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542 Oakmoor Road
Bay Village, Ohio 44140
September 4, 1997

090597

Congressman Dennis Kucinich
14400 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

I am writing to protest the proposal of N&S and CSX to route 38 trains per day over the tracks that run through the western suburbs. Naturally, I am most interested in the problems it causes Bay Village since I live about one and a half blocks from the tracks. Before any of this latest information came to light, I had already been noticing what I consider an increase in train traffic along these tracks. We've lived in our current home for 26 years so should have a good idea of what is going by. If there hasn't been an increase, then I'd have to attribute my notice of the trains to their horn blowing techniques. They've been particularly annoying in the past year or so with prolonged blasts or frequent toots. They seem to start far down the track and keep it up till the crossing. Some engineers seem to delight in leaning on the horn in the wee hours of the morning or on peaceful weekend nights. A few toots of warning don't have to be as intrusive as the trains have become lately.

An RTA Park and Ride facility was recently opened on the Westlake side of the tracks on Columbia Road. It has been very handy for me as I live just a couple blocks away. However, if the train traffic gets any heavier, there will be more times that I miss the bus because of trains crossing Columbia road during "rush hour". There have been a couple mornings when the trains have come to a complete standstill. I can't figure out what they would be stopping for between Bay and Rocky River.

It would be interesting to know how many trains went by during the "height" of train travel in the 30's, 40's and 50's. I wonder how much traffic was "acceptable" in those days. I can't imagine it ever approaching the 38 trains a day mark. Even if they would agree to build overpasses, which I can't see happening, it would still be a source of disturbance to those who live close enough to hear the trains, never mind the home owners who are even closer and would have their home values totally depreciated.

Besides these inconveniences, there is a safety matter of not being able to get transported to the nearest hospital if the tracks are blocked. Other than going into Lakewood Hospital, the ambulances would have to backtrack to Clague Road, to go west to St. John's West Shore Hospital. That can be many minutes out of the way when every minute counts. Now there is only one track for both directions, I see the potential for many more accidents as well.

Hopefully these railroad(s) will be forced to reconsider their ill-considered plan of routing so many trains on the same tracks. Good luck in the campaign to prevent this from happening.

Very truly yours,

Gloria Scheid

Gloria Scheid

Ann: Iran Haffee Jureg
P.y.i.

SEP 19 1997

1
PART 201—NOISE EMISSION
STANDARDS FOR TRANSPORTATION
EQUIPMENT; INTERSTATE
RAIL CARRIERS

Subpart A—General Provisions

Sec.

201.1 Definitions.

APPENDIX A TO SUBPART A OF PART 201—SWITCHER
LOCOMOTIVES

Subpart B—Interstate Rail Carrier
Operations Standards

201.10 Applicability.

201.11 Standard for locomotive operation under station-ary
conditions.

See — 201.12 Standard for locomotive operation under moving
Att. conditions.

201.13 Standard for rail car operations.

201.14 Standard for retarders.

201.15 Standard for car coupling operations.

201.16 Standard for locomotive load cell test stands.

Subpart C—Measurement Criteria

201.20 Applicability and purpose.

201.21 Quantities measured.

201.22 Measurement instrumentation.

201.23 Test site, weather conditions and background
noise criteria for measurement at a 30 meter (100
feet) distance of the noise from locomotive and rail
car operations and locomotive load cell test stands.

201.24 Procedures for measurement at a 30 meter (100
feet) distance of the noise from locomotive and rail
car operations and locomotive load cell test stands.

201.25 Measurement location and weather conditions for
measurement on receiving property of the noise of
retarders, car coupling, locomotive load cell test
stands, and stationary locomotives.

201.26 Procedures for the measurement on receiving
property of retarder and car coupling noise.

201.27 Procedures for: (1) Determining applicability of

DALE GRAFTON
869 Wagar Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44116
(216) 331-9951

Congressman Dennis Kucinich
14400 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107

September 18, 1997

Dear Congressman:

I am a 23 year resident of the west shore communities of the Greater Cleveland Area and a 6 year resident and homeowner in the City of Bay Village in the 10th Congressional District, which you represent.

As you know, Norfolk & Southern (N&S) Railroad has proposed an increase in rail traffic through the westshore communities, including Bay Village. Traffic would increase from the current level of 13 to approximately 38 trains per day. This change is apparently contingent upon N&S and CSX's successful acquisition of Conrail assets, which must be approved by the Federal Surface Transportation Board in June of 1998.

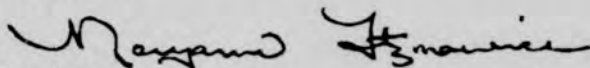
I am strongly opposed to the proposed increase in rail traffic through Bay Village. As you know Bay Village is a small community, approximately six blocks wide, squeezed between the rail line and Lake Erie. The rail line runs the entire length of the city, therefore, every home is within six blocks of the line. And, a disproportionate number of homes have railroad frontage, compared to other Greater Cleveland Area communities. Even worse, there are only three surface streets on which one can enter or exit Bay Village which do not cross the rail line with a railroad crossing, and only one of these provides access to Interstate 90.

An increase in rail traffic on that line will have a devastating effect on me and my neighbors. At the current level of rail traffic, there are already frequent traffic jams during rush hour, and there have been several fatal car-train and pedestrian-train accidents at rail crossings in Bay Village and other westshore communities in recent years. In addition, increased rail traffic will have a serious adverse affect on property values in the city. Bay Village is currently a highly desirable residential community. The pervasive presence of the rail line in Bay Village was a concern when I purchased my home in Bay Village even though the rail line had little traffic and trains were scheduled to avoid rush hour. These problems will become intolerable if rail traffic increases 300% as proposed.

Finally, it is my understanding that the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), AMTRAK and the westshore communities have been exploring the possibility of establishing "light rail" commuter train service to the City of Cleveland on the same rail line. If traffic on the rail line is to be increased, that would be a much more suitable use. The westshore communities are badly in need of improved mass transportation into the city. I commute to the University Circle Area in Cleveland and have done so for over twenty years. I lived in Lakewood for many years, and used the RTA Rapid Transit and bus lines to commute every day. I subsequently moved to Westlake and ultimately Bay Village, and now reluctantly commute by car since no convenient form of mass transportation is available. I would commute via a light rail commuter train service that connected to the Rapid Transit system, if one were established on the rail line in Bay Village.

I urge you to do whatever is necessary to prevent N&S from acquiring and increasing "heavy rail" commercial rail traffic on the rail line through the westshore communities, and to support the development of "light rail" commuter train service instead.

Sincerely,



Maryann Fitzmaurice
364 Lake Forest Drive
Bay Village, OH

1274 Granzer Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107
September 11, 1967

Representative Dennis Kucinich
14400 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107

Dear Representative Kucinich:

My name is John Dillingham. I'm a student at Horace Mann Middle School.

I am writing to you about the train problem. Why don't they just put them Conrail line?

They already have two tracks. Why don't they just use those tracks?

All I'm asking is put up a good fight. I want to get some sleep at night.

Sincerely,

John Dillingham

John Dillingham

091997

Gayatry Jacob-Mosier
617 Elmwood Rd.
Bay Village, OH 44140
Tel. & FAX (216) 808-8561

September 17, 1997

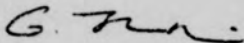
Congressman Dennis Kucinich
14400 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107

To Whom it May Concern:

It has recently come to my attention that Norfolk & Southern Railroad is planning on increasing the rail traffic through my community from 13 to approximately 38 trains per day. As a property owner in Bay Village and the mother of two small children, I would like to take this opportunity to express my opposition to this plan. Currently the level of rail traffic through Bay Village and the surrounding communities is relatively unobtrusive; however, tripling of that traffic will present both logistical problems for the affected communities as well as myriad safety concerns. A great deal of automobile traffic utilizes railroad crossings in Bay Village, Rocky River, and Lakewood. Further obstruction of traffic flow would reach unacceptable levels.

I worry about the safety of my children, the noise disturbance the increased traffic would make and also affects on values of properties. I also am concerned about access to cities across the railroad tracks in the event my family has an emergency. I, my family, and my community urge this body to work with Norfolk & Southern to prevent these problems for the West Shore communities of Cleveland. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Gayatry Jacob-Mosier

1120 W. CLINTON BLVD.
Lake Wood, OH, 44107
Sept. 19, 1997

092697

Dear Mr. Gucinich:

With Norfolk + Southern train company trying to have triple the trains coming through Lakewood + Cleveland it can result in many more accidents. (due to trains) Also it results in more air and noise pollution. Its a strange way how Lakewood is cut in half but it is, this is very troubling, if someone who is on the north side of Lakewood and is delayed and/or stalled the fire company, police station, ambulance hospital etc. cant get to the emergency on time. Please Mr. Gucinich help us try to stop Norfolk + Southern trying to change life in Lakewood. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jack Peters.

SURVEY ON INCREASED TRAIN TRAFFIC

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

- ☐ I agree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Lakewood because it is good for business.
- ☐ I disagree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Lakewood. I believe increased train traffic could mean increased noise pollution, more delays where streets intersect railroad tracks, greater possibility of dangerous collisions, and decreased property values for our community.

Sincerely,

Print Name: _____

Please Mail to: Train Traffic Survey, 14400 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, 44107 or Fax to 213/228-6465.

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

RD BALTIC
AVENUE - SUITE IIII
D, OHIO 44107
226-2369

September 19 1997

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venue
14107.

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th populat

authority to
agency of train
trains are
ity of the

Any infringement on the legitimate
business of the train companies
is a violation of property rights.

Sincerely,
Bernard Baltic

2115 Northwood Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107
Sept. 19, 1997

14400 Detroit Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107

Dear Congressman:

I'm writing to you about the trains. I live in Lakewood and I'm worried about the changes. I understand that Norfolk + Southern have a right to make a profit. I feel that their rights will be overly exercised in this change. They will be putting the health and safety of the people of Lakewood at risk. This is a serious issue to all not just the people who live right next to the tracks. In doing this change they are driving people out of Lakewood when we want them to come in. I understand that the business people just want to make money but, I say why not put a rail road through their city and see how they like it. Thank you for reading my letter. I hope you make the right decision.

