

082708BROG Roggeveen.txt

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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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6 STATEMENT OF:
7 WYNN ANN ROGGEVEEN
8 AUGUST 27, 2008
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BARRINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

13

616 WEST MAIN STREET

14

BARRINGTON, ILLINOIS

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MS. ROGGEVEEN: Wynn Ann Roggeveen,
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2 Barrington Hills, Illinois. I approach
3 this problem from many standpoints. One is
4 as a resident, I am concerned about
5 emergency procedures and safety procedures
6 that can happen and lack of response time.
7 People on the side, the train literally
8 cuts our community in one-fourth, would
9 have to be answered by another community
10 response; and another part, the other
11 three-quarters, is going to have to be
12 answered by -- can't even be our emergency
13 response.

14 I also teach in the district,
15 and this will absolutely negate any of our
16 bus transportation. Our buses go out at
17 5:30. They come in around 9:00 o'clock.
18 They cross the -- the buses probably cross
19 the tracks 800 times in order to get the
20 children to and from school every day, and
21 there is no way that we would be able to
22 have school start on time. We have a
23 successive bus program. So the same bus
24 that starts at 5:30 in the morning does the

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1 three shifts, consecutive shifts. So if
2 the first shift is late, then the second
3 shift is late, then the third shift is
4 late. So now you have issues with children

5 aren't coming to school or they're coming
6 to school later which affects our
7 attendance, which affects our teaching, and
8 then you'll have the same problem coming
9 home. We might not be getting all our
10 buses. They could come an hour late, and
11 we're transporting kids late. The state
12 law also only let's our kids be on the bus
13 supposedly for an hour is the longest time
14 you're allowed to have them on a bus to
15 transport them to school. This will
16 definitely blow that out of the water
17 because my kids, even though he we live
18 very close to the school, we had a full
19 hour bus ride because we were the first
20 ones on and the last ones off, and that's
21 with it running quickly. So I can't
22 imagine how they're going to make that bus
23 route fit within an hour when it gets
24 stopped so many times or delayed.

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1 I guess my main concern is no
2 one has done the math. If there are 35
3 trains that come through here or more in a
4 24-hour period, you would have easily two
5 trains an hour coming through. That means
6 those gates are going to be up and down
7 twice and could be down for 15 to 20

8 minutes an hour. Now, that's if they run
9 perfect.

10 Now, if they decide to
11 compromise and say we won't put on as many
12 in the morning so you can get your buses
13 through, that means you might have three or
14 four coming through to make up. Which
15 means your gates can be down for a half an
16 hour or an hour, and now you've tied that
17 up. You have three main arteries, these
18 roads are major roads, that already are
19 tied up in the morning. So I can't imagine
20 adding these long trains, how it's not
21 going to be tying up the traffic even more.

22 The other thing I guess again I
23 talked about I am very nervous about the
24 fact that we have no say legally in any

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1 recourse or anything that would happen
2 because of that train. If our house is
3 burning on one side and the emergency
4 equipment is on the other, there's nothing
5 we could do. The railroad can't compensate
6 us anyway. If there's an emergency and
7 you're in that ambulance that is trying to
8 get across that track over to a hospital,
9 minutes are -- could be lifesaving. The
10 next closest hospital is in Palatine, so

11 there's nothing close as an option that we
12 can get to go to. The only other you would
13 have to try to cross the tracks somewhere
14 else, but there are actually five arteries
15 that are cut. There is no shortcut around
16 this train in our town.

17 I don't know how to end it. I
18 just can't believe that someone can come in
19 here and not offer any financial or any
20 compensation when they are reaping all of
21 the profits by coming in and yet do not in
22 turn turn around and say we know we're
23 going to be making millions and millions
24 and millions of dollars. Let us give you

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1 some of this to make your crossings or to
2 put in a fund that if you need an emergency
3 helicopter, that we could cover the cost
4 for that. Who is going to cover the
5 cost -- it's going to be taxpayers anyway,
6 but we, if we use another city's emergency
7 as a backup, we have to pay them. So
8 they're not going to pay if we have to call
9 someone else to come and do the emergency
10 service. There is -- again, there is
11 nothing -- they make all of the money
12 through this at our expense. Thank you.

13 (End of statement.)
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