

1 IN RE: PROPOSED ACQUISITION
2 OF THE KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN by CANADIAN PACIFIC

3
4 DOCKET NO. FD 36500

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7 TRANSCRIPT FROM THE REMOTE PROCEEDINGS via
8 ZOOM taken before the Surface Transportation Board
9 by JEANINE WATKINS, CSR, on December 1, 2021, at
10 2:00 o'clock p.m. CST.

11
12 PRESENT:

13 MR. JOSHUA WAYLAND, Environmental Protection
14 Specialist with the Surface Transportation Board's
15 Office of Environmental Analysis and Project Manager
16 for the Environmental Impact Statement
17 Surface Transportation Board, c/o of VHB
18 940 Main Campus Drive, Suite 500,
19 Raleigh, North Carolina 27606

20
21 MR. ALAN BELNIAK, Facilitator for the meeting.

22
23
24

1 MR. BELNIAK: Good afternoon. Welcome to
2 the public scoping meeting for the proposed
3 acquisition of Kansas City Southern by Canadian
4 Pacific. The docket number for this proposed merger
5 is FD 36500. And you can see that on the screen
6 here.

7 My name is Alan Belniak, and I'm
8 facilitating this afternoon's meeting. I'm going to
9 walk you through a few things. First, I've just
10 given you an introduction to the project. Next,
11 I'll walk through some meeting logistics and how we
12 can accept public comment from you all. After that
13 we'll hand it over to a member of the Surface
14 Transportation Board for some opening remarks.
15 Following that we'll transition to a short recorded
16 video presentation to give you more details about
17 the proposed project. And then after that and for
18 the balance of the meeting of the time we have today
19 we're then going to open it up to a comment session,
20 and I'll walk you through those details in just a
21 moment.

22 So, for the meeting logistics for today.
23 You can hear audio of the meeting in both English,
24 like you are now, and in Spanish or español, by

1 toggling the "Interpretation" button in the bottom
2 row of the Zoom controls on your screen, either PC,
3 MAC, or mobile device. And once you do that, you
4 can select an alternate audio channel.

5 If you'd like you can also access live
6 closed captioned transcripts by toggling the "Live
7 Transcript" button down below as well, and you can
8 have those transcripts appear at the bottom or along
9 the side.

10 During the comments session we are first
11 taking comments from those who have registered to
12 speak prior to starting today's meeting, and we do
13 have a handful of those names. If you would like to
14 speak and get into that queue, you can use the Q and
15 A feature inside Zoom, and just simply type in your
16 name, and I'll add you to that list to add you to
17 the end of that first set of speaking -- first queue
18 of speakers. Pardon me.

19 You can also simply just raise your hand.
20 And you can do that through the bottom tray of the
21 Zoom controls as well. So you should all see Ray's
22 hand and Q and A there.

23 Note that the Q and A is not really for
24 questions. This is just a comment session, and so

1 today whether it's through -- when you raise your
2 hand and are called upon to speak, you'll have three
3 minutes to share your comments on the project.

4 We're not taking questions today. We want to give
5 everyone an opportunity to provide those comments as
6 we move forward through the process.

7 As a reminder, this meeting is being
8 recorded, and we'll say that once more at beginning
9 of the comment period. We'll also display these
10 instructions at the beginning of the comment period
11 for anyone who joins late or in case you need a
12 reminder. And just like any public meeting, we'll
13 ask for common courtesy, decency, and civility to
14 keep your comments within those guidelines.

15 Now I would like to turn over to Josh, a
16 member of the Surface Transportation Board, for some
17 opening remarks. Josh?

18 MR. WAYLAND: Thank you, Alan.

19 Hello, everyone, and thanks for joining us
20 this afternoon for this public scoping meeting for
21 the proposed acquisition of Kansas City Southern by
22 Canadian Pacific.

23 My name is Josh Wayland, and I'm an
24 environmental protection specialist with the Surface

1 Transportation Board's Office of Environmental
2 Analysis, and I am also the project manager for the
3 Environmental Impact Statement that we are preparing
4 for the proposed merger of these two railroad
5 companies, Canadian Pacific and Kansas City
6 Southern.

7 We are sorry that we're not able to be
8 there with you in person for these public scoping
9 meetings due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, but
10 we are very glad to have the opportunity to meet
11 with you through this online format, and we are
12 certainly looking forward to hearing your comments a
13 little later in the meeting.

14 I see that at this time we have 33 people
15 in the meeting tonight, including those of us who
16 are panelists from the agency and people from the
17 public who have called in by phone or joined the
18 webinar.

19 I want to recognize Vicki Rutsun, also of
20 the Office of Environmental Analysis. Thank you for
21 attending, Vicki.

22 Thanks also to Alan and the staff of VHB,
23 our third-party contractor. They are assisting us
24 to prepare this Environmental Impact Statement.

1 Welcome as well to any representatives of
2 other agencies or any elected officials who might
3 have joined us today, and thank you for attending.

4 Alan of VHB has already reviewed the
5 guidelines and ground rules for commenting a little
6 later in the evening, a little later in the meeting,
7 but I just wanted to briefly remind everyone that
8 the main purpose of today's meeting is to hear
9 public comments, and we want to reserve as much time
10 as possible for people to be able to comment.

11 So we're not holding a question and answer
12 session today or at the other scoping meetings, and
13 that is to help ensure that everyone who wants to
14 speak has a chance to do so.

15 If you do have questions about the proposed
16 acquisition or the board's environmental review
17 process, I recommend that you visit the board-
18 sponsored project website at
19 www.CP-KCSmergerEIS.com. And we will show that
20 website address on the screen in a few minutes.