Yours Truly,
Elizabeth Moore

Lakewood, OH 44101

Sept. 19, 1997

082597

Dear Mr. Kucinich:

I'm writing to you for the sake of the health and safety of Lakewood, Ohio. The health and safety of Lakewood is being threatened by the Norfolk + Southern Train Company's proposal to drastically increase the number of trains running through our city. Their proposal would mean that Lakewood would be cut in half. There would be many delays in traffic and the city would never be the same. There would be more pollution in both the noise and air. The fire department, police, and paramedics would be slowed down as well. The hospital would only be accessible by half of the city. Plus there would be more accidents than there already are and much more hazardous wastes going through our city. Please stop this change and the results it would bring on.

12717 Arliss Drive
Lakewood, Ohio

To Whom It May Concern:

In response to Norfolk Southern's proposal to increase train traffic, we would like to strongly voice our disapproval. Directly behind my back yard are the railroad tracks, and although we have become somewhat acclimated with the noise, any increase in traffic would be a nuisance. We have 2, 1½ year old boys, who already have a hard time sleeping, and playing in their own back yard. Lastly, this increase of traffic would seriously decrease property value. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael & Susan Jorgo

1033 Wagon Ave
Lakewood, Oh 44107

Sept. 19, 1997

14400 Detroit Ave.
Lakewood, Oh 44107

Dear Congressman:

I live in Lakewood and I'm concerned. Norfolk & Southern have voted to triple the amount of trains that go through Lakewood. I know that a company has the right to make a profit but when a company threatens the health of others it's just not right. If you live north of the tracks there's a chance that the value of your property will go down. I could name 6 more reasons but I'm not. Please help us.

Yours truly
Adam Scott

1078 Lakeland Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107

Sept. 19, 1997

14400 Detroit Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107

Dear Congressman: Our city is going to change big time if Norfolk & Southern triple the number of trains they send through Lakewood. I'm concerned about people's health and safety. Here are some of the problems that will happen: more accidents, worse noise and air pollution, delays, problems if people need emergency services on the north side of the tracks, and lots of other major problems. Norfolk & Southern will make more profit and they're putting us in danger. Please help us. Do it for Lakewood!

Thank you for
your time,

Michale

Bzychowski

1286 W. 110th

Cleveland, OH 44102

September 19, 1997

14400 Detroit Ave

Lakewood, OH 44107

Dear Congressman:

I live in Cleveland. I have heard about the proposed plan to increase the number of trains in May of 1998, and would like to tell you about some things that concern me. If trains increase, people who live on the north side of them (like me) would have fewer firestations that would be able to get to get to them, in time, in the ~~in~~ case of an emergency.

There would be more accidents. Air and noise pollution would increase highly. These and other factors factors for the health and safety of our communities I would like you to take into con-

1484 Westwood Ave
Lakewood, OH 44107
Sept. 19, 1997

Dear Mr. Kucovich:

I am very concerned about the Norfolk & Southern corporation trying to increase the amount of trains that travel through Cleveland and the western suburbs. I would like to inform you that this will increase the amount of noise and air pollution. I would also like to tell you that there would be an increase in delays, accidents and other things that would upset the health and safety of the people who live here. If there was a delay the city would be cut in half by the tracks. Someone in an emergency wouldn't be able to get to the hospital if they lived on the north side near the lake. We have enough trains as it is. We don't need more.

Sincerely,
Miranda Forgas

1286 Granger
Lakewood OH, 44107
Sept 19, 1997

Dear Mr. Kucionich:

My name is David and I live in Lakewood OH on the north side of the tracks, and its very hazardous for people.

For example if theres a train break down, and someones in labor, and we only have one hospital on the other side of the tracks. Or if theres toxic waste fell off the train well all die. My thing that Im trying to ask you may please stop them.

Sincerely
David

17920 Detroit Ave. #306
Lakewood, OH 44107
Sept. 19, 1997

Dear Mr. Kucinich:

I am writing you about the increase of trains in Lakewood and other cities. I know that Norfolk & Southern has a right to increase their profit but I don't think they should when it puts the lives of Lakewood citizens in danger. With the number of trains that will now be coming through there will be many more accidents, which means more people will die. Another thing is that if there is a fire, medical emergency, or a time when the police are needed they won't be able to get to the emergency as quickly if there is a train and it has stopped. Those are just some of the ways people in Lakewood will be effected.

Thanks,
Amber Hardin

Lakewood, OH 44107
Sept. 19, 1997

14400 Detroit Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107

Dear Congressman:

I live in the city of Lakewood and I learned my city is going to change. Norfolk & Southern are going to have three times more trains coming through Lakewood in May 1998. I know that as a business, they have a right to make a profit, unless endangering the citizen's health or safety. With all the trains, they're will be more accidents, delays, worse pollution, (air and noise) property values will go down, and those who live on the north side of the tracks will have a problem if we need emergency services. To me, this seems to be endangering citizens. Please help us with this problem

Sincerely,
Molly Brennan

1344 Cranford Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107
September 19, 1997

14400 Detroit Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107

Dear Congressman:

I would like to present you with some of problems that are going to happen with all the trains coming through Lakewood, Ohio. As you know Norfolk & Southern are going to be sending more trains day and night through Lakewood. With more trains more accidents are likely to happen and more often. People who are going somewhere will be delayed by getting across the tracks because more trains will be coming through. The noise and air pollution will also become worse. Also properties with high value near the tracks will go down because of these trains. So please consider all these for us people and our safety.

Sincerely,
Laura
Nizenko

1245 Overlook Rd.
Lakewood, OH, 44107
Sept 14, 1997

1440 Detroit Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107

Dear Congressman:

I am a concerned citizen of Lakewood. As you know Norfolk & Southern will run their trains through your city and mine. I believe that Norfolk & Southern have a right to make a profit, only if it doesn't cause harm to a city's health and safety. I am I right I believe so. The accidents will rise and more pollution will come. So please answer this question for me, Is a profit worth more than your and my safety.

Sincerely Yours,
John W. Polk

1536 Rosewood Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107
Sept. 19, 1997

Dear Mr. Kucinich:

I'm writing to you about Norfolk & Southern train company. I realize that the government has no say in how the Norfolk & Southern makes a profit unless, it effects the health or safety of us people. Well in this case it does. As you are aware about 18 trains pass through Lakewood daily. Norfolk & Southern want to triple that. If they do there will be more accidents, and it will be harder for emergency services to get to people if there are accidents or train delays. It will also raise the air pollution and be extremely noisy. So I hope for the sake of the communities you fight against this.

Thank you,
Rachel Zubricky

1553 Spring Garden Ave.
Lakewood, Ohio 44107
Sept 19, 1997

092687

14400 Detroit Ave.
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Dear Congressman: "I am a kid who lives in Lakewood and I don't like what is going on. Norfolk & Southern will have more trains running through Lakewood starting in May of 1998. I don't want this to happen because it will be a threat to the city of Lakewood. We will have more accidents, worse pollution, delays, hazardous materials. Property value will be going down, property damage, and if you live on the Northern side of the train tracks then your emergency services will take longer to get to you.

Thank you for
your time.

Amanda Parker

1581 Winton Ave.
Lakewood, Ohio 44107
September 19, 1997

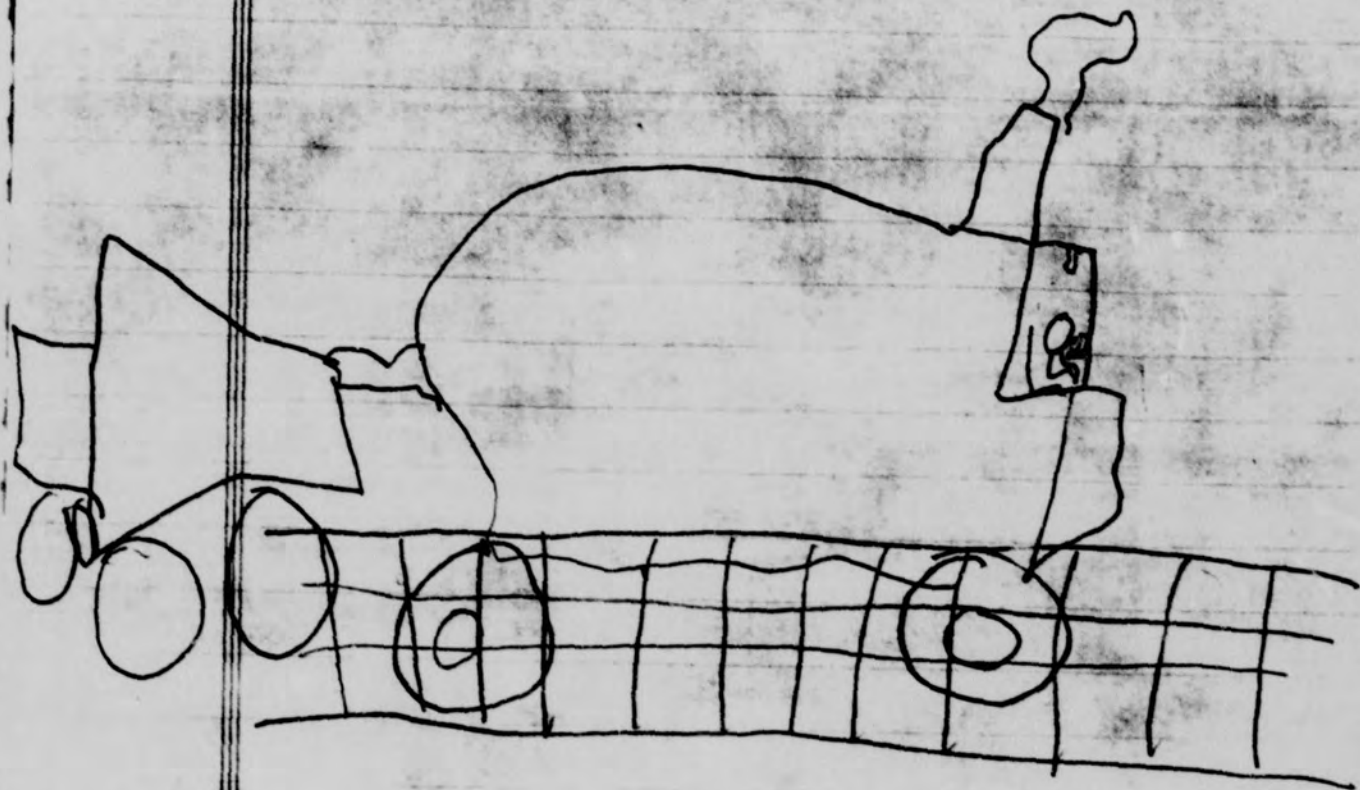
092697

Dear Mr. Kucinich:

I am writing to you to express my concerns about the Norfolk and Southern trains coming through my city. I know that they have a right to make a profit and that the government can't control how much of a profit they make unless it affects health and safety. Well, the trains are affecting the health and safety of the people in Lakewood. Because of these trains Lakewood has much more air and noise pollution. We already have been having car accidents because of these trains and now that the amount of trains coming through have tripled, that might happen to the accidents too. So I ask you to please try to do something about this matter.

