

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 DAVID HEARNS
11

12 AUGUST 25, 2008
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14 MATTESON HOLIDAY INN
15 500 HOLIDAY PLAZA DRIVE
16 MATTESON, ILLINOIS
17
18
19

20 CHIMNIAK REPORTING & VIDEO

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24 REPORTED BY: Robin Chimniak, 084-001999

1 My name is David Hearnns,
2 H-e-a-r-n-s. I'm the treasurer for the
3 Lakewood Homeowners Association in Richton

4 Park. 22441 Imperial Drive, Richton Park,
5 60471.

6 I'm just very concerned that our
7 government kind of stands up for us. I
8 realize that everything is about making
9 profits. But when you have a foreign
10 national company coming in, and the impact
11 that it's going to have on our community,
12 as was mentioned in the proceedings, most
13 of the medical facilities are north of the
14 track. You're talking about going from 6
15 or 8 trains a day to 24 to 28 carrying
16 hazardous materials. If there is any sort
17 of problem with chlorine spillage, you
18 know, a petroleum explosion, if a cloud
19 drifts south of those tracks, we're cut off.

20 we're cut off from all the
21 medical facilities because all of them are
22 north; St. James Hospital, all the ones
23 that were mentioned in the proceedings here
24 are north of these tracks. We're cut off

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1 from any sort of help in terms of getting
2 us out of that community. And I just hope
3 that our government won't allow some
4 foreign national company, for profit
5 reasons, to eliminate us from this
6 equation. That's all I have to say. It's
7 just -- it's heartbreaking.

8 I realize that, you know, when I
9 first heard about it, I said, "This is

10 going to happen." But the fact that
11 they're only talking about paying for 5 to
12 10 percent mitigation for rail separation
13 from grade is not good. I know that that's
14 the norm, but I think we need to set a
15 precedent at this point and say, you know,
16 for this community affected, for the
17 economic reasons -- these are poor
18 communities -- Chicago Heights, Richton
19 Park, University Park are poor communities
20 that have no means of coming up with the
21 money that would help mitigate these
22 crossings.

23 That's it. Thank you.

24 (End of statement.)

