

November 17, 2007

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

Dear Ms. Rutson:

I am a resident of Barrington, Illinois. My home, where my family and I have lived for seven years, is two blocks 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 drastic increase in [noise, traffic, safety problems at rail crossings, etc.] will affect my quality of life and the quality of the environment in my community.

The train will cross at three of the most important roads in Barrington and the Northwest corridor suburbs. These crossing points will put our community and neighboring commuters at a complete standstill. It will also inhibit the emergency response teams from getting to our house and transporting us to the nearest hospital. In addition, the new trains will prevent my three children from walking or riding their bikes to two of the most beautiful parks in Barrington.

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 wellbeing 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 [noise, air, safety, etc.] will not suffer.

Sincerely,

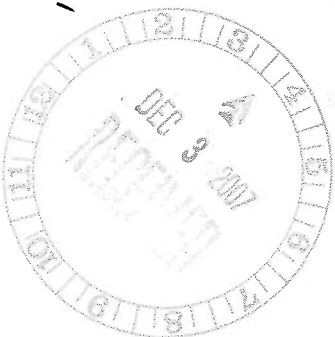
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kaia Kraus", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Kaia Kraus

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Victoria J. Kutson
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