Sincerely,
Ryan Rowland
AUG 12

Please don't run a lot of
trains thru my city. It will not
be safe for my family.



Age 7. MaryClare Becker
Gr2. St. Lukes school

dear dennis
I dont like 4 trains
thay are to long
can you please
stop them?

Ryan Unsworth
age 7

1298 French Ave.
Lakewood Ohio 44107

9.16.67

Dear Sir,

This letter is in reference to
the proposed increase railroad use.

Lakewood is a small residential area
What we have now is about all
that this small area can accommodate
To increase the railway usage would
greatly increase the chance for many
accidents

I strongly oppose this proposal

Sincerely,
Bill Waterfield
1567 Northland
Lakewood Ohio

Sept. 22, 1997

Congressman Dennis Kucinich
24400 Detroit Ave.
Lakewood, Ohio # 44107

Dear Congressman:

I live at 28013 Knickerbocker Rd. in Bay Village, Ohio.
My property line on the south abuts against the Norfolk
& Southern Railway. In the past, they have destroyed
trees on my property that they have reimbursed me for.
The trains have killed 2 of my dogs in the past 20 years,
I know they shouldn't have gotten loose. The trains have
cracked my walls & ceilings, pictures rattle on the walls
from them. We have constant dust in our home in the
summer and cannot enjoy our back yard. If they triple
the traffic it will become unbearable. My property value
will really lower. My neighbor's home has been on the market
for six months and all prospect buyers are reluctant to
buy because of proposed increase in N.R. Traffic.
We really need a mass transportation system from Cleveland
to Lorain similar to the Rapid East. If I can be of any
assistance to you, let me know. I was a brakeman and
Conductor on the Railroad 8 years.

Respectfully,
Robert W. Chambers

1334 Granger ave
Lakewood, OH 44107
Sept. 19, 97

14407 Detroit ave
Lakewood, OH 44107

Dear Congressman:

Every day I have football from 5:00 to 7:00. I usually get caught behind a train before practice. Last week I saw a tank on the train. This summer they had semi-trucks driving along the ~~tracks~~ tracks. My friend and I saw worker throwing garbage off the train. Three people died this summer.

P.S.
Please help.

Yours Truly

Chris Tamm

Sept '91

Dear People of Norfolk + Southern Railroads,

My family and I live in Lakewood about four houses from the train tracks. We are extremely opposed to more train traffic for reasons of safety and inconvenience.

Firstly we have two children age 6+7 and there are many children on our street. More train traffic would ↑ the chance of a fatal accident. One I do not want to live with.

Secondly my husband has a medical condition, a brain tumor. More train traffic would be a hindrance to accessing emergency medical treatment if he would need it or anyone in our family would need it.

Thirdly, we all know how important response time is in saving lives when there is a fire. More train traffic would put my family in jeopardy if we had a fire.

Please be considerate of these concerns and don't run more trains thru Lakewood. The other issues of noise, inconvenience, ↓ property value, possible exposure to toxic chemicals if there is an accident, train derailment are all other concerns. Thank you for listening.

Sue Becker

1292 VIRGINIA, Lakewood OH

21. September 97

U.S. Surface Transportation Board
% Federal Railroad Administration

To Whom it May Concern:

I, a Lakewood resident, I strongly oppose
the plan to increase traffic (train) on the
railroad running through western suburbs of
Greater Cleveland.

Not only are the trains that run through
greatly dangerous to the citizens who live
near the railroad tracks but also present
problems to others trying to access the northern
part of emergency services, etc.

The traffic trains are too frequent as they
run today. They are loud and at times
unbearable. Some conductors tend to be only
too happy to wake everyone in the middle
of the night.

Thank you for your consideration.

Henry D. Feigman

Henry D. Feigman

12905 ARLISS DR. LKWD. O 44147

Sept 21, 1997

Federal Railroad Administration
Lakewood City Hall
Lakewood, Ohio

Dear Sir:

I am offended by the management of this strip of rail that runs thru my home town.

First you take up a track to cut expense of liability (so they say). Then they cancel the plans of RTA to use the remaining track. Now plans are to triple runs thru our city (some of which I have timed 7 mins.).

I always thought that trains were for the people. NOT that people should take last place in consideration along with the safety of train crews on such a crowded schedule.

Amber C. Kirkbride
14306 Detroit Ave 228N
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

No. FD33388

090997

Sept. 8, 1997

To Whom it may concern:

Patrick & Susan Hughes
616 Canterbury Road
Bay Village, OH 44140

I am a citizen and homeowner
on Canterbury Rd in Bay Village, Ohio.
I have three small children
and will be having our fourth child
at Christmas time.

I am writing to express my
extreme opposition to the proposed
increase in rail traffic by N+S Rail-
road. I am concerned by the already
noticed increase in the number of
trains. I worry for the safety
and health of my family. I
will do all in my power to end
this traffic increase.

Sincerely,
Susan Hughes

~~NOTED 5550~~

9.22.97

Dear Congressman Kucinich,

The increase rail traffic that N+S Railroad has proposed has concerned me greatly. I've never written my congressman before, but feel there's a real threat to our community, I wanted to be heard.

I'm a working mother of three, active days. I've lived in Lakewood as a youngster myself, and walked these very tracks, although my days will never hear this from me. I'm for business by rail, I'm glad it's still around, but not for compromising a community for N+S's profit. Don't our world go fast enough? Slow this down congressman! The trains go slow, it's not OK to increase them in number.

Sincerely from Bay Village,

Frances McEllynn

24425 Wolf Rd

Bay Village, Oh

44140-2867

Sept 20, 1997

Dear Congressman Akersnick

I am very much against with any increases
on the number of trains traveling the tracks in Cleveland.
I bank at (Charter One) & (Huntington) Banks both of which
116 Elyton 118 Elyton
means I must cross said railroad tracks, also do my grocery
shopping at Stop N Shop - 116 Elyton & Superette on W. 117 St. all of
which I must cross these railroad tracks, as it is no
matter what time of day it seems as if we still have
to wait at the crossing ~~house~~ for a long train
to pass.

Our home is between Detroit & Franklin Ave
and doing any shopping for necessities of life would
be more of a hardship than it is now.

Sincerely yours

(Mrs Wm) Isabelle Pilat
1492 West 116 St

Cleveland, Ohio 44102

634 Walmar Drive
Bay Village, OH 44140

September 22, 1997

Federal Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

RE: FD 33388

Dear Chairperson Morgan and Commissioner Owens:

Yesterday I spent my Sunday afternoon, about 5.5 hours, including the time I spent writing a letter to my Congressman, listening to serious concerns regarding the rails in our community. The more I listened, the more I became frustrated. At the same time, I became less angry towards N&S and more outraged at the Surface Transportation Board.

Your efforts remind me of the incompetent parent who refuses to parent and bemoans that the child is out of hand. Well, I believe the rails are out of hand, doing pretty much what meets with their bottom line, and you folks are responsible. The lack of influence that the Board has had, or chosen not to have is reflected in B.P. America who has already drawn up contracts to transport, whatever it is that they transport on the soon-to-be merged company.

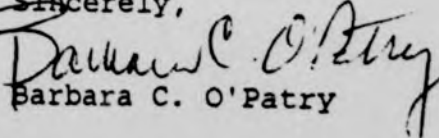
How accountable can the rail industry be when they transport chemicals, sometimes as little as 14 feet from people's homes, and do not have to disclose exactly what it is that they are carrying not to be confused with nuclear waste.

I have enclosed a copy of an editorial, that only after yesterday's marathon meeting, did I begin to totally understand what Mr. Prendergast was writing about. If what he has written, is in fact true, well I guess I just became a whore for N&S, playing up how badly we will be effected. I wonder what the conversation among the N&S executives sounded like over a few drinks? I bet we were the laughing stock.

I am also curious about what Administrator Molitoris was doing there. She must know that regardless of what she brings back, including her recommendations, it is all a big joke. What is not particularly funny is that not only do community people not matter, but; we are also paying your salaries. Not much of a problem with conflict of interest here.

Congressman Kucinich
Enclosure

Sincerely,


Barbara C. O'Patry

Survey Issue

SURVEY ON INCREASED TRAIN TRAFFIC

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

☐ I agree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Lakewood because it is good for business.

☒ I disagree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Lakewood.

I believe increased train traffic could mean increased noise pollution, more delays where streets intersect railroad tracks, greater possibility of dangerous collisions, and decreased property values for our community.

However, what alternatives can R.R. shipping now yes de we never we certainly do not want all this freight to go by truck on our highways we need some creative solutions.