21 Through that website you can find all of
22 the project-related information that is available to
23 date, including descriptions of the proposed
24 acquisition, the Notice of Intent that we issued to

1 begin the scoping process for the Environmental
2 Impact Statement, and an interactive map showing how
3 rail traffic could change along the combined network
4 if the proposed acquisition is approved.

5 Before we move into the comment portion of
6 the meeting today, we would like to play a brief
7 presentation for you that provides an overview of
8 the proposed acquisition and of the board's
9 environmental review process.

10 This presentation will be available on the
11 board-sponsored project website in case you would
12 like to watch it again later.

13 With that, I would just like to thank
14 everyone again for attending the meeting.

15 Thank you for your participation in the
16 process. And I'll ask Alan to please go ahead and
17 start the presentation.

18 MR. BELNIAK: Please stand by while I
19 switch to share.

20 (Slide presentation started and
21 was transcribed as follows:)

22 Hello, and welcome to this public scoping
23 meeting for the proposed acquisition of Kansas City
24 Southern by Canadian Pacific. The docket number for

1 this proposed merger is FD 36500. This meeting is
2 being hosted by the Surface Transportation Board's
3 Office of Environmental Analysis, which is the lead
4 federal agency for the environmental review of the
5 proposed acquisition.

6 My name is Josh Wayland, and I am an
7 environmental protection specialist in the Office of
8 Environmental Analysis. In this presentation I will
9 provide a brief overview of the environmental review
10 process for the proposed merger of these two
11 railroad companies, Canadian Pacific and Kansas City
12 Southern.

13 Here are the topics I will be covering in
14 this presentation. First, I will briefly introduce
15 the Surface Transportation Board, the railroad
16 applicants, that's Canadian Pacific and Kansas City
17 Southern, and the applicant's proposed acquisition
18 of Kansas City Southern by Canadian Pacific.

19 Second, I will provide an overview of the
20 environmental review process.

21 Third, I will present some of the details
22 of the proposed acquisition.

23 Then I will cover the preliminary list of
24 impact topics that will be covered in the

1 Environmental Impact Statement, and finally I will
2 go over the options for commenting during the
3 scoping process and for staying engaged during the
4 rest of the environmental review process.

5 Let's begin with an overview of the federal
6 agency. As I mentioned, I work for the Surface
7 Transportation Board. The Surface Transportation
8 Board, also referred to as just the board or as STB,
9 is a federal bipartisan independent adjudicatory
10 board with broad economic regulatory oversight of
11 railroads including railroad rates and service as
12 well as abandonment, construction, and operation of
13 railroad lines.

14 The board is also the federal agency that
15 is responsible for reviewing and authorizing
16 proposed railroad mergers such as the proposed
17 acquisition of Kansas City Southern by Canadian
18 Pacific.

19 When considering whether or not to
20 authorize a proposed acquisition, the board
21 considers both the transportation merits of the
22 proposal and the potential environmental impacts of
23 the proposal.

24 The board's Office of Environmental

1 Analysis, or OEA, is the office at the board that is
2 responsible for conducting the environmental review.
3 And OEA does this under the National Environmental
4 Policy Act or NEPA and related environmental laws.

5 For the proposed acquisition of Kansas City
6 Southern by Canadian Pacific, OEA is preparing an
7 Environmental Impact Statement, or EIS, because the
8 transaction has the potential to result in
9 significant environmental impacts.

10 The proposed merger of Canadian Pacific and
11 Kansas City Southern is not a project that is being
12 proposed or sponsored by the federal government.
13 The applicants in this case are two Class 1
14 railroads that own and operate rail lines in the
15 United States: Canadian Pacific and Kansas City
16 Southern.

17 From here on out I will be referring to
18 Canadian Pacific as CP and Kansas City Southern as
19 KCS. The acronym CP refers to Canadian Pacific
20 Railway Limited, Canadian Pacific Railway Company,
21 and their US rail carrier subsidiaries, Soo Line
22 Railroad Company, Central Maine and Quebec Railway,
23 US Incorporated, Dakota, Minnesota, and Eastern
24 Railroad Corporation, and Delaware and Hudson

1 Railway Company Incorporated.

2 The term KCS refers to Kansas City Southern
3 and its US rail carrier subsidiaries, the Kansas
4 City Southern Railway Company, Gateway Eastern
5 Railway Company, and the Texas Mexican Railway
6 Company.

7 On October 29, 2021, CP and KCS jointly
8 filed an application seeking authority from the
9 board for CP to acquire KCS. If the Board
10 authorizes the proposed acquisition, the two
11 companies and their two railroad networks would
12 combine, and they would form one system known as
13 Canadian Pacific Kansas City.

14 The proposed acquisition would be an
15 end-to-end merger because the CP and KCS networks
16 currently do not overlap. The combined railroad
17 system would be the first to extend from Canada,
18 through the United States, and into Mexico.

19 The applicants, CP and KCS, state that the
20 combination would provide benefits to shippers by
21 creating a more efficient transportation system.

22 The statute setting forth the procedures
23 for the board's review of acquisitions and the
24 board's own regulations require that the board

1 complete its review of proposed acquisitions within
2 approximately 15 months after the application is
3 accepted, and OEA must complete the environmental
4 review process before the board issues its final
5 decision.

