

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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STATEMENT OF:

DENISE HESSEL

AUGUST 27, 2008

BARRINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

616 MAIN STREET

BARRINGTON, ILLINOIS

REPORTED BY: Cheryl L. Sandeck, 084-03710

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MS. HESSEL: Denise Hessel, I am
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2 very concerned about the safety and health
3 implications that the railroad would bring in.
4 I have had a personal situation where I have
5 had to rush a family member to the hospital.
6 And had I been held up by a railway, there
7 would have been a life and death situation.
8 And that's such a huge concern and an impact
9 that this is going to put on the community.
10 Because we are -- it is going to be a division,
11 you know, between the community and health
12 services, hospital access.

13 So that's a really, really big
14 concern that I have personally because I have
15 experienced and been in that situation.

16 Secondly, as a realtor in the
17 Barrington area, we are finding hesitation from
18 people wanting to move into the area because
19 they feel that their values are not going to be
20 held up. So they are turning away and looking
21 at other communities. It is currently hurting
22 the property values now that we have. If, you
23 know, we go and market the houses that are
24 located any -- you know, close proximity to the

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1 railroads, we have got to take that into
2 consideration and homeowners are really, really
3 upset that, you know, they are seeing their
4 values drop. So it's just a huge impact that

5 this community, you know, will suffer in many
6 ways.

7 Safety of our children, there is a
8 lot of -- I mean school buses, children that
9 drive in cars to school that are going to be in
10 traffic -- cars are already making U-turns.
11 There is probably going to be an increase of
12 accidents that will take place. And we have a
13 lot of young drivers on the road in this
14 community with the gridlock. There is going to
15 be consequences that are coming from that at
16 the same time. So that's what I have.

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