Print Name:

Theodore & June Martin

Please Mail to: Train Traffic Survey, 14400 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, 44107 or Fax to 216/228-6465.

some alternative
is transportation
simply we have two
triple trucks on
rail is the most
fastest route to go,
but be some other
even half of the
in traffic from
related Lakewood
great safety factors
with time of essence
route Lakewood
children crossing
of all kinds & noise
high levels in
at 27 or more crossings
be tolerated

possibility of 8-9 more trains but surely
not 15-20.

Compromise is in order.

Sincerely

Ted & June Martin

Mr. & Mrs. Ted Martin
1480 Belle Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107-4202

SURVEY ON INCREASED TRAIN TRAFFIC

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

☐ I agree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Lakewood because it is good for business.

☐ I disagree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Lakewood. I believe increased train traffic could mean increased noise pollution, more delays where streets intersect railroad tracks, greater possibility of dangerous collisions, and decreased property values for our community.

☒ The railroad should be required to improve road crossings, to increase car + pedestrian safety + to reduce noise in Bridges, overpasses + proper gates so the trains do not have to signal with their horns all

Sincerely,
Print Name:

E WENDY PIPER

Please Mail to: Train Traffic Survey, 14400 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, 44107 or Fax to 216/228-6465.

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

the way through lakewood - if they increase traffic

Sept 21, 1997

Dear Congressman Kuernick,

Thank you for allowing me to express my opinion on the train's proposal to increase its number of trips through the western suburbs of Cleveland. I'm undecided. I'll be directly adversely affected by an increased number of trains, because I rent only 100 yards away from the tracks, and trains are noisy; there's also no crossing gates on Third Ave. between Clifton and Detroit. As I said, I rent; I also have no children. I'm concerned, however, about the economic impact of attempting to block the train company from increasing the number of trains as well as the subsidiary economic benefits gained from increased train traffic (wouldn't there be job creation? Railroad jobs used to be really nice paying jobs; would there be a loss of potential jobs? Sorry,

Yours truly
David Benay
11811 South Lane #3 Ward

V.S. Rep. Dennis Kucinich
14400 Detroit Ave.
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Re: FW 33388 / Rail Traffic Issue

Dear Mr. Kucinich:

As a Lakewood, Ok. resident I request you use every possible means available to derail the plan to increase rail traffic thru the West Shore suburbs.

We must insist the Trans Board come here and see the situation for themselves and listen to the residents who will be severely impacted. The problem is here not in D.C. and they owe us that much.

I also resoundly say NO to overpasses, underpasses and the transportation of hazardous materials thru such densely populated areas.

Lakewood should not have

SURVEY ON INCREASED TRAIN TRAFFIC

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

- ☐ I agree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Bay Village because it is good for business.
- ☒ I disagree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Bay Village.

I believe increased train traffic could mean increased noise pollution, more delays where streets intersect railroad tracks, greater possibility of dangerous collisions, and decreased property values for our community. -and

increased danger for children.

Sincerely,

Print Name:

MAUREEN S. BROOKS
PAUL R. BROOKS

Please Mail to: Train Traffic Survey, 14400 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, 44107 or Fax to 216/228-6465.

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

SURVEY ON INCREASED TRAIN TRAFFIC

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

☐ I agree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Rocky River because it is good for business.

☒ I disagree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Rocky River. I believe increased train traffic could mean increased noise pollution, more delays where streets intersect railroad tracks, greater possibility of dangerous collisions, and decreased property values for our community.

We lived 3 houses from the tracks in Lakewood for 4 years. We moved to get our children away from the noise + danger of the tracks - not all families can afford to do so. More trains = more danger.

Print Name:

SANDRA ARANCIBIA

Please Mail to: Train Traffic Survey, 14400 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, 44107 or Fax to 216/228-6465.

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

9/19

More train traffic will equal more injuries and deaths at railroad crossings in Lakewood. I personally fear for the safety of children in this city; there are many school-age children who walk along the tracks to and from school. Lakewood is densely populated with families who need not be subject to the hazards of increased train traffic.

Jean Burke
17426 North Wood

LAKEWOOD, OH
44107-2210

9/21/97



Dear Pennis,

In response to your request that I attend the meeting today at Grand City Hall I called your Grand office and explained a previous important arrangement prevented my attending. You did suggest I write my objections. Enclosed is a letter from a neighbor as well as my statement.

To whom it may concern: I object to the huge increase in train traffic thru Grand and other suburbs because of the safety factor - particularly for school children.

Also, Pennis, I want you to know that St Lukes Church on Clifton Blvd announced

© 1995 P.Lindt



Mr. Kuccinich:

We would like to protest the proposed increase in the number of trains passing through Lakewood.

If the number is increased to 36 per 24 hour period that means an average of one train every 40 minutes.

Aside from the fact that this means that the city of Lakewood is divided there are potential dangers. An obvious danger is the delay in getting necessary services back and forth.

Traffic hazards ^{grow} as people driving on Detroit and Clepton peer down side streets looking for a way to get across the tracks.

Lakewood is a family community. This implies

To Whom it May Concern:

My family and I have lived in Rocky River for over thirteen years. We chose Rocky River because it is a quiet residential community within ten miles of Cleveland, where both my husband and I work.

We live on Endlessly Ave. which is two streets south of the railroad tracks. While the tracks have always concerned me in regards to the safety of my family, this concern was offset by the fact that I knew

SURVEY ON INCREASED TRAIN TRAFFIC

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

☐ I agree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Rocky River because it is good for business.

☐ I disagree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Rocky River. I believe increased train traffic could mean increased noise pollution, more delays where streets intersect railroad tracks, greater possibility of dangerous collisions, and decreased property values for our community.

your survey doesn't mention Akron assisted commuter trains. Is this a done deal? Sincerely, And where are these commuter trains going to end up - at Del Spitzler's Lorain Casino's?

Print Name:

How many locals will be inconvenienced by commuter

Please Mail to: Train Traffic Survey, 14400 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, 44107 or Fax to 216/228-8465.

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

trains as well as Akron. Is this just going from the down- town slot (Cleveland) Casino's to Del Spitzler's in Lorain? (over)

SURVEY ON INCREASED TRAIN TRAFFIC

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

- ☐ I agree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Rocky River because it is good for business.
- ☒ I disagree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Rocky River. I believe increased train traffic could mean increased noise pollution, more delays where streets intersect railroad tracks, greater possibility of dangerous collisions, and decreased property values for our community.

Sincerely,

Print Name: INGE GRAFTON

Please Mail to: Train Traffic Survey, 14400 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, 44107 or Fax to 216/228-6465.

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

[45 FR 1263, Jan. 4, 1980; 47 FR 14709, Apr. 6, 1982]

§ 201.12 Standard for locomotive operation under moving conditions.

(a) Commencing December 31, 1976, no carrier subject to this regulation may operate any locomotive or combination of locomotives to which this regulation is applicable, and of which manufacture is completed on or before December 31, 1979, which produces A-weighted sound levels in excess of 96 dB when moving at any time or under any condition of grade, load, acceleration, or deceleration, when measured in accordance with the criteria specified in Subpart C of this regulation with fast meter response at 30 meters (100 feet) from the centerline of any section of track having less than a two (2) degree curve (or a radius of curvature greater than 873 meters (2865 feet)).

(b) No carrier subject to this regulation may operate any locomotive or combination of locomotives to which this regulation is applicable, and of which manufacture is completed after December 31, 1979, which produce A-weighted sound levels in excess of 90 dB when moving at any time or under any condition of grade, load, acceleration, or deceleration, when measured in accordance with the criteria specified in Subpart C of this part with fast meter response at 30 meters (100 feet) from the centerline of any section of track having less than a two (2) degree curve (or a radius of curvature greater than 873 meters (2,865 feet)).

(c) Commencing January 15, 1984, no carrier subject to this regulation may operate any switcher locomotive or a combination of switcher locomotives to which this regulation is applicable, and of which manufacture is completed on or before December 31, 1979 which produce A-weighted sound levels in excess of 90 dB when moving at any time or under any condition of grade, load, acceleration or deceleration, and when measured in accordance with the criteria in Subpart C of this part with fast meter response at 30 meters (100 feet) from the centerline of any section of track having less than a two (2) degree curve (or a radius of curvature greater than 873 meters (2,865 feet)). All switcher locomotives that operate in a particular railroad facility are deemed to be in compliance with this standard if the A-weighted

§ 201.13 Standard for rail car operations.

Effective December 31, 1976, no carrier subject to this regulation shall operate any rail car or combination of rail cars which while in motion produce sound levels in excess of (1) 88 dB(A) at rail car speeds up to and including 75 km/hr (45 mph); or (2) 93 dB(A) at rail car speeds greater than 75 km/hr (45 mph); when measured in accordance with the criteria specified in Subpart C of this part with fast meter response at 30 meters (100) feet from the centerline of any section of track which is free of special track work or bridges or trestles and which exhibits less than a two (2) degree curve (or a radius of curvature greater than 873 meters (2,865 feet)).

[45 FR 1263, Jan. 4, 1980; 47 FR 14709, Apr. 6, 1982]

§ 201.14 Standard for retarders.

Effective January 15, 1984, no carrier subject to this regulation shall operate retarders that exceed an adjusted average maximum A-weighted sound level of 83 dB at any receiving property measurement location, when measured with fast meter response in accordance with Subpart C of this part.

[45 FR 1263, Jan. 4, 1980; 47 FR 14709, Apr. 6, 1982]

§ 201.15 Standard for car coupling operations.

Effective January 15, 1984, no carrier subject to this regulation shall conduct car coupling operations that exceed an adjusted average maximum A-weighted sound level of 92 dB at any receiving property measurement location, when measured with fast meter response in accordance with Subpart C of this part, except, such coupling will be found in compliance with this standard and the carrier will be considered in compliance, if the railroad demonstrates that the standard is exceeded at the receiving property measurement locations (where the standard was previously exceeded) when cars representative of those found to exceed the standard are coupled at similar locations at coupling speeds of eight miles per hour or less.