6 A proposed acquisition would result in a
7 number of changes, including changes in rail traffic
8 on portions of the combined rail network. Rail
9 traffic would increase on some rail line segments,
10 and it would decrease on others. Levels of activity
11 at certain rail yards and certain Intermodal
12 facilities could change as a result of the proposed
13 acquisition as well. And the applicants plan to
14 make a number of capital improvements in the rail
15 right-of-way to support the increased rail traffic
16 on some rail lines.

17 These capital improvements would include
18 adding new passing sidings, extending some existing
19 sidings, adding a double track, and adding facility
20 working track at a couple of locations in the rail
21 right-of-way.

22 According to the applicants, the purpose of
23 the proposed acquisition is to combine America's two
24 smallest but fastest growing Class 1 railroads, CP

1 and KCS, to build a more efficient and more
2 competitive rail network.

3 The applicants state that the proposed
4 acquisition would further the need for expanded and
5 more capable and efficient transportation
6 infrastructure while simultaneously advancing the
7 interests of current and future customers in more
8 reliable and economical rail transportation options
9 serving important north-south trade flows.

10 The applicants also state that the proposed
11 acquisition would generate environmental benefits by
12 reducing truck transportation on highways in North
13 America by more than 60,000 trucks annually. This
14 could result in less congestion, less maintenance,
15 and improved safety on those roads as well as less
16 noise pollution in the places where those trucks
17 would have driven, and lowered air emissions,
18 including lowered greenhouse gas emissions.

19 Now I will turn to the environmental review
20 process. As I've mentioned, before the board can
21 authorize the proposed acquisition, it must first
22 consider the impacts of the merger on the
23 environment. This is a requirement of the National
24 Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA.

1 NEPA is intended to assist the board as the
2 federal agency and the public in identifying and
3 assessing potential environmental consequences of a
4 proposed action such as this proposed acquisition of
5 KCS by CP.

6 OEA is preparing an Environmental Impact
7 Statement, or EIS, that will assess the potential
8 environmental impacts of the proposed acquisition.
9 And the EIS will also address related environmental
10 laws as appropriate, such as Section 106 of the
11 National Historic Preservation Act and Section 7 of
12 the Endangered Species Act.

13 This slide shows the generalized
14 Environmental Impact Statement or EIS process. OEA
15 initiated the process by issuing a Notice of Intent
16 to prepare an EIS on November 12, 2021. The
17 issuance of that Notice of Intent began the scoping
18 process which will continue until December 17, 2021.

19 During scoping we are requesting public
20 comments on the scope of the EIS including the
21 issues to be analyzed in the EIS.

22 At the end of the scoping process, OEA will
23 issue a final scope of study and will then prepare a
24 draft EIS. After the draft EIS is issued, there

1 will be a public comment period and additional
2 public meetings.

3 OEA will then prepare a final EIS that will
4 address the public and agency comments on the draft.
5 The board will then issue its final decision on the
6 proposed acquisition after considering the entire
7 record including the draft EIS, the final EIS, and
8 public and agency comments.

9 As shown on the previous slide, we are
10 currently in the scoping process for the
11 Environmental Impact Statement, or EIS. Scoping is
12 an open process that is intended to involve
13 interested agencies, other stakeholders and the
14 public in helping the lead agency to determine their
15 range of issues to be examined and assessed in the
16 EIS.

17 As part of this process, OEA is requesting
18 your comments on the scope of the EIS, including the
19 issues to be analyzed. OEA is also conducting
20 agency consultation during this time and requesting
21 comments from interested agencies about impacts from
22 the proposed acquisition on resources under their
23 jurisdiction.

24 Later in this presentation I will go over

1 the ways in which you can submit your written
2 scoping comments. Written comments must be sent by
3 the end of the scoping period on December 17, 2021.
4 Following the presentation there will be an
5 opportunity for you to deliver oral comments.
6 Whether delivered orally at a public scoping meeting
7 or submitted in writing, all scoping comments will
8 be considered equally, and all comments will be made
9 available to the public on the board's website at
10 www.STB.gov.

11 After the end of scoping, OEA will prepare
12 a draft EIS for the proposed acquisition. A draft
13 EIS will identify and analyze alternatives including
14 the no action alternative. A draft EIS will address
15 issues and concerns identified during scoping, and
16 it will focus on several types of potential
17 environmental impacts.

18 It will address impacts from increases in
19 rail traffic on rail lines where those increases
20 would exceed the board's thresholds for
21 environmental review. These could include air
22 quality impacts, noise impacts, and impacts on
23 traffic safety and delay at road crossings.

24 The draft EIS will also assess potential

1 impacts at rail yards where the board's thresholds
2 for environmental review would be met. And finally,
3 the draft EIS will assess potential impacts from
4 planned capital improvements within the rail
5 right-of-way including adding new passing sidings,
6 extending existing sidings, adding double track, and
7 adding facility working track.

8 OEA at this time anticipates issuing the
9 draft EIS in the spring of 2022, and the draft EIS
10 will then be made available for public and agency
11 review and comment for 45 days.

12 The draft EIS will assess potential
13 environmental impacts in locations where the board's
14 thresholds for environmental review would be met.
15 Those thresholds are contained in the board's
16 environmental regulations at 49 CFR 1107(e).

17 For rail lines, the threshold for
18 environmental review is an increase in rail traffic
19 of at least 100 percent measured in gross ton miles
20 annually or an increase of at least eight trains per
21 day.

22 For rail lines in areas that are in
23 non-attainment under the Clean Air Act there is an
24 additional threshold for the analysis of air quality

1 impacts, which is an increase in rail traffic of at
2 least 50 percent measured in gross ton miles
3 annually, or an increase of at least three trains
4 per day.

