

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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9 STATEMENT OF:

10 JERRY WEEMS

11 JANUARY 15, 2008

12 HOLIDAY INN

13 500 HOLIDAY PLAZA DRIVE

14 MATTESON, ILLINOIS
15
16

17 Surface Transportation Board

18 CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

19 Log and Distribution

Date Rcvd: _____

HDR File No: _____

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21 CHIMNIAK REPORTING & VIDEO

22 Telephone: 312-781-9111
23

HDR

24 REPORTED BY: Sharon A. Stuckly, 84-1640

1 MR. WEEMS: Jerry Weems, W-e-e-m-s.
2 Okay. I live at 5000 Capri Lane which basically
3 is right behind the railroad as it goes through
4 to wherever it goes east or west. And when they
5 come through and blow their horns just four
6 blocks short of Cicero, you know, that's right in
7 my sleeping area. And to increase the amount of
8 trains from 15 to 26 to 30 a day I think is kind
9 of ridiculous.

10 Outside of that, it brings and really
11 takes my property value down considerably making
12 it a functional obsolescence.

13 To be honest with you, when I first
14 moved there, I never noticed the railroad track.
15 But once I moved over there and looked out my
16 backyard, there it is, you know, nice big
17 railroad train, chew chew chewing up and down the
18 track all day long.

19 So therefore -- and what it's doing
20 to our property value is horrendous considering
21 what property values are today anyway. It's
22 really bad.

23 Property values -- my property was at
24 one point in the area of \$500,000. Now I'm

1 looking at \$397,000 as far as my property is --
2 worth of my property. So I think it's a totally
3 bad idea completely even though I understand what
4 they're trying to do, but there should be another
5 route, another way of them doing it considering
6 the traffic that it's going to cause on Cicero
7 Avenue with 26 to 30 trains a day coming that
8 way.

9 The traffic -- this is a major
10 thoroughfare between Route 30 and Sauk Trail.
11 And traffic is already backed up a lot as the
12 trains come by, you know, on a day-to-day basis
13 and all day. So now we're talking about 26 to 30
14 trains. How will that affect the area? The
15 dynamics of the area. I think it would be very
16 bad. Totally. So I don't really know that much.
17 I will probably come back with some more if I can
18 if I think of it.

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