[45 FR 1263, Jan. 4, 1980; 47 FR 14709, Apr. 6, 1982]

INGE GRAFTON

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to voice my personal opinion on the possible increase of train traffic through Lakewood.

I am a new homeowner who purchased a house approximately fifty feet away from the tracks one year ago. Before purchasing the house I inquired about the frequency of train traffic. I was told the trains were not very frequent. That proved to be so until approximately 3-4 months ago. The trains have been running much more lately then before. One night I was unable to sleep because the trains were running ^{every} 15 minutes to 1/2 hour. Some of the train conductors never release the horn from one intersection to another. The noise from the train is pure aggravation. In addition to the horrendous noise the train produces, the train also produces much dust and dirt.

I have a baby on the way in 5 weeks, I cannot even imagine how the baby will be able to sleep at night because of the train. I don't believe Norfolk has any right to disrupt the lives any more then they already have. The property value of my house will suffer if this merger takes place. I believe that myself and all the other citizens of the communities affected by this situation have a right to say we don't want this. All



Cuyahoga County

Testimony of Cuyahoga County Commissioner
Jane L. Campbell

In opposition to the expansion of the route proposed for heavy rail service on the tracks which run through the Western Cuyahoga County Communities of Lakewood, Avon Lake, Bay Village, Rocky River and Westlake (the Westshore Communities)

Jane L. Campbell
Commissioner

Thank you for the opportunity to present my views on this topic, which is of critical importance to the citizens of Cuyahoga County.

My name is Jane L. Campbell. I am a Cuyahoga County Commissioner, as well as a member of the Governing Board of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA).

In my role within NOACA, I also sit as the Chair of the NOACA Advocacy Committee, and as a member of the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC). At both of these committees, members have heard the presentations of the Westshore Communities, which is a confederation of public officials and concerned citizens in the western portion of Cuyahoga County. They raised many and varied concerns. These concerns are of importance to all the citizens of Cuyahoga County.

First, the route proposed raises a major, major issue of safety. In the City of Lakewood, for example, the railroad tracks cut the community in two. This proposed merger would nearly triple the amount of train traffic which currently uses this line. Half of the city would be regularly cut off from access to public safety services. In addition, these tracks run through a densely-populated area. Increased train traffic on this route would pose a danger to children and all other pedestrians.

September 21, 1997

The Honorable Dennis J. Kucinich
House of Representatives
Tenth District
14400 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

First I want to thank you for "hosting" a visit from the Federal Railroad Administration. Sunday morning was the first time in the ten years that I have lived in, what I refer to as the railroad corridor; I refer to it as that rather than my neighborhood, because the trains have dominated this community, not to mention what could happen if the merger would occur) that I was not assaulted with trains.

I have to admit, I was rather surprised that N&S would care about the FRA and the public meeting. I am assuming that N&S does care, because it would appear that they suspended traffic on the rails for at least several hours. I am hopeful that they, N&S, will continue to respond to the FRA and communities, although, it is my understanding that the railroad industry, in general, is pretty powerful. I know just the power of the whistle and the clanging, banging and screeching can cause conversation to be silenced, telephone conversations put on hold and radio and television reduced to senseless mutterings.

I am concerned about the noise. Our home in Bay is new and expensive to build. With this type of negative publicity, it will be a white elephant in a very short time. The communities along the RR Corridor need to be protected, not just this time. If you, current city administrations and citizens are able to stave this offense off, what will be the next issue that will have to be dealt with.

At one time, at least in Bay and Westlake, this area was turkey farms and grape vineyards. Now it is a living community of tax paying individuals who are trying to keep their neighborhoods together. If N&S is hell-bent on a train coming through every 36.5 minutes, let them buy up the properties to create a buffer zone, not unlike the airports have done.

September 21, 1997

To Whom It May Concern —

We are all aware of the problems an increase in the number of trains would cause. I would like to address only one, the probable decrease in property values.

We are retired seniors living in our biggest asset, our home. We live close to the tracks and a railroad crossing. I feel certain that if they triple the number of trains, our location will become undesirable for potential new homeowners. Being a step ^{further} ahead, the money from the sale of our home may be needed for medical or nursing home expenses, and there will be less to pay these bills.

Constituent Outreach

Name: Larry McDonaldAddress: 11849 EdgewaterCity: Lakewood State: OH Zip: 44107Telephone--Home: (216) 226-3866 Work: ()Subject: Attached are articles he copied off
the net. Larry is willing to volunteer
on the trains issue. Avail. Mon & Tues.

ember 18, 1991

y, one of the leading causes of injury and
inistration's Safety Division, there were
ured during this same period.

Kent State University who were killed as a
edy a dangerous situation of which it had
icials of this hazard, but did nothing about
o take appropriate action, two more people

e matter to light momentarily, but then a
: in our crisis-oriented society.

Railroad law developed during the industrial expansion. Millions of acres were given to railroads because of massive corruption and the outright control of state legislatures. In most states, localities have no control of the tracks going through their community. The only source of relief is with state agencies which are often controlled by the railroads.

The Federal Employees Liability Act set up some safety standards for railroad workers, but these are absolutely minimal. In many states speeding by a railroad is not negligence unless a speed is specified by a state-regulated agency.

It shouldn't amaze you to learn that the regulations of horns, bells and whistles were not based on the ability of people to hear them, but rather are statutorily based on distance from the crossing. It is frustrating for officials of towns and villages asking for protection at deadly crossings to be continually disregarded by both the railroad and the authorities that are supposed to protect them.

This is particularly true in Ohio, where the state officials who should work with the local agencies and public seem to be in bed with the railroads. This is based on my personal experience with trials of railroad crossing accidents. The practices of the railroad industry are more in accord with the pre-Civil War era with regard to the way they treat their employees and with respect to upgrading the crossings or methods of operating the railroads, than with modern industry.

Seniority of officials seem to determine what, if any, benefits are awarded for ideas that would make the railroad a better place to work and to protect the public. When the chain of command is breached in any way, the ax will fall and the employee who speaks out will be fired. Railroad employees understand that this is the implication.

All grade crossing accidents are theoretically preventable. New York City, for example, has no crossing accidents because all the hazards are removed by under and overpasses and therefore, the dangers are eliminated. The Snow Rd. crossing at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport was the most dangerous crossing in Ohio, according to a former governor, and that condition was remedied only after the court declared it a nuisance. Seven years and many deaths and injuries later, the overpass was built and thereafter no deaths or injuries occurred.

What is happening in Ohio and other states is that the railroads use 95% of their income for maintaining the right-of-way and only 5% for maintaining the crossings with minimal upgrading on any level.

Railroads should no longer be able to slaughter people and incur no responsibility. As an alternative to over- and underpasses, if crossing guards and warning systems were installed and maintained, there would be fewer and less serious injuries from crossing accidents. Across the country, many thousands of accidents and many deaths per year result from these circumstances.

The duty to avoid injury should not be placed on the driver and/or the pedestrian, but should really be made the

Testimony to the Federal Railroad Administration

Norfolk Southern's Proposal to Dramatically Increase Rail Traffic Through the Western Suburbs of Cleveland, Ohio

September 21, 1997

By: Stephen H. Jenkins
20596 Beachwood Drive
Rocky River, Ohio 44116
(440) 356-9953

My concerns regarding this proposal center in three specific areas: (1) Public Safety; (2) Real Estate Values and (3) Noise. I will address each of these later but would like to briefly discuss the public policy issues related to this proposal. When Norfolk Southern only had one set of tracks in the Cleveland area, they did not have an option but to use those lines. The tracks were built long before the growth in these areas but changing population patterns must be taken into consideration in the context of public policy decisions. This is especially important since after the Conrail merger, *Norfolk Southern will have an option*. Given that the existing Conrail tracks run through significantly less populated areas, it is **NOT in the best interest of public safety or public policy allow freight trains to run through heavily populated areas**. Besides the safety issues related to the interference to fire and emergency vehicles, a major derailment could result in significant loss of life. Newspaper articles on the matter indicate that some of the trains carry hazardous material. Many homes in the Lakewood, Rocky River and Bay Village and other communities are within 120 feet of the freight trains when they pass. I believe that it is the role of the Federal Railroad Administration to balance the public interest while supporting the growth of the rail industry. Norfolk Southern's proposal appears to only serve their needs without

Gregory A. and Gretchen H. Kunkel
28565 Knickerbocker Road
Bay Village, Ohio 44140
September 21, 1997

Federal Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

RE: FD 33388

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing this letter in response to last month's announcement that Norfolk Southern Railroad intends to increase its traffic moving through the western suburbs of Greater Cleveland three-fold. There are several issues of concern that we would like to address before this proposed plan is put into effect.

In late 1996, we purchased our *first* home in Bay Village. The house is adjacent to the tracks and we bought it with the knowledge that a dozen or so trains passed each day. Because of the beautiful neighborhood and Bay Village's excellent reputation, we felt that the number of trains was acceptable and the house would be a good investment. Our bidding price reflected that thinking. To increase the number of trains three times will utterly ruin our property value and will cost us thousands of dollars when we sell the house. Equally distressing is the increased probability of train derailment. With the tracks passing through heavily populated neighborhoods, you can see that this would be disastrous. We are one of many property owners that would be negatively affected by this train increase. If you multiplied the loss in property value by the number of home owners that live adjacent to or near the tracks, the total loss will easily be in the millions.

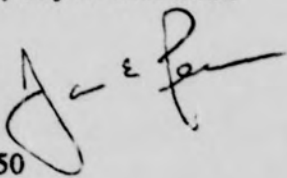
In addition, we are sincerely concerned for the safety of the people living in the municipalities neighboring the train route—not only for the children who need to cross the tracks to get to school, but also for anyone who would require emergency assistance. As you know, all west-side hospitals are south of the tracks and, in some suburbs, police and fire departments are also located south of the tracks. Delays in emergency attention can mean the loss of life and property. Increasing the number of trains, especially by three, multiplies the chance that these losses will occur.

