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EI 3347

November 16, 2007

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

Dear Ms. Rutson:

I am a resident of Barrington, Illinois. My home, where my family and I have lived for 12 years, is 200 feet from 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 track. This announcement alarmed me greatly. I became even more concerned when I heard that this estimate did not account for large increases expected in traffic throughout the Chicago area over the next 20 years. The drastic increase in noise, safety problems and traffic will affect my quality of life and the quality of the environment in my community.

This does not even take into consideration my property values. While I have always backed up to the tracks, never did we intend to live on a truly active train line. The value of my home will plummet and will leave us in a terrible financial situation as our home is our only asset. The train usually comes by at most twice a day currently and is extremely loud. The addition of 20 more trains is incomprehensible.

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 that noise, air, safety and the lives of our citizens will not suffer.

Sincerely,


Kim Shattuck
417 Elm Road
Barrington, IL 60010