5 For rail yards, the threshold for
6 environmental review is an increase in rail yard
7 activity of at least 100 percent measured in car
8 load activity. And for rail cars in non-attainment
9 areas, the threshold for air quality analysis is an
10 increase in rail yard activity of at least 20
11 percent, also measured by car load activity.

12 For affected roadways the threshold for
13 environmental review is an increase in truck traffic
14 of more than 10 percent of the average daily traffic
15 or 50 vehicles per day.

16 After issuing the draft EIS and receiving
17 public and agency comments on the draft EIS during
18 the public comment period, OEA will prepare and
19 issue a final EIS that will address those comments.
20 The final EIS will also set forth OEA's final
21 recommendations to the board regarding the
22 environmental impacts of the proposed acquisition
23 including OEA's final recommended mitigation
24 measures.

1 This slide shows the anticipated schedule
2 for the EIS. As I mentioned earlier, OEA issued the
3 Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS on November 12,
4 2021. The public comment period for scoping will
5 last until December 17, 2001 (sic), and OEA is
6 holding six public meetings during scoping. At this
7 time OEA anticipates issuing a final scope of study
8 for the EIS in winter of 2022 and the draft EIS in
9 the spring of 2022.

10 We will hold a public comment period and
11 additional public meetings following the issuance of
12 the draft EIS in the spring. We anticipate issuing
13 the final EIS in the fall of 2022, and the Board
14 will make its final decision on the proposed
15 acquisition after the issuance of the final EIS.

16 I will now discuss some of the details of
17 the proposed acquisition. The map on this slide
18 shows the current CP and KCS rail networks. On this
19 map, the current CP network is shown in red. In the
20 US, CP connects to Buffalo and Albany, New York, and
21 Searsport, Maine. It also runs south into the
22 Midwest of the United States and connects with KCS
23 in Kansas City, Missouri.

24 The KCS network is shown here in orange.

1 It extends from Kansas City, Missouri, to the gulf
2 coast and into Mexico, operating across ten states
3 in the Midwest and Southeast. The two companies'
4 networks connect in Kansas City, Missouri.

5 The map on this slide shows the projected
6 increase in freight train traffic along the new
7 combined network with darker lines representing
8 larger increases in train traffic. The darkest
9 color represents the rail lines where the increase
10 would exceed the board's threshold for environmental
11 review of eight trains per day.

12 Rail lines that would exceed the board's
13 threshold clued the CP line extending westward from
14 Chicago, Illinois, to Sabula, Iowa; the CB line
15 extending southward from Sabula to Kansas City;
16 Missouri, and the KCS line extending southward from
17 Kansas City toward the Mexican border at Laredo,
18 Texas.

19 The largest increase in rail traffic would
20 occur on the CP rail line between Sabula, Iowa, and
21 Kansas City, Missouri. On that rail line the
22 projected increase in traffic could be approximately
23 14.4 additional trains per day on average.

24 The draft EIS will assess the potential

1 environmental impacts from this increased rail
2 traffic on those rail lines where thresholds for
3 environmental review would be met.

4 For more information about the potential
5 train traffic increases, please visit the
6 board-sponsored project website at
7 www.CP-KCSmergerEIS.com. There you can view an
8 interactive map showing the projected traffic
9 changes for every individual rail line segment in
10 the combined system.

11 The map on this slide shows the locations
12 of planned capital improvement projects along the
13 rail right-of-way. The applicants have identified
14 26 locations where capital improvements would be
15 made. Those projects would include adding 11 new
16 passing sidings, extending 13 existing passing
17 sidings, adding approximately four miles of double
18 track, and adding approximately five miles of
19 facility working track, all within the rail
20 right-of-way.

21 For more information regarding the planned
22 capital improvements, please visit the
23 board-sponsored project website; again, it's
24 www.CP-KCSmergerEIS.com, where you can view an

1 interactive map showing the locations of each
2 capital improvement project.

3 This slide lists the types of impacts that
4 OEA will assess in the draft EIS. The draft EIS
5 will analyze impacts related to freight rail
6 capacity and safety, passenger rail capacity and
7 safety, grade crossing safety and traffic delay,
8 traffic and roadway systems, air quality, noise,
9 biological resources, water resources, hazardous
10 waste sites, cultural resources, environmental
11 justice, and cumulative impacts.

12 At this time I would like to discuss how
13 you can submit your comments. As I mentioned
14 earlier, there will be an opportunity following this
15 presentation for interested individuals to deliver
16 comments orally.

17 If you prefer to submit written comments,
18 there are several ways in which you can do so. You
19 can submit written comments electronically through
20 the board-sponsored project website. Again, that's
21 www.CP-KCSmergerEIS.com, or through the board's
22 website at www.STB.gov.

23 We do encourage you to submit written
24 comments electronically through one of those

1 websites. However, if you would like to submit
2 written comments by mail, you can send them to the
3 address shown on this slide.

4 Please address mail comment to me, Joshua
5 Wayland, Surface Transportation Board, care of VHB,
6 940 Main Campus Drive, Suite 500, Raleigh, North
7 Carolina, Zip Code 27606, Attention: Environmental
8 filing Docket Number FD 36500. Please do be sure to
9 refer to Docket Number FD 36500 in any written
10 comments that you submit.

11 Please also note that any comments you
12 submit will be made public on the board's website,
13 and also note that the scoping comments for this
14 project must be sent no later than December 17th,
15 2021.