We understand that this merger would realize a financial windfall for Norfolk Southern. Whereas this merger would be beneficial to Norfolk Southern, it would be highly disastrous upon us and many other families in the surrounding suburbs. If you are unable to choose in our favor, please implement a decision that would mitigate this negative impact and would mean a compromise between Norfolk Southern and the suburbs. As home owners living adjacent to the tracks, potential efforts could include: the construction of a sound/protection barrier wall between homes and the tracks, restricted hours of transport (e.g., no travel between 12:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m.), and/or reimbursement to home owners for lost property value. For the affected suburbs, potential efforts could include: payment for an additional overpass, beautifying the land surrounding the tracks, and/or restricted hours of transport (e.g., no travel during rush hours).

MEMORANDUM

TO: U. S. Surface Transportation Board
Washington, D.C.

cc: Rep. Dennis Kucinich, U.S. House of Representatives ✓
Honorable Madeline Cain, Mayor of Lakewood
Councilman Bryan Flannery, City of Lakewood

FROM: James E. Pearce
12705 Arliss Dr.
Lakewood, OH 44107
216-226-6250; 216-696-6250 

RE: Proposed Sale of Conrail and Increased Train Traffic in Lakewood, Ohio
and Greater Cleveland

DATE: September 21, 1997

Honorable Board Members:

This is to advise you that I strongly oppose any increase in the volume of train traffic through densely populated Lakewood, Ohio. Indeed, during the past few months I have observed what I believe to be an increase in train traffic already. This is most dismaying.

Norfolk & Southern officials state that 14 trains a day pass through Lakewood. I believe the number is higher, perhaps as high as 18 or more according to counts by several Lakewood citizens and reported on television news.

Specifically, my concerns are as follows:

1. Increased train traffic poses a serious threat to public safety as it has the potential for inhibiting the movement of emergency vehicles throughout the city.
2. Increased train traffic will likely cause a greater number of accidents at the many railroad crossings through the center of Lakewood.
3. There will be an increase in the danger posed by the shipment of hazardous materials through such a densely populated area.
4. There will be an increase the already high level of noise pollution.

1
Sept 18, 1997

To Whom It May Concern,

I am strongly against the current proposal By Norfolk and Southern and any other railroad acting in concert, to run thirty-eight trains through West Cleveland, Lakewood, Rocky River, Bay Village and Westlake per DAY.

Assuming a prudent motorist sees an oncoming train from perhaps Tenor (ten) more blocks distant, a conservative estimate would be ten minutes before the train had passed, and the line of waiting vehicles could safely progress.

Jamie L. Blackson
1057 Abbieshire Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

September 21, 1997

A Commentary on Increased Train Traffic in Lakewood

Jamie Blackson, Master of Urban Planning, Design and Development, and Lakewood Homeowner

Did we not learn what happens to a community that is bisected through the middle? Neighborhoods like Tremont and Detroit-Superior were cut in half by the construction of highways. What was the result? Increased crime, decreased resident satisfaction and a mass moving out of the community. Now tax payer money pours into these neighborhoods to attempt revitalization. Constant train traffic could easily have the same result on Lakewood as the construction of a highway had on many neighborhoods.

While out for an evening walk I often find myself waiting, alone and vulnerable for the train to end so I can continue on my way home. With a shady character approaching I feel unsafe. Trapped - a victim of this instant wall which blocks my way home. How many of us will become afraid to cross the tracks? What will this do to Lakewood?

I, like most people enjoy the charm of an occasional whistling and purring train slowly passing by. Currently, there are too many trains and they become anything but charming. When recently shopping for a home, our Realtor showed us many homes which sit near the tracks. Nice enough houses until they shake a rattle as a train goes past. Many of these homes had been on the market nearly a year. Who will live in them now?

Is the increased industry, money, business; whatever the advantages, worth the risk loosing the lovely quiet residential allure of Lakewood? Why not be smart and say no to this? Let's plan for the FUTURE of Lakewood by preventing the possible negativity before it has a chance to start.

Do not allow the incessant roar of trains to slice our community in half.

1292 St. Charles Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107
September 20, 1997

The Rt. Hon. Dennis J. Kucinich
14400 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Dear Mr. Kucinich:

My family and I would like to express our deep concern over the Norfolk & Southern Railroad Company's recent announcement that freight train traffic on the line that transgresses our neighborhood may soon triple in quantity. Two years ago we chose to purchase our first home in Lakewood because of the quality of life this city has to offer, and its well-known 'old-time neighborhood' character. At that time we gave little thought to safety threats posed by the train tracks that lie seven houses away from ours. They have always been noisy and inconvenient, but the many advantages of our house's location seemed to outweigh these liabilities. I would like to share with you three incidents which occurred in the past two years which have changed my mind. Please use this testimony in any way you can to make NS and the Federal Railroad Administration aware of the danger their railroad poses.

1. Last summer, our twins were four years old. Like many kids, they were fascinated by trains, and liked to walk up to the tracks to watch them go past. Like most of the cross streets in Lakewood, ours has no fence or barrier around the tracks, so we placed a strict limit on how close they were allowed to get - marked by a large tree about three houses away from the tracks. They always obeyed this limit and after a while my wife and I felt we didn't need to accompany them to the tree. Instead we would stay back and watch from our porch. I believed, at that time, that any rational animal would have a natural fear of such a loud, dangerous situation, and would stay away on instinct. I was wrong.

One day in August our neighbors' three-year-old girl Samantha accompanied our kids to the 'safe' tree to watch a train roar by. Samantha's father and I stood in front of our house (seven houses from the track) and chatted. The three kids stood there for a while, and then, with no warning and for no apparent reason, Samantha broke into a full run toward the moving train. Her father and I sprinted toward her, shouting at her, but she didn't hear. When her father finally caught her, she was about twenty feet from the train and still heading toward it at full speed.

2. This past spring we came home from church on a Sunday to find a train had stopped at the crossing on our street, and a crowd was forming around it. My wife walked over to see what was happening, and learned that a man had committed suicide by laying on the tracks two blocks away on Marlowe Avenue. As the train sat there for several hours, a group of neighborhood kids, ages about 6 to 12, were walking around it. Several of them claimed they had witnessed the suicide, and gave her a full account of

September 19, 1997

United States Senate

I am writing to you about the problem I have with the Norfolk and Southern Railroad Company. Their trains pass by my house at a very high rate of speed, sometimes at 70 miles per hour! They loudly blow their whistles several times as they pass by. They violate the speed limit and noise pollution laws. When they pass by, my entire house vibrates. They are damaging my house. I already have gaps between my ceiling and walls. The trains are loaded with hazardous chemical materials.

I am very disappointed with some of the elected officials. I elected them into high government offices and they don't do their work as they ought to. They don't pay any attention to the awful problem that we, who live close to railroad tracks, have to deal with. Some of the officials have failed to answer my letters, and have failed to return my phone calls.

Only one gentleman, Congressman Dennis J. Kucinich, has shown concern for our problem with the railroads. He cares about the people. He is working hard to solve the problem and wants to prevent accidents from occurring at the railroad crossings.

Now, the Norfolk & Southern Railroad Company wants to buy the Conrail Railroad. This means that 38 trains will pass in 24 hours, and my house will disappear. I want the Norfolk & Southern Railroad to buy my house when they buy Conrail.

The communists took my home and all of my heritage in Hungary in 1952. Now, I will lose my house here. I want the railroad to buy me out!

Dear U. S. Senators, please help Congressman Kucinich. He cannot solve this terrible problem we have with the railroad alone.

Thank you
God Bless America

Mary Szepesy
1614 Catalpa Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44112

SURVEY ON INCREASED TRAIN TRAFFIC

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

☐ I agree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Bay Village because it is good for business.

☒ I disagree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Bay Village. I believe increased train traffic could mean increased noise pollution, more delays where streets intersect railroad tracks, greater possibility of dangerous collisions, and decreased property values for our community.

Sincerely, *Patricia Heinke*Print Name: PATRICIA HEINKE

Please Mail to: Train Traffic Survey, 14400 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, 44107 or Fax to 216/228-6465.

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

arriving on the west side sooner than I expected.

Thanks, but no thanks

Pat Heinke

Patricia Heinke

I spent most of the night hanging on for dear life as a "waxo Engineer" pushed down the throttle over some of the worst trackwork in the whole world. The train after us derailed. We left California - Red River track - land-slide after we passed.

7. Have you gone over a lot of these R.R. Crossings lately? Would you term these well-maintained? I don't.

Just East of Cove Ave., there's a "BLIND CURVE."

8. 32 Trains - the whole idea scares me. What's next? Nuclear waste shipments over questionable trackwork through residential areas?

I find this frustrating. I want these trains clocked by Radar. They may go thru, but hate doing it, if we can't prevent it. Prosecute

I wish you well,

Harvey Paul

1392 ELBLR S-W
LAKEWOOD, Ohio

You lose the battle - 44107
make it so miserable, they will lose the war.

FROM:

Patricia Stanzel
21723 Walnut Ln
Rocky River, OH 44116

9-18-91

Dear Congressman Kucinich,

I thank you for involving yourself and your office in this "Increased Train Traffic" situation.

When I moved to my present address there wasn't I-90 traffic nearby, there wasn't very much air traffic and only a few trains passed nearby each day.

We in Orchards of Beacon Hill condos now have I-90 traffic and a lot more air traffic since last summer and now a strong possibility of greater increased train traffic.

It is difficult now to get through from Detroit Road to Lake Road when the trains are passing through.

Many times I "sit" for over one minute waiting for the long trains to pass.

Any more of this kind of "blockage" would certainly seriously jeopardize the emergency equipment to get to the other side of the tracks!

Thank you for reading this.

