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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 KAREN TANIS
11

12 September 10, 2008
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14 INDIANA UNIVERSITY NORTHWEST
15 3400 BROADWAY
16 GARY, INDIANA
17
18
19

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1 MRS. KAREN TANIS: I'm Karen Tanis.
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2 I live at 418 North Indiana in Griffith,
3 Indiana. I am here to talk about the
4 problems of the railroad being a half a
5 block away from my house.

6 We live -- moved in -- my
7 husband and I moved in 40 years ago and
8 raised our children. And we had very
9 little train traffic. They say it's about
10 seven a day. And I believe it's at least
11 12 right now.

12 And with the coming of this new
13 business opportunity for Canadian EJ&E,
14 we're going to have like one train every
15 hour. And it is just going to be a
16 terrible congestion all around the towns in
17 the Northwest Indiana area, even going over
18 into Dyer and Schererville and where my mom
19 lives out in Lynwood on Route 30 in Dyer.
20 The whole area is going to be chopped up
21 and have long lines of traffic.

22 It will be impossible to get to
23 the hospital, to get fire departments into
24 areas. That is also going to increase the

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1 danger of people having accidents. we have
2 unguarded rails at all -- unguarded tracks
3 at several of our train tracks right by my
4 house on Miller, Lake Street, Elm Street --

5 Elm does have one. But a lot of the trains
6 do -- a lot of the tracks do not have
7 crossings. And we have had people die.

8 Just two years ago, we had a
9 young man, 17, die right at Miller and the
10 railroad track. About seven years ago, we
11 had another lady that died at the railroad
12 track. And they -- we were called if we
13 had any details, if we heard horns. And
14 with the length of the trains and the speed
15 of the trains increased, it is going to be
16 a much higher incident of people killed at
17 these railroad tracks.

18 We also have children that go to
19 the schools. The local schools. Franklin
20 School, Wadsworth School. And that's just
21 in my neighborhood. And there will be --
22 there's many small children that cross the
23 tracks. And then other children that play
24 near the tracks which is going to be very

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1 dangerous.

2 I am very concerned because we
3 already have construction three-quarters of
4 the year because of the expressway, I-94,
5 80-94, I-65. And we are having to always
6 divert our car traffic because of the
7 construction.

8 Sometimes they'll have three
9 major highways in construction at the same
10 time. Well, between the construction and
11 the railroad tracks, how are we supposed to
12 go anywhere? Not to mention the
13 environmental problems with the increased
14 carbon monoxide from the cars in the long
15 lines waiting to pass the trains. It is
16 going to be an atrocious atrocity to our
17 whole area and our community.

18 Thank you for listening. And I
19 hope you will not allow this to go through.

20 (End of statement.)

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