16 The board-sponsored project website at
17 www.CP-KCSmergerEIS.com includes project information
18 including project-related documents and an
19 interactive map. This slide shows the public
20 involvement page on the project website. From this
21 page you can submit your written scoping comments
22 directly into the comment box that's shown at the
23 right.

24 If you would like to upload an attachment

1 with your comments such as a letter, you can do so
2 through the board's website at www.STB.gov. This
3 slide shows the board's environmental comment form.
4 On this form there is an option to upload files such
5 as Microsoft Word documents or PDF files as part of
6 your scoping comments.

7 This slide shows how you can stay informed
8 and engaged throughout the remainder of the EIS
9 process. For updates about the environmental review
10 process, you can visit the board-sponsored project
11 website. One more time that's
12 www.CP-KCSmergerEIS.com.

13 To view board decisions, filings, or
14 environmental comments related to the proposed
15 acquisition, please visit the board's website at
16 www.STB.gov. To receive updates by email, sign up
17 for the project email list through the project
18 website.

19 There are also resources available in the
20 online meeting room that you used to enter this
21 online meeting. That meeting room will stay open
22 for the remainder of the scoping process so you can
23 come back to review the materials as often as you
24 like.

1 If you have questions about the
2 environmental review process, you can also email the
3 project email address at
4 contact@CP-KCSmergerEIS.com, or you can call the
5 information line at 888-319-2337. That's toll free,
6 888-319-2337.

7 This brings us to the end of the
8 presentation portion of today's public meeting. I
9 will now turn the meeting back over to the
10 facilitators to begin the public comment portion of
11 the meeting.

12 Thank you for your interest in the
13 environmental review process for this proposed
14 acquisition. We look forward to hearing your
15 comments.

16 (End of slide presentation.)

17 MR. BELNIAK: Thank you all for watching
18 the video. Please give me a moment to shift what I
19 share on screen.

20 Okay. As mentioned a moment ago, we are
21 now moving into the comment session. As stated,
22 your input is very important. That's the very basis
23 of these meetings.

24 As a reminder, I'm going to walk through

1 some administrative items on how the comment section
2 will work. This is also good for people who may
3 have joined late.

4 First, if you are interested in hearing the
5 audio of this meeting in Spanish, español, please
6 click the interpretation button in the bottom row of
7 the Zoom controls. If you would like to access
8 closed captions of the meeting, you may also toggle
9 the live transcript button to see closed captions
10 either in the bottom or the side of the screen.

11 As we enter this comment section, a few
12 things to keep in mind. One, this is a public
13 meeting, so we hope you all express the greatest of
14 decorum in terms of civility and politeness. And
15 this meeting is being recorded for archival
16 purposes.

17 We are going to start with people who have
18 registered in advance, and we do have a handful of
19 people in the audience who I can see who have done
20 that. There may also be some people who have
21 registered who are joined by telephone, so what I'm
22 going to do is call out some names in a moment, and
23 please if you have not -- give me one moment here.
24 Please, if you could refrain from raising your hand

1 at the moment, I'm going to call out some names and
2 just look for those people first, and then after
3 that I invite anyone who wishes to speak to raise
4 their hand.

5 As mentioned earlier, you'll be given three
6 minutes in which to provide your comments. We'll
7 have a timer on the screen to help keep you on pace.
8 This is especially important if you've prepared any
9 written remarks.

10 Also, as I mentioned, we are interpreting
11 this session live into Spanish, so I ask if you
12 could please speak just a bit more slowly than
13 normal to give our interpreters a chance to keep
14 pace with you.

15 So with that I'm going to bring the timer
16 on screen. I'm going to keep this screen here too
17 through the balance of the meeting so it will give
18 you a chance to copy this information down on how to
19 follow along the project and stay engaged. I'll
20 also be copying and pasting this information into
21 the chat as well to give you a chance to copy and
22 paste it from Zoom to something else, either a
23 Notepad or Word document or something similar for
24 later use.

1 So, with that, before we move to calling
2 out some folks to speak, just scanning my list. It
3 looks like some of the names I had tagged earlier
4 are no longer in the meeting. So what I would like
5 to do is -- let's see -- so we do have a handful of
6 people. Here we go. We have a handful of people
7 who may be on telephone. So if Jesse McKnight is in
8 the audience, please raise your hand.

9 If Tim Dolan is in the audience please
10 raise your hand.

11 If Jim Hull is in the audience please raise
12 your hand.

13 Sam Krieger. Okay. I did see him go up.
14 Thank you for that. One moment.

15 Mike Best. If Mike Best is here please
16 raise your hand.

17 Jake A, please raise your hand.

18 Christopher Peterson, Tom Riggs, Linda
19 O'Neil, and Mark Sorensen.

20 Next I would invite anyone, any elected
21 official who's in the audience to raise their hands.
22 If they wish to speak. Excuse me. I think we've
23 identified -- so the first speaker who I already
24 identified, I didn't call her name out, but Sara

1 Warnecki. If I have that correct. Sara, I'm going
2 to send a command to you to unmute your microphone,
3 and when you do you'll have three minutes to speak
4 as well.

5 MS. WARNECKI: I'm sorry. I don't have a
6 comment at this time. Sorry. Thank you.

7 MR. BELNIAK: Sure. Okay. Give me one
8 moment to take care of that.

9 All right. The next person I see is Mark
10 Sorenson. So, Mark I'm going to send a command to
11 your line as well to unmute your mic, and when you
12 do, you have three minutes.