Patricia B. Stanzel

STB

FD

33388

10-1-97

K

MOCH

25/26

9/18/97

Dear Mr. Kucenick,

I am very concerned about the increased number of trains proposed to travel the tracks through my community.

I live north of the tracks and cross the tracks from 6 to 12 times daily. I am concerned that those of us north of the tracks will be cut off from the fire department and from access to local hospitals and EMS.

The increased noise of the trains sounding their horns at each of the crossings is also of concern. The noise already interrupts my sleep at night.

I strongly disagree with the train companies' proposal.

Sincerely,

Sandra S. Carson

TRAFFIC

travelling the tracks in Rocky River

ins travelling the tracks in Rocky
more delays where streets intersect
erty values for our community.

ELL CARSON

Ohio, 44107 or Fax to 216/228-6465.

er expense

SURVEY ON INCREASED TRAIN TRAFFIC

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

☐ I agree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Bay Village because it is good for business.

☒ I disagree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Bay Village. I believe increased train traffic could mean increased noise pollution, more delays where streets intersect railroad tracks, greater possibility of dangerous collisions, and decreased property values for our community.

Sincerely,

Print Name:

NEAL & NANCY PERRINE

Please Mail to: Train Traffic Survey, 14400 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, 44107 or Fax to 216/228-6465.

14400 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood Ohio 44107

Dear Mr. Kucinich:

In addition to the survey, I have enclosed a copy of a letter I sent to the Surface Transportation Board a few weeks ago. I also sent a copy of the letter to Bay Village Mayor Tom Jelepis.

Thank you for your support of the community in this issue. We cannot let ourselves get "railroaded" into what could be a very dangerous situation!

Sincerely,

J. Neal Perrine

J. Neal Perrine

P.S. Your vote against the congressional payraise is commendable.



General Committee of Adjustment

Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers

Consolidated Rail Corporation

810 Abbott Road, Suite 200, Buffalo, New York 14220

R. W. GODWIN, General Chairman
 THOMAS B. VASSIE, Secretary-Treasurer
 Telephone: (716) 827-2653
 FAX: (716) 827-2655

September 19, 1997

The Honorable Dennis J. Kucinich
 House of Representatives
 1730 Longworth Office Building
 Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Kucinich:

I am very sorry that I cannot attend the Hearing at the Lakewood, Ohio City Hall, concerning the possible adverse and unsafe conditions that could be brought about by the plan of the Norfolk Southern to triple the number of trains between Cleveland and Vermillion, Ohio. On this date, I am involved in a Town Hall Meeting in Philadelphia.

The concern of your constituents and yourself are real. Norfolk Southern went in debt to the tune of \$6.5 billion to acquire Conrail. The first thing railroads do to eliminate debt is cut back maintenance of track and rolling stock, and of course, lay off employees who perform this maintenance work.

They say the proof is in the pudding and here is Norfolk Southern's planned layoffs of these very important maintenance employees:

Carmen	Employees who inspect and maintain rail freight cars. 330 positions abolished
Trackmen	(Maintenance of Way) - Employees who inspect and maintain the tracks, switches, road crossings and crossovers. 473 Positions Abolished
Signalmen	Employees who inspect and maintain wayside signals and crossing protection. 54 Jobs Transferred and 25 Jobs Abolished. All but one in the State of Ohio
Railroad Police Officers	Employees who protect railroad equipment and signals from vandalism 46 Positions Abolished
Locomotive Maintenance Employees	Employees who maintain and inspect Locomotives Boilermakers - 5 Jobs Abolished Electricians - 53 Jobs Abolished Laborers - 46 Jobs Abolished Machinists - 85 Jobs Abolished
Railway Supervisors/Foreman	Employees who oversee the work of the Maintenance people in all crafts. 78 Jobs Abolished
Train Dispatchers	Employees who have the responsibility to insure safe passage of trains, including passenger trains. 25 Jobs Abolished

1. *Amphiprion* *permanens* (Forsk.)
 2. *Amphiprion* *permanens* (Forsk.)
 3. *Amphiprion* *permanens* (Forsk.)
 4. *Amphiprion* *permanens* (Forsk.)
 5. *Amphiprion* *permanens* (Forsk.)
 6. *Amphiprion* *permanens* (Forsk.)
 7. *Amphiprion* *permanens* (Forsk.)
 8. *Amphiprion* *permanens* (Forsk.)
 9. *Amphiprion* *permanens* (Forsk.)
 10. *Amphiprion* *permanens* (Forsk.)

SURVEY ON INCREASED TRAIN TRAFFIC

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

☐ I agree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Rocky River because it is good for business.

☒ I disagree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Rocky River. I believe increased train traffic could mean increased noise pollution, more delays where streets intersect railroad tracks, greater possibility of dangerous collisions, and decreased property values for our community.

We lived 3 houses from the tracks in Lakewood for 4 years. We moved to get our children away from the noise + danger of the tracks - not all families can afford to do so. More trains = more danger.

Print Name:

SANDRA ARANCIBIA

Please Mail to: Train Traffic Survey, 14400 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, 44107 or Fax to 216/228-8485.

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

more slower moving
uld only cause

- the trains blow there
more than necessary

ook - How will the
vehicles get through?
companies willing to spend
Put in some over or
es specifically for
vehicle use or build
ency buildings on the
the tracks in Lakewood?

Remember in some emergencies it was
the quick response to get the person
to the hospital that saved lives. Can

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

SURVEY ON INCREASED TRAIN TRAFFIC

☐ I agree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Lakewood
because it is good for business.

☒ I disagree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Lakewood.
Because increased train traffic could mean increased noise pollution, more delays where streets intersect railroad
tracks, greater possibility of dangerous collisions, and decreased property values for our community.

Sincerely,

Print Name: DARLEEN M. CARRA

Please Mail to: Train Traffic Survey, 14400 Delong Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, 44107 or Fax to 216/228-6485.

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

30612 Willoway Ln
Bay Village, Ohio 44140

Sept. 10, 1997

Congressman Dennis Kucinich
14400 Detroit Ave
Lakewood, Oh 44107

Dear Mr. Kucinich:

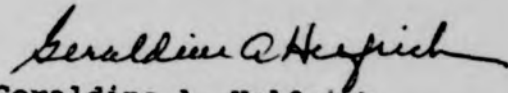
The impact of the Norfolk & Southern Railroad's decision to increase traffic thru Cleveland's westside and westshore suburbs could have devastating consequences for this whole area.

SAFETY - We have enough train/car accidents as it is without - increasing the number of cars. Primary, however, is the fact that should the railroad crossings be tied up by trains or an accident, there is only 1 other way out of Bay Village that does not involve a train track crossing.....that is a life limit when it comes to getting an ambulance to St. John's, Cleveland Clinic, Lakewood Hospital, etc. Don't local citizens have a voice when it comes to safety?

ECONOMIC - Our home values will immediately drop, and so will the tax base that supports our schools and community, and so will the prospective buyers in this market. WHO will buy a house with 3 times the number of trains we already have??? The number that the press relates is that they will go from 11 trains a day to 33? IS THIS WHAT BIG BUSINESS CAN GET AWAY WITH??? Don't local citizens have a voice when it comes to our economic status?

HEALTH - We now hear the whistles at every crossing at all hours with 11 trains...what will 33 be like, and how will anyone be able to sleep thru the night with that? This is noise pollution at its worst, along with the dirt and dust that trains emit. Don't local citizens have a voice when it comes to a healthy environment?

WHY ISN'T OUR GOVERNMENT STANDING BEHIND US ON THIS????


Geraldine A. Helfrich

228-6465

19 Sept, 97

D. Kucirach:

See survey form & letter I
sent as a board member at the
Beach House where I reside -

Return Fax 440-899-~~925~~ 1960-B
440-333-1161 -H

Carolyn W. Caldwell
will be at Sunday meeting

copies w/cover - 3

Elaine L. Skorich

1365 Warren Road
Lakewood, OH 44107

(216) 221-5436

September 15, 1997

Federal Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environment Analysis
1925 K. Street NW
Washington D. C. 20423

RE: **FD 33388**

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to protest increased rail traffic through the West Shore suburbs of Cleveland, Ohio. It is my understanding that the number of Norfolk and Southern trains coming through this area will be increased from 14 to 38. This is not an acceptable number.

I am a third year law student who lives only 10 houses away from the railroad tracks in Lakewood, Ohio, and who will be greatly affected by this increased traffic. When I rented my house, I understood that trains came through our neighborhood 14 times each day, and I accepted my apartment anyway. An increase in the number of trains, however, would not only greatly disturb my sleep and study time but would also disturb many other individuals living in these suburbs.

Because of the diverse populations who live in these suburbs, there are many factors to consider. Some people are students who need quiet in order to study and get what small amount of uninterrupted sleep that they can. Some people are elderly and need their rest. Some of the residents have children whose sleep is disturbed frequently by the trains. Many people travel the roads that are intersected by the train tracks. An increase in train traffic would increase the risk of accidents on or near the tracks. Pedestrians, motorists, children at play, even domestic pets would be at a greater risk of being involved in an accident if the railroad traffic were to increase.

Please take into consideration my protest as well as the others that you receive and do not permit Norfolk and Southern to increase its rail traffic through the West Shore suburbs of Cleveland. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elaine L. Skorich

Elaine L. Skorich

cc: 

September 10, 1997

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing in response to the S and W plan to increase the trains through Bay Village by two thirds per day. When we first heard this, we were appalled. An increase of 2 or 3 trains a day is acceptable, but not increasing the amount by two thirds. We have recently moved to Bay Village and were attracted to the community for a number of reasons, one of which was its reputation as a peaceful, quiet community. Imagine our surprise when we were awakened our first night there by repeated train whistle blowings. It is like an alarm clock going off repeatedly during the night and awakens us every time. Now we know the reason for this - safety - and have more or less adjusted ourselves to this even though we don't like the alarming noise. Imagine how we feel to hear that these incidents of train whistle warnings will be increased.

