

082708BROG Sinnott.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
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6 STATEMENT OF:
7 FAYE SINNOTT
8 AUGUST 27, 2008
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12 BARRINGTON HIGH SCHOOL
13 616 WEST MAIN STREET
14 BARRINGTON, ILLINOIS
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1 MS. SINNOTT: Hi. My name is Faye
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2 Sinnott, and I'm from Barrington, and my
3 two comments are as a result of talking
4 with the experts at the STB hearing.
5 Number one, there seems to be a difference
6 in terms of the safety record of the CN in
7 Canada versus the safety record of the
8 recently 10 or 20 years acquired U.S.
9 railroads. The record in Canada is
10 significantly worse with, as I understand
11 it, a derailment averaging one every three
12 days in Canada. I recognize that there are
13 differences in the kinds of scorekeeping
14 done by Canada and the U.S. However, I
15 think that the Canadian history of problems
16 is relevant to the STB considerations and
17 would like to recommend that the Canadian
18 experience be a part of the deliberations
19 even if they are appropriately footnoted as
20 to the differences in the way the score is
21 kept. As a long-time citizen, I believe in
22 the transparency of government, and I
23 believe that this is important information
24 for the STB to consider as they evaluate

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1 the impact of the CN acquisition.
2 Secondly, in talking with your
3 transportation consultant, I was amazed to
4 learn that he is unaware that Illinois has
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5 more active nuclear power plants than
6 almost any other state in the U.S. and that
7 disaster planning, i.e., citizen
8 evacuation, had not been considered in the
9 transportation study of the CN. What I'm
10 talking about is a Three Mile Island kind
11 of situation where the emphasis is on the
12 safe evacuation of citizens; but disaster
13 evacuations are larger than that. In this
14 world we're also talking about the threat
15 of biological contamination, and Chicago is
16 an area with a number of wonderful
17 scientific corporations, as well as we live
18 in a post 9/11 world. So the fact that
19 evacuation routes were not apparently
20 considered is of high concern to the entire
21 population of the Chicago area as we look
22 at the implications of this possible
23 acquisition. Please respond.

24 (End of statement.)