

November 20, 2007

Ms. Victoria J. Rutson  
Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Subject: Canadian National Railway Rail Project Threatens Barrington IL  
Residents Safety and Quality of Life

Dear Ms. Rutson:

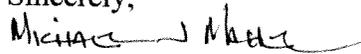
I am a resident of Barrington, Illinois for 50 years residing at 687 Bent Ridge Lane. Our Flint Creek subdivision on Lake Zurich Road is adjacent to the railroad tracks that run through Barrington. I recently heard that Canadian National Railway Company has proposed a project that would bring at least 15 more trains per day down those tracks. Canadian National Railway local rep Jim Kvedaras is on record stating the trains will be long; (15) more trains a day each 6,000 feet long!

This announcement alarmed me greatly; I became even more concerned when I heard that this estimate did not account for large increases expected in train traffic throughout the Chicago area over the next 20 years. The drastic increase in noise, traffic congestion, and safety problems at rail crossings will have a devastating affect on my family and Barrington residents' quality of life and the quality of the environment in my community.

My family typically crosses the tracks across Lake Zurich road twelve times a day, every day. Fire and emergency vehicles can only come into our neighborhood by first crossing the tracks across Lake Zurich Road; how can this not present a safety issue?

I have been informed that you are responsible for reviewing Canadian National Railway Company's proposal. Clearly the detrimental impact detailed above warrants serious consideration before you allow Canadian National to move forward. You hold the safety and well-being of not only my family, but that of an entire region in your hands. I trust that you and the rest of the Board will thoroughly review Canadian National's proposal for any and all effects on the environment and affected communities. Please do not approve this proposal until you are certain we will not be subject to suffer daily exposure to a dramatic increase in noise, untenable traffic congestion, increased safety risks at crossings and jeopardized air quality from certain increases in diesel particulate exhaust. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Michael J Maher

E-mail: [maherengm@ameritech.net](mailto:maherengm@ameritech.net)