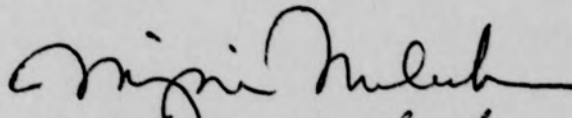
Also, I realize there is the added danger to the environment of the pollutants from the train engines as well as the noise pollution I have mentioned.

Another consideration is the threat to our communities' patients seeking emergency care who live on the north side of the railroad tracks. Both hospitals used by Bay Village (Lakewood and Columbia St Johns) are on the south side of the tracks and could pose a life threatening situation for a person in an emergency situation who had to wait for the road over the tracks to clear due to a train passing.

In summation, for the above reasons, we are totally against increasing the amount of trains through Bay Village.

Sincerely,

Michael and Marjorie Meluch


Michael Meluch

8-12-17-1997
SURVEY ON INCREASED TRAIN TRAFFIC

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

- ☐ I agree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Lakewood because it is good for business.
- ☒ I disagree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Lakewood. I believe increased train traffic could mean increased noise pollution, more delays where streets intersect railroad tracks, greater possibility of dangerous collisions, and decreased property values for our community.

Sincerely,

Print Name:

KATHLEEN BRADY

Please Mail to: Train Traffic Survey, 14400 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, 44107 or Fax to 216/228-6465.

I know the increased train traffic will definitely increase noise pollution. It already has with the new lanes that are being used since a year ago. It will be a very serious safety hazard for such a populated family community with so many children crossing the tracks for school.

Needless to say property values will decrease rapidly.

This is a very serious situation and a much better plan must be devised for everyone involved.

Sincerely yours,

Kathleen Brady

Sept 14/77

1 Dear Sir:

I pray they don't add trains on this line because some engineers just lay on the horns from W 117th Street all the way thru Lakewood. They wake me up two or three times a night. You can't hear what people are saying if you're on the telephone when they pass thru. If they have an accident while carrying hazardous wastes it will be a disaster here as we have so many disabled people here. Thank you for doing the best you can.

Sincerely,
Loretta Cubberley

1

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 20, 1997

HONORABLE DENNIS J. KUCINICH

U.S. CONGRESSMAN

LAKEWOOD CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE

14400 DETROIT AVENUE

LAKEWOOD, OHIO 44107

CONGRESSMAN KUCINICH:

I WAS AWAKENED FRIDAY MORNING ABOUT 3³⁰ AM BY A NORFOLK SOUTHERN TRAIN APPARENTLY ENGINEERED BY A PERSON WHO BELIEVED THAT IF HE HAD TO BE AWAKE AT THAT EARLY HOUR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN SHOULD BE UP WITH HIM. THE TOO FREQUENT BLASTS FROM THE TRAIN'S HORN/WHISTLE WERE LONG AND LOUD, EXCESSIVELY SO IN MY OPINION. ANGERED AS I WAS, SLEEP STILL SEEMED A POSSIBLE GOAL UNTIL ANOTHER TRAIN ROARED THROUGH LAKEWOOD SHORTLY AFTER THE FIRST. NOW I WAS AWAKE! AND THINKING HOW LONG LAKEWOOD HAS ENSURED THE TRAIN TRAFFIC. AND HOW THE POPULACE HAS BEEN MISDIRECTED BY THE REMOVAL OF ONE TRACK TO FIND AN INCREASE IN RAIL TRAFFIC (AND NOISE AND RISK, ET CETERA). AND HOW THE GOOD CITIZENS WERE GIVEN FALSE HOPE BY THE CONSIDERED PROPOSAL TO MOVE ALL TRAIN TRAFFIC FROM THE OLD NICKEL PLATE ROUTE TO A MORE SOUTHERLY ROUTE WELL AWAY FROM LAKEWOOD'S NUMEROUS

1216 Cranford Ave.
Lakewood OH. 44107
Sept. 19, 1997

14400 Detroit Ave
Lakewood OH 44107

Dear Congressman:

I live in Lakewood north of the tracks. Having more trains go through will affect everyone north of the tracks. There could be an emergency such as a fire, a burglar, or someone may need to go to the hospital right away but can't get over the tracks. Trains that will go by could stall or they could derail and that might injure (or) kill a person. Trains can be very noisy. The noise that comes from the trains plus the noise of the airplanes is too loud for most people. These and many other reasons are why the numbers of trains should not be increased.

Sincerely,
Karen Makkos

Consistent Outreach

Name: Jison Geinberg
 Address: 1226 Overlook Rd
 City: Lakewood State: OH Zip: 94107
 Telephone - Home: (216) 521-5520 Work: ()

Subject: Train Traffic Obstruction
specifically the Tressle
Bridge over the Rocky River

Consistent Outreach

Name: Susan Shepard
 Address: _____
 City: Lakewood, State: OH Zip: _____
 Telephone - Home: () Work: ()

Subject: Does the amount of ~~train~~ traffic over day
in Lakewood, the VLA railroad consider if
there is a HO and the houses and get the

How old is it? Who
 owns it? Has it been
 assessed to handle a
 tripling of train traffic?

Congressman Dennis J. Kucinich
 14400 Detroit ave
 Lakewood, Ohio 44107

far enough away that VLA
 houses, children, and traffic
 would be safe?

Congressman Dennis J. Kucinich
 14400 Detroit ave
 Lakewood, Ohio 44107

9/22/97

Congressman Dennis
Kucinich

Dear Rep Kucinich

First of all I'd like to congratulate you on doing a fine job as mayor.

The reason why I'm writing today is that I've been alerted by Ohio Citizen Action (of which I'm a member, ^{and}) that H.R. 1270 "The Nuclear Transportation Act of 1997" is up for vote in the House of Reps.

I would like to urge you to pass a resolution opposing this bill. I feel that there is a real danger in having this waste transported in or near our community, especially in untested containers.

I'd appreciate knowing your position on this issue.

Sincerely,

Kim McDonald

1460 Burt's Rd
Lakewood OH 44107
226 8296
Fax 226-3461

GREETINGS,

TO WHOMEVER'S CONCERNED,
IN THE KUCINICH GROUP.

DEAR FRIENDS,

THANKS FOR THE INVITATION TO ATTEND A PUBLIC
DISCUSSION IN WHICH I HOPE THE NORFOLK AND SOUTHERN
WOULD BE REPRESENTED. ALTHOUGH I WILL NOT LIKELY BE
ABLE TO ATTEND. THE MEETING I NOTE "IS TO BE ON A
SUNDAY SO I WANT BE IN SCHOOL. BY HEAVEN I MIGHT
MAKE IT AT THAT!

YOU FOLKS DON'T KNOW HOW MANY TIMES THE CITY HAS
BEEN IN SERIOUS DANGER THROUGH THE TRANSPORTATION
OF DANGEROUS CHEMICALS THROUGH TOWN. FOR EXAMPLE
WHEN THE RAIL ROAD WAS NORFOLK AND WESTERN I AND
OTHERS HAVE INSPECTED (OUR JOB) FROM TWO TO FIVE
UP TO TWENTY TANK CARS OF A DEADLY CHEMICAL
WHICH IF HEATED (ACCIDENTLY BURNED) TURNS INTO
MUSTARD GAS ONE OF THE MOST DEADLY ANTI-
PERSONNEL GAS. (DESIGNED DURING WWI). THE
CHEMICAL AS IT IS IS USED IN THE PROCESSING OF
ARTIFICIAL RUBBER AS USED IN AUTOMOBILE TIRES,
I THINK. — THE TANKS HAVE SAT ON A SIDING OR
STORED ON NO. 1 TRACK FOR MANY DAYS AT A TIME TILL
IT COULD BE MOVED.

RAIL ROADS ARE FINE FOR SHIPPING SOME COMMODITIES —

— CONT. P. 2 —

Official F
House of Rep
Congress of the
Dennis J. H
Washington.



AT EAST 55TH STREET
BULK RAILROAD
MICHIGAN
for Route

Testimony to the Federal Railroad Administration

Norfolk Southern's Proposal to Dramatically Increase Rail Traffic Through the Western Suburbs of Cleveland, Ohio

September 21, 1997

By: Stephen H. Jenkins
20596 Beachwood Drive
Rocky River, Ohio 44116
(440) 356-9953

My concerns regarding this proposal center in three specific areas: (1) Public Safety; (2) Real Estate Values and (3) Noise. I will address each of these later but would like to briefly discuss the public policy issues related to this proposal. When Norfolk Southern only had one set of tracks in the Cleveland area, they did not have an option but to use those lines. The tracks were built long before the growth in these areas but changing population patterns must be taken into consideration in the context of public policy decisions. This is especially important since after the Conrail merger, *Norfolk Southern will have an option*. Given that the existing Conrail tracks run through significantly less populated areas, **it is NOT in the best interest of public safety or public policy allow freight trains to run through heavily populated areas**. Besides the safety issues related to the interference to fire and emergency vehicles, a major derailment could result in significant loss of life. Newspaper articles on the matter indicate that some of the trains carry hazardous material. Many homes in the Lakewood, Rocky River and Bay Village and other communities are within 120 feet of the freight trains when they pass. I believe that it is the role of the Federal Railroad Administration to balance the public interest while supporting the growth of the rail industry. Norfolk Southern's proposal appears to only serve their needs without

September 10, 1997

Congressman Dennis Kucinich
14400 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Re: No. FD 33388

Dear Sir:

This letter is my protest to the proposed increase in rail traffic through the westshore communities from 13 to approximately 38 trains a day.

As a westshore resident I sincerely believe that the safety, health and economic impact that this proposal would have on virtually all of us in such a densely populated area could be devastating.

In closing, while railroads play a vital role in our country, common sense has to exist when the safety and welfare of literally thousands of individuals and families are at stake.

I thank you for reading my letter and I hope that an alternate solution will be forthcoming in the future.

Sincerely,

Michael Atkinson

Address: 31024 Manchester Dr.
Bay Village, OH 44