13 MR. SORENSON: This is a comment that we'd
14 would like to have the -- considered as the line
15 passes through a residential area in Davenport,
16 Iowa, along the Mississippi River and in very close
17 proximity. The line has obviously been there for
18 over a hundred years, but the rail traffic on that
19 line has not exceeded more than four or five trains
20 per day for the last 30 or 40 years. And we have
21 lived across the street from that rail line for the
22 past 21 years.

23 We would like the board to consider the
24 environmental impact, particularly of a grade

1 crossing that is located near this residential area
2 at River Drive and Mound Street and a second grade
3 crossing that is located at River Drive and Bridge
4 Avenue and the possible requirement to create a
5 quiet zone. Thank you.

6 MR. BELNIAK: Thank you very much for that.
7 Give me one moment while I adjust the settings on my
8 computer.

9 All right. Thank you for bearing with me
10 for a moment.

11 The next hand I see raised is a phone
12 number ending in 656. So, phone number ending in
13 656, if you would like to take yourself off of mute
14 and we'll give you three minutes to share your
15 comments with the group. Welcome.

16 MR. MCKNIGHT: Hello.

17 MR. BELNIAK: Yes.

18 MR. MCKNIGHT: How are you doing?

19 MR. BELNIAK: Very well, thank you.

20 MR. MCKNIGHT: My name is Jesse, and I
21 would like to comment on their safety record. The
22 safety record is awful, and it never (inaudible) --
23 unsecured people, including their own employees.
24 Dylan Paradis, Andrew Dockrell, Daniel Waldenberger.

1 Please stop this unsafe merger. That will be all.

2 MR. BELNIAK: Okay. Thank you for your
3 comments. Bear with me for one moment.

4 Just a reminder for everyone. If you would
5 like to share a comment in the meeting you can use
6 the "Raise Hand" feature down below in the bottom
7 tray of Zoom commands. For the handful of people we
8 have here on the telephone, *9 will do the same
9 thing, raise your hand. If you would like to use
10 the Q and A to register to speak, which at this
11 point because we have a manageable number of
12 attendees, you can just simply raise your hand.
13 Once again, speak slowly for the interpreters we
14 have on the line. And momentarily I will share some
15 of the information that's on the screen into the
16 chat for your later use. So with that, thank you.

17 The next speaker we have with a hand raised
18 is a telephone number ending in 185. So 185, I'm
19 going to send a command to you to unmute your line,
20 and when do you the floor is yours.

21 Hello.

22 MR. PETERSON: Hello. Good afternoon, sir.
23 My name is Christopher Peterson, and I would like
24 to say I oppose the merger because boiler trains

1 aren't safe, especially when they have to go through
2 populated areas. Thank you for letting me share.

3 MR. BELNIAK: All right. Thank you for
4 that.

5 Give me one moment while I finish adjusting
6 some settings here.

7 Okay. The next hand raised I see in the
8 audience is Root River SWCD. So Root River, I'm
9 going to send a command for you to open up your
10 microphone, and when you do, the floor is yours for
11 three minutes of comments.

12 MR. WALTER: Good afternoon. I'm Dave
13 Walter from Root River Soil and Water Conservation
14 District. I'm located in Houston County, Minnesota.
15 And I guess the comment that I have is that you have
16 a siding proposed from Highway 16 heading south
17 toward Brownsville. I would like to recommend that
18 you guys, one, I believe there is a siding in a
19 La Crosse, Minnesota, which is only five miles north
20 of that site. I don't know if that's available for
21 you guys to use or not. Or move the siding south,
22 say, just a few miles because of that siding will
23 be -- there is three access points on public land
24 and one access point by the driveway. I think it

1 would be safer if that siding was moved either to
2 La Crosse or south of the resident's place. Plus,
3 there is two small wetlands in that area that could
4 be avoided, too. Thank you.

5 MR. BELNIAK: Thanks very much for those
6 comments.

7 Okay. Once again, you can use the "Raise
8 Hand" feature to signify that you would like to
9 speak. That's also * 9 on your telephone if you
10 would like to speak.

11 I should also remind everyone that this is
12 a series of meetings. This is the second of six,
13 which means there are four more remaining. Into the
14 chat in a moment I will paste the dates and times of
15 all the meetings, and all of the times for the
16 meetings are in Central Standard Time. If you
17 choose to attend another meeting, please feel free
18 to do so.

19 As a note, the content of the meetings is
20 largely the same. We are going to do the same
21 opening remarks, the same shared video, and then of
22 course the same -- the balance of the meeting to
23 open up for public comment. The only thing
24 different you would hear would be the subtle nuances

1 in the opening remarks, but then also the comments
2 offered up by people. So, there is no net new
3 information if you choose to attend a separate
4 meeting. We're just providing multiple
5 opportunities to make it convenient for the public
6 to provide their comments.

7 So, once again you can use the "Raise Hand"
8 feature or * 9. I don't see any hands raised at the
9 moment. So I'll give anyone else a few moments to
10 do so if you'd would like.

11 While we wait I'm going to paste into the
12 chat, for anyone who is interested, a URL, a website
13 that may be of interest.

14 I'm just scanning once more our attendee
15 list. It doesn't look like anyone net new has
16 joined, but out of an abundance of caution, "Raise
17 Hand" in the bottom tray of Zoom controls and also *
18 9 on your telephone if you would like to share a
19 comment with the group.

