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

November 21, 2007

Dear Ms. Rutson:

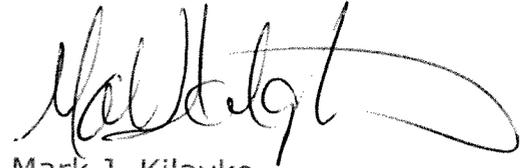
I am a resident of Barrington, Illinois. My home, where my family and I have lived for two years, is fifty yards from the railroad tracks that run through Barrington. I recently heard that Canadian National Railway Company had proposed a project that would bring at least 15 more trains per day down those tracks. 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 exponential increase in rail traffic will result in a dramatic increase in noise and air pollution, increased traffic congestion and, most important, increased safety hazards at rail crossings. The significant growth in rail activity will have a detrimental impact on my quality of life and the quality of the environment in my community.

As I mentioned, the railroad tracks literally run through my backyard without any barrier. I was aware of the hazard and noise (the whistle marker is 20 yards from my property line) when we purchased the home in 2005 and felt the risk to my children (age 3 & 5) was manageable with only 3-5 trains per day (3 run between the hours of 19:00 - 0700). The news of the increase in rail traffic, quite frankly, frightens me. While it is obviously my responsibility to supervise my children, the enormous increase in rail traffic significantly increases the opportunity for accidents. Furthermore, the newly constructed Citizens' park, which is also adjacent to the tracks, is a huge attraction for children in the community. On any given day, I witness dozens of kids crossing the tracks at Lake Zurich Road on their way to the park (not to mention those that cut through my backyard to gain access to the facility). I sincerely believe that the increased rail traffic will create an unacceptable risk to the children of our community. I am not an alarmist - the risk is real as supported by the two recent rail related fatalities in Barrington - one within the past week.

I have been informed that you are responsible for reviewing Canadian National Railway Company's proposal. I think that the effects I discussed above warrant 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 risks mentioned above are mitigated. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark J. Kilayko', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Mark J. Kilayko
667 Bent Ridge Lane
Barrington, IL 60010