

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 VENUS COBB

11 JANUARY 16, 2008
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14 ONE GENESIS CENTER

15 GARY, INDIANA

Surface Transportation Board

CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

Log and Distribution

Date Rcvd: _____

HDR File No: ✓

18 CHIMNIAK REPORTING & VIDEO

Scanned (Initial): _____

STABCT#: _____

19 Telephone: 312-781-9111

Cc: Original - Job File

21 HDR

22 REPORTED BY: Fran Okrei, 84-1074
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1 MS. COBB: My name is Venus Cobb. I'm
2 with Development Consulting for the City of
3 Gary. I'm also a resident here from the City
4 of Gary, actually living less than two miles
5 from the Kirkyard. It's a part of the
6 development that Mayor Kerr as a result of the
7 acquisition of the EJ&E.

8 I'm familiar with this particular
9 initiative, and have done some research as
10 well as with other partners within the city
11 and we are quite supportive of this
12 acquisition taking place and mainly because of
13 the economic benefits that it can bring to the
14 area in terms of an increase in jobs, increase
15 in tax revenues in order to help share the tax
16 burden here.

17 It will also assist in possibly
18 expanding cargo distribution connecting with
19 our other modes of transportation; the
20 airport, trucking, our port. And there, too,
21 you know, resulting in an increase in jobs and
22 development of some of our industrial land
23 that is near the proposed area of this
24 particular development and bringing

1 distribution companies to the area and other
2 companies from China.

3 We are aware that this Canadian
4 National has points throughout the United
5 States and key points, also connecting with
6 China and we are engaging in discussions now
7 in terms of expanding our foreign trade zone
8 which is also in this vicinity.

9 So there are a number of potential
10 economic benefits that we would hope to gain
11 and be able to work collaboratively with
12 Canadian National to bring about.

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