20 And just a point of order for everyone, and
21 I'll be sure to share this a little more, too. We
22 are with you today from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
23 Central, and we are about 2:50 p.m., as I stated.
24 So we're still here for 70 or so minutes. We're

1 going to keep the meeting open for the posted
2 duration. So if you would like to share something,
3 you may. There will be no net new information
4 presented from us, rather just comments from the
5 public. And now because we don't have -- we don't
6 have a queue of people who wish to speak, what I
7 will do is I will invite anyone else who had
8 previously spoken for up to three minutes to give
9 you a fresh three minutes if you would like to speak
10 again. So, if that pertains to you, please feel
11 free to raise your hand and I will call on you to
12 unmute your microphone.

13 Okay. I do see a hand raised, and that is
14 from Dave Walter again at Root River. Oops. Dave's
15 hand went away.

16 Dave's hand is back. All right.

17 Dave, you should now have the command to
18 unmute your mic to share a comment.

19 MR. WALTER: Yes. Thanks. I think I just
20 want to be just a little bit more clearer in my
21 comment. I think the biggest thing is probably
22 safety for the public, to use the public land in
23 that area, and for the private driveway. I don't
24 know how long these trains stay at those sidings

1 but, you know, emergency vehicles going in and out,
2 especially of the private, and then you know, if
3 people are using the public land and want to get
4 out, you know, into their vehicle, if they have to
5 stay there long periods of time. You know, maybe
6 it's 40 below. Maybe it's 20 below and they need to
7 get back. There could be health issues.

8 I think safety is a big, big thing. And
9 also, like I said, there are a couple of wetlands
10 there, and they are small in size, but wetlands are
11 important for the State of Minnesota. But if you do
12 go south of that residence house, either side of
13 that driveway are wetlands. If you go south of
14 that, of the further south wetland, I don't believe
15 there are any wetlands mapped in that area.

16 So I just want to clarify my comments.
17 Thank you, Vicki, Josh, and Alan.

18 MR. BELNIAK: Thanks so much. We certainly
19 appreciate that.

20 Okay. All right. Scanning the list once
21 more, I don't see any net new hands raised. We
22 would love to hear from you. We would love to hear
23 your comments, so please use the "Raise Hand"
24 feature or * 9 on your telephone. It looks like

1 we've only got one extra telephone caller who hasn't
2 spoken yet, but we want to make sure everyone has
3 the equal opportunity to share comments on the
4 proposed project.

5 Just checking in with everyone. We are at
6 3:00 o'clock Central Time. We are halfway through
7 our allotted time with you today. We're still here
8 for another hour to get public comments, so if you
9 wish, please use your "Raise Hand" feature or * 9 on
10 your telephone. We would love to collect your
11 comments, your feedback. You can also stay engaged
12 by the opportunities on the screen there. Those are
13 also pasted into the chat for your use and for your
14 reference. We encourage you to follow up on those.
15 For anyone on the telephone who can't see that, you
16 can visit the board website at [www.STB](http://www.STB.gov), that's
17 Surface Transportation Board, .gov for government.
18 So www.STB.gov. You can also visit the project
19 website, which has the most materials there, and
20 that's www.CP-KCSmergerEIS.com. I'll say that once
21 more. www.CP-KCSmergerEIS.com. And if you would
22 like to contact us and ask a question by telephone,
23 you can call the EIS information line, and that's
24 888-319-2337. Once again, that's toll free,

1 888-319-2337.

2 Okay. We do have a comment offered up.
3 One person in our audience does not, unfortunately,
4 have a microphone with their computer, so they asked
5 if we could read a statement -- a comment, excuse
6 me -- into the record, and I'll do that. And that
7 is from Abbey Skrivseth, the city administrator from
8 Bellview, Iowa. And Abbey offers up the following:
9 "Bellview is a unique situation as the railroad runs
10 through the heart of our town, down Second Street,
11 and splits the town up. On both sides of the track
12 is residential housing and businesses. The railroad
13 does not own the land, but rather has many easements
14 with property owners to use the public road.

15 "The City's concern is for the increase of
16 trains and the length of trains. Specifically, our
17 emergency crews can get stuck when trains go
18 through. This includes police, fire, and EMS. Our
19 emergency departments also cover territories of much
20 our city limits. When trains do go through, there
21 is a bottleneck for vehicles. Vehicles rush to
22 finds a crossing, and lines quickly form at
23 crossings.

24 "Bellview is also located along the

1 Mississippi River, and the only underpass bridge for
2 vehicles to use is often under water when the river
3 is high.

4 "Therefore, Bellview is requesting: One,
5 that CP open back up two of the crossings they
6 previously forced us to close, that is, Spring
7 Street and Spruce Street. This will help traffic
8 flow better and greatly help emergency crews when
9 responding to emergency situations along with
10 helping the fire department access fire hydrants.
11 And two. Never increase the 20-miles-per-hour speed
12 limit. We are worried that CP-KCS will want to get
13 trains through quicker. The lower speed is critical
14 for safety reasons. And three. Continue to enforce
15 and never remove our whistle ban/quiet zone. Thank
16 you."

17 We certainly appreciate you sharing that
18 comment with us, Abbey, and we read it into the
19 record.

20 Once again, scanning our attendee list, I'm
21 not seeing any hand raised -- hands raised, excuse
22 me -- at the moment. Please do so by pressing the
23 "Raise Hand" button or * 9 on your telephone to
24 share a comment into the record.

1 We're quarter after the hour. Just one
2 more reminder. We would love to hear comments from
3 you, so please use the "Raise Hand" function or * 9
4 on your telephone. There is also other ways to stay
5 engaged, as you see on the screen. The project
6 website, the board website, or the online meeting
7 room that you came from to join this meeting today.
8 And for those of you on the telephone who might not
9 have the benefit of the screen, the EIS information
10 line, and that's 888-319-2337. Again, 888-319-2337.

