

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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5 * 00720 .011508. ROOT. PCTZ. 60423.0.N.CF
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9 STATEMENT OF:

10 SHARON ROOT

11 JANUARY 15, 2008
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14 HOLIDAY INN

15 500 HOLIDAY PLAZA DRIVE

16 MATTESON, ILLINOIS

Surface Transportation Board

CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

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23 REPORTED BY: Fran Okrei, 84-1074
24

HDR

1 MRS. ROOT: My name is Sharon Root
2 R-O-O-T. I live at 324 Center Road in
3 Frankfort, Illinois. And our house is one of
4 the original farmhouses in town, and it also
5 happens to be the last house before you go
6 over the railroad tracks. We are right at a
7 crossing.

8 And we now get maybe max, eight trains
9 a day and -- which is fine. The noise -- and
10 we bought our home nine years ago with the
11 anticipation we knew the trains were going to
12 be coming but now they are going to increase
13 it to 30 and perhaps more a day. We will not
14 be able to sit out in our yard.

15 And I was telling the lady over there
16 at CNN, we sit on our front porch and listen
17 to the Cub's game, enjoy a glass of wine.
18 When a train goes by, we stop our
19 conversation.

20 Now we have a wonderful back yard, an
21 old farmhouse. We won't be able to be outside
22 and enjoy our back yard. We won't be able to
23 sit on the porch because there's going to be
24 constant trains going by.

1 I was at a home town meeting a couple
2 weeks ago on a Tuesday and we got home and I
3 no sooner got home and a fire truck had to
4 stop at the crossing because a train was going
5 by. So another concern is how are the
6 emergency vehicles going to get through and
7 over the tracks?

8 The noise and the vibration that is
9 going to be caused us by the engines and the
10 longer trains, the traffic tie up is going to
11 be awful. You know, there's been times just
12 with the few trains that we have that the
13 traffic backs up beyond our driveway and I
14 cannot get in our driveway.

15 Well, now you are going to do 30 plus
16 trains a day. I'll never get in my driveway
17 if I'm out running errands. So there's
18 just -- and the hazardous waste material
19 that's going to be coming through.

20 I know there's some now but they are
21 saying it's going to increase 350 percent with
22 the waste that's passing by. The whole
23 thing -- I just hope that these people will
24 take a serious look at the lives and the homes

1 and the property values that they are going to
2 be affecting. It's just -- it's just awful.
3 I just feel so bad about it.

4 People are just starting to move to
5 the southern suburbs. We've got some
6 beautiful new communities. There's talk about
7 big shopping centers. No one is going to want
8 to come with all these trains. They are not
9 going to be able to get around town.

10 Sometimes you have to cross the train
11 tracks twice to get to where you are going.
12 So it's -- the whole thing is just awful and I
13 just really, really hope that they take
14 another look and see if there's something else
15 that they can do about this. Thank you.

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