific tracks,
will increase from 10.7 trains to 34.5
trains per day; and

whereas, CN train lengths will
be much longer than current EJ&E train
lengths; and.

whereas, hazardous materials
traffic in west Chicago, north of the Union
Pacific tracks, would increase from the

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current 21 carloads per year to 265
carloads per year, and increase of 1,162
percent; and

whereas, hazardous materials
traffic on west Chicago south of the Union
Pacific tracks, would increase from the
current 31 carloads per year to 301

8 carloads per year, an increase of 871
9 percent; and

10 whereas, there are currently
11 five at-grade crossings along the EJ&E
12 tracks in Winfield Township at Church
13 Street, Ann Street, Washington Street,
14 George Street (pedestrian only) and
15 Hawthorne Lane; and

16 whereas, the park usage by
17 residents will be significantly impacted
18 with safety issues, congestion and noise
19 levels; and

20 whereas, West Chicago Community
21 High School is located one block from an
22 at-grade crossing at Ann Street, a school
23 that has a current student population of
24 2,160; and

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1 whereas, traffic congestion
2 around the West Chicago Community High
3 School is already heavy, a problem that
4 will be aggravated by the increased train
5 traffic on the EJ&E tracks; and

6 whereas, the increase in train
7 traffic on the EJ&E tracks will
8 significantly increase the likelihood of an
9 accident between trains and students; and

10 whereas, the EJ&E tracks
Page 4

11 currently divide the City, and when
12 combined with the existing Union Pacific
13 tracks, serves to separate the southwestern
14 portion of West Chicago, making it more
15 difficult to provide public safety and
16 other services to that portion of our
17 community; and

18 whereas, the proposed
19 acquisition will have significant effects
20 on West Chicago and the northwest and west
21 suburban region in that the planned Metra
22 Suburban Transit Access Route proposed to
23 utilize the EJ&E Railroad corridor will
24 likely be jeopardized.

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1 Now, therefore, be it resolved
2 by the board of trustees of Winfield
3 Township as follows:

4 Section 1: That the West
5 Chicago Park District asks that the Section
6 of the Environmental Analysis (the "SEA")
7 of the Surface Transportation Board (the
8 "STB") include and incorporate the issues,
9 concerns and comments of the District set
10 forth in this resolution in the scope of
11 the study for the draft of the
12 Environmental Impact Study and final
13 Environmental Impact Study (collectively
Page 5

14 the "EIS") and that said comments and
15 concerns be considered and addressed in the
16 EIS and the STB.

17 Section 2: The West Chicago
18 Park District does hereby formally object
19 to the proposed acquisition of the EJ&E by
20 CN, and urges the Surface Transportation
21 Board to disapprove of the proposed
22 interaction based on the negative impact it
23 will have on the West Chicago Park
24 District, its residents, its business

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1 customers and the region.

2 Section 3: The Various
3 provisions of this Resolution are to be
4 considered as severable, and if any portion
5 of this Resolution shall be held invalid by
6 any Court of competent jurisdiction, such
7 decision shall not affect the validity of
8 the remaining provisions of this
9 Resolution.

10 Section 4: All prior
11 Resolutions and Ordinances in conflict or
12 inconsistent herewith are hereby expressly
13 repealed only to the extent of such
14 conflict or inconsistency.

15 Section 5: This Resolution
16 shall be in full force and effect upon its

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passage and approval.

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(End of statement.)

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