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SEPTEMBER 17, 2008
PHILLIS JOHNSON BALL
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
395 E ST SE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20423

For you

PROPOSED CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAY
REF: STB FINANCE DOCKET NO. 35087

I PURCHASED MY HOME KNOWING THAT THERE WAS A RAIL LINE NEARBY, BUT I KNEW THAT THERE WERE ONLY A FEW TRAINS THAT RAN ON IT PER DAY. YOU ARE PROPOSING TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF TRAINS TO TWENTY-EIGHT PER DAY. THAT'S JUST TOO MUCH AND I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT YOUR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY DOES ADDRESS EXACTLY HOW I AM SUPPOSED TO COPE WITH THE INCREASE NOISE, VIBRATION, POLLUTION AND INCONVENIENCE THE INCREASE IN TRAINS WILL BRING. THERE WILL BE EXCESSIVE NOISE FROM TRAIN HORNS, SMOKE AND FUMES FROM THE DIESEL TRAINS TO DESTROY BREATHING AIR, AND DAMAGE TO OUR BUILDING FROM CONSTANT VIBRATIONS FROM THESE TRAINS.

I AM A HEART PATIENT AND WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GET ANY REST DAY OR NIGHT. IN ADDITION, THIS WILL DEVALUE OUR HOME AND WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SELL UNLESS WE TAKE A HUGE LOSS. THIS WILL LEAVE US TRAPPED WITH NO ESCAPE. THE PEOPLE WHO ARE DOING THE STUDY DO NOT REALIZE WHAT THEY ARE DOING TO MY LIFE, AND TO OUR BEAUTIFUL TOWN.

IN ADDITION, IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE STB WILL ONLY REQUIRE CANADIAN RAILWAY TO PAY A MINIMAL PORTION OF COSTS FOR OVERPASSES AND UNDERPASSES, PASSING THE REST OF THE COST ON TO US, THE TAXPAYERS, WHILE THEY MAKE BILLIONS IN PROFITS. WE RECEIVE NO BENEFIT FROM THE RAILWAY RUNNING THEIR TRAINS THROUGH OUR TOWN, AND THEREFORE SHOULD NOT BE REQUIRED TO PAY TAXES FOR COMPLETION OF THESE OVERPASSES AND UNDERPASSES. IF CANADIAN RAILWAY SHOULD GET AN APPROVAL, THEN THEY SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT AND COMPLETION OF "ALL" SUCH CONSTRUCTION.

IT IS SAD THAT A COMPANY LIKE THIS CAN JUST COME ALONG AND DESTROY THE LIVES OF SO MANY PEOPLE, WHO HAVE WORKED FOR A LIFETIME TO OBTAIN THEIR HOMES. CANADIAN RAILWAYS SOLE PURPOSE IS FOR THE FINANCIAL PROFIT, AND NOT FOR THE PUBLIC INTEREST OF ALL THE TOWNS THAT WILL BE DESTROYED BY THEM INTERJECTING THEIR TRAINS INTO OUR LIVES.

PLEASE CONSIDER THE LIVES OF THE HUNDREDS OF THOUSAND OF PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THE TOWNS AND COUNTRY THAT WILL BE DESTROYED AND DO NOT APPROVE THE ACQUISITION. IT WILL RUIN MOST OF THE SOUTH SUBURBAN AREA WITH POLLUTION, AND THE LIVES OF ALL WHO LIVE HERE. THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING OUR VIEWS ON THE PROPOSED RAILWAY.

SINCERELY,

William E. Gelatka
Coral J. Gelatka

WILLIAM E. AND CORAL J. GELATKA