11 Once again, remind everyone that we are
12 here to accept your comments, and that goes for
13 anyone who has already previously shared a comment
14 with us. There is no backup or queue of people
15 right now, so we would graciously give you another
16 three minutes. You can use the "Raise Hand" button
17 down below, * 9 on your telephone, and we'd love to
18 hear what you have to say. Thank you.

19 Just a reminder. We're still here with you
20 for just about 30 minutes or so for this second of
21 six meetings. As a reminder, the remaining four
22 meetings will be run just like the one yesterday and
23 the one, this one right here today. Opening
24 remarks, a presentation video, and then open

1 commentary from members of the public like we're
2 doing right now. So if you would like to see the
3 video again, it will be available on the project
4 website, and we invite you to attend another meeting
5 or submit your comments through the EIS information
6 line, 888-319-2337. Excuse me. That's for
7 questions. You can also add comments to any of the
8 various websites, or here by using the "Raise Hand"
9 button on the bottom of the tray for Zoom controls,
10 or * 9 on your telephone. Thanks.

11 As a reminder for some folks who may have
12 joined our virtual meeting room just before this
13 online Zoom meeting started, you may not have had an
14 opportunity to spend any time in there, but we
15 certainly invite you to. In fact, when this meeting
16 ends on your Zoom, in your browser tab it should
17 default you back to the meeting room, and we invite
18 you to peruse the room, look at some of the contents
19 there. You'll see timelines, other images and there
20 is a wealth of information to help you get you more
21 educated on the proposed project and the proposed
22 merger. That's the third link you see on the screen
23 here. Visit the online meeting room. But once
24 again, when this ends you will taken there in your

1 browser automatically. And I would be remiss to
2 come off mute and not offer once more the
3 opportunity for anyone to offer comment. We invite
4 to you raise your hand. We do really want to hear
5 from you. So please do that if you have anything
6 you would like to share related to the project.
7 Thank you.

8 Just under 20 minutes left until we hit the
9 top of the hour. I'll call about once again as we
10 gets closer in case you're formulating your
11 comments. I'll also drop some more information into
12 the chat in case anyone has missed it. Thanks.

13 Coming up on quarter till. So, you've got
14 about 14 minutes or so to pull together your final
15 thoughts, at least in this session here. Once
16 again, this is the second of six meetings. You'll
17 have four other opportunities to join us live for
18 exactly what we've done today. And you've also got
19 multiple opportunities to get educated, stay
20 informed, and contact us, and you can see those ways
21 on the screen right here, and I'll take the
22 opportunity right now to share those in the chat
23 once more. It's going to be the same as what you
24 see in the chat earlier, so if you've seen it, it's

1 nothing new. This is in the event that someone
2 joined late or perhaps joined, left, and came back
3 and need to see that information once more. So
4 there you have it.

5 Again, I'd love to hear your comments.
6 Please use the "Raise Hand" feature or * 9, and I'll
7 call out once more at about five minutes to go in
8 case there is more than one person who is willing to
9 share a comment to give enough time for two or so
10 comments, and at the top of the hour we will close
11 out and end the meeting. So, last couple of chances
12 to offer up comments, please. Thank you.

13 Okay. One last call for comments in this
14 meeting tonight. Once again, there are four other
15 meetings. I just pasted those into the chat. Same
16 ones you've seen before, if you've been us for the
17 duration, and for that we thank you. But for anyone
18 who may have missed it, feel free to copy those down
19 and you can join us. You can join us, by the way,
20 just by going to that virtual meeting room any time
21 later tonight or tomorrow morning. The link will be
22 updated to join the room. So if you revisit at some
23 point after tonight, the link will already be
24 updated from the next meeting. So we invite you to

1 check that out. We are posting of a recording of
2 yesterday's meeting into the virtual meeting room.
3 We are recording this meeting as well. We are
4 recording them all. So it will certainly have an
5 archive to watch and listen in case there is
6 anything you missed.

7 So, please, last call for comments, and
8 we'll come back in just a few moments at the top of
9 the hour to close this out. Thanks.

10 We have reached the top of the hour, which
11 also means we have reached the end of the time that
12 we'll all spend together today. So once again we
13 thank you all for sticking around, for sharing your
14 comments, for watching the presentation.

15 As stated previously, this is the second of
16 six meetings. The other four are listed in the chat
17 for you to attend if you would like. We've also
18 provided some how-to-stay-engaged information. The
19 information provided in the chat is the same exact
20 information that's on the screen, so whichever
21 method works best for you.

22 I would like to thank all of our panelists
23 for joining. I would like to thank you, the public,
24 for joining again and sharing your comments. And

1 with that, that concludes this afternoon's and
2 evening's meeting, and we wish you all a good rest
3 of the day. Thank you.

4 (Meeting concluded at 4:00 p.m. CST.)

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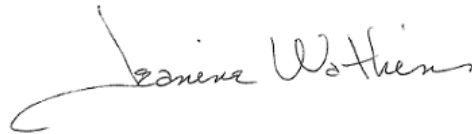
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CERTIFICATE

I, Jeanine Watkins, C.S.R., do hereby certify that I reported in shorthand the proceedings had at the meeting of the aforementioned cause on December 1, 2021, and that this transcript is a true and accurate transcription of my shorthand notes so taken, to the best of my ability, and contains all of the proceedings given at said meeting.



Jeanine Watkins, C.S.R.
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