

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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22 REPORTED BY: Cheryl L. Sandeck, 084-03710

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MS. BARRY: Deborah Barry, 412
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2 Bramble, B-R-A-M-B-L-E, Deer Park, Illinois
3 60010. I am the press secretary for community
4 organization called Deer Park Neighbors. And
5 in addition to my own personal concerns, I have
6 the concerns of many other residents of Deer
7 Park.

8 Number one, we have never had an
9 individual impact statement made by our
10 municipal government, so I don't feel that the
11 voice of Deer Park is being heard. We are a
12 community of about 3,000 people, a little over
13 a thousand households, a 50-year-old community
14 that lies basically between Lake-Cook and 22
15 and from Rand to Northwest Highway. And our
16 village is very broken up into many small
17 areas.

18 In our particular village, the
19 majority of our residents would not be able to
20 be transported to Good Shepherd Hospital in
21 Barrington within the five-minute window that
22 would be required in the case of a heart attack
23 or if there were a severe car accident with a
24 chest crushing injury, amputation, traumatic

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1 bleeding. We simply would not be able to get
2 to the hospital in time to save lives.

3 In addition to the obvious or the
4 human tragedy, the hospital depends on its

5 morbidity and mortality statistics towards
6 funding and rankings by the Joint Commission on
7 Hospital Accreditation. Good Shepherd Hospital
8 stands a terrible risk of losing its
9 accreditation. It's currently recognized for
10 its trauma services, its cardiac services, its
11 emergency room services.

12 When this hospital loses
13 accreditation and has poor morbidity and
14 mortality statistics, they will lose insurance
15 reimbursements. They will lose referrals. It
16 is the area's largest employer. So, obviously,
17 as the hospital goes down, so does its
18 employees.

19 The Canadian National has not shown
20 an interest in the true economic impact at a
21 local level. I'm speaking not only about Deer
22 Park, but up and down the 190 communities.
23 There are many parallel situations.

24 Another devastating impact, the

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1 village of Deer Park has no commercial area.
2 We only have a couple of retail malls, one of
3 which is one of the largest and most successful
4 in the country. That is the main support of
5 our 50-year-old municipality. Should we fail
6 to get the number of shoppers that we currently
7 do from west of the tracks or should shoppers

8 be unable to get to us because of the traffic
9 jams on Lake-Cook, on Long Grove and Cuba Roads
10 and 22, frankly, our village will fail. We
11 don't have any reserves whatsoever.

12 So Deer Park is really a microcosm
13 of what is going to happen up and down the
14 entire proposed routes. All of these problems
15 are easily solved by Canadian National taking
16 responsibility for grade crossings to be
17 remediated.

18 The other thing that I think really
19 needs to be stated to the STB is that they are
20 looking at very short time frames on the
21 Canadian National's projections, one year, two
22 years, three years. So perhaps some
23 communities will have fewer trains. But after
24 a five-year period when Poor Rupert in

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1 Northwest Canada -- when it comes up to full
2 facility, it is currently only operating at
3 seven percent capacity, so multiply that by
4 whatever it is, 14, when it's at full capacity,
5 we will be seeing two-mile-long trains
6 continuously.

7 And another serious transport impact
8 is that one of those train cars eventually will
9 have to be put on the back of a truck. So when
10 there is 20 times as many trains, there will

11 . also be 20 times as many trucks on the roads
12 throughout this region, and Canadian National
13 is not addressing any of those points.

14 Again, these problems will be solved
15 by requiring this foreign company to invest in
16 the infrastructure to mitigate these terrible
17 health, public safety and economic impacts.
18 And that's what I hope to see from my fellow
19 government.

20 I can give up the -- all the money,
21 all the profits going back to Canada. The
22 federal government needs to protect its
23 citizens in this region and -- forget about the
24 olympics, we will be facing the consequences of

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1 this acquisition for a hundred years to come.
2 Thank you.
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