

082508 Larry Henry.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
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9 STATEMENT OF:
10 LARRY HENRY

11 AUGUST 25, 2008
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13 MATTESON HOLIDAY INN
14 500 HOLIDAY PLAZA DRIVE
MATTESON, ILLINOIS
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23 REPORTED BY: Robin Chimniak, 084-001999
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1 Larry Henry, H-e-n-r-y. I live
2 at 143 walnut Street in Frankfort,
3 Illinois.

4 Our home is located probably
5 about three blocks north of the current
6 EJ&E Railroad. We actually moved to this
7 community from Orland Park about a year
8 ago, in part to escape the noise from
9 railroads.

10 We built a house in Orland Park
11 six, seven years ago, and at the time we
12 built it there was a small commuter line
13 that ran 600 feet from our house; six
14 trains a day, no trains on the weekend.
15 And at the time we left, they were up to 30
16 trains a day running around the clock, and
17 they're just about getting ready to start
18 running trains through the weekend, too.
19 So we know the discomfort associated with
20 increased rail traffic.

21 Our principal concerns where
22 we're located presently is the safety
23 factor. The EJ&E does split Frankfort in
24 half. We do have six grade crossings that

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1 are affected by that, and only one is
2 protected by a grade separation. So we
3 know from our understanding of the current
4 rail traffic on the EJ&E what we can expect
5 when the CN comes into play; that the train
6 traffic will increase significantly.

7 Not only will we see the trains
8 go from 6 to 8 a day to upward of maybe 40,
9 we'll see train length increase

10 dramatically. EJ&E runs not real long
11 trains. The locomotives that they use are
12 not big, heavy-duty, road power-type
13 locomotives like the CN does. So the noise
14 alone from an increased frequency;
15 increased train size; larger, heavier cars;
16 cars carrying commodities that the EJ&E
17 doesn't pull much of through our community
18 right now are all going to add up to a very
19 uncomfortable living environment for us.

20 I made a comment earlier that if
21 the CN is allowed to purchase the EJ&E for
22 their \$300 million plus whatever they may
23 spend in token mitigation at the end of the
24 day, the cost to the residents and the

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1 local taxpayers will far exceed that. We
2 would probably be better off buying the CN
3 as a community and dismantling it. It
4 would be more cost-effective for us.
5 Thanks.

6 (End of statement.)
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