

1 SCOPING MEETING FOR THE PROPOSED CANADIAN
2 NATIONAL RAILWAY COMPANY ACQUISITION OF THE
3 ELGIN, JOLIET AND EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY
4
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8

9 STATEMENT OF:

10 STAN ODOM
11

12 AUGUST 26, 2008
13

14 CROWNE PLAZA CHICAGO NORTH SHORE
15 510 EAST ROUTE 83
16 MUNDELEIN, ILLINOIS
17
18

19 CHIMNIAK REPORTING & VIDEO

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1 Stan Odom in Long Grove.
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2 My number one concern is fire
3 protection and emergency vehicle accidents.
4 I'm really concerned about their ability to
5 get to someone in an emergency.

6 Next on the list is hazardous
7 materials. I think that we need emergency
8 plans. We need to know who's responsible
9 to alert people and how they're going to
10 accomplish that if something happens in the
11 middle of the night or on a holiday or
12 whatever.

13 I believe the trains should be
14 allowed to move faster. The trains going
15 slower doesn't help. It just creates more
16 time that that train is going to be
17 blocking an intersection.

18 There should be restrictions on
19 rush hour time that the train is allowed to
20 come through those intersections. In the
21 morning and the evening, you have to have
22 some kind of restrictions to prevent what
23 is already major congestion in that area
24 going across the tracks.

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1 I'm okay with the train horn.
2 Some people may not like it. I'm okay with
3 it. I think it gives you a good warning,
4 and it also -- it's something that just

5 alerts you a little better than just
6 getting right up to the gate and before you
7 know it that there is a train coming.

8 we do need improved gate
9 protection. The gate protection right now
10 is not meant for the type traffic that will
11 be coming through those areas.

12 And the fact that they're
13 planning to add a track, I believe, will
14 create additional delays. And that has to
15 be really closely taken a look at to see if
16 there is anything we can do to make sure
17 that that doesn't create those added delays
18 that I'm concerned about.

19 So I understand the need to do
20 this, because of all the congestion out
21 there for rail traffic, but there are some
22 pretty good size issues that need to be
23 clearly outlined and adhered to.

24 My concern is if these -- any of

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1 these things that people are telling us are
2 going to be put in place to take care of
3 this are violated, nobody is responsible.
4 No one is going to say that this was wrong,
5 and now you have to -- there is a penalty.
6 So I'm concerned that even if they violate
7 that, like I say, there is no

8 responsibility taken anywhere and there is
9 no way to enforce it by just the local
10 citizen. I can't raise the issue and get
11 that taken care of. Even though everybody
12 has agreed to it up-front, time has gone
13 by, and all of a sudden it's not that big
14 of a deal anymore. Let's go ahead and do
15 something a little different. You know,
16 I'm afraid the railroad might do that.

17 So that is where I am with this.
18 I'm hoping everybody takes that into
19 consideration and does the right thing.

20 Thank you.

21 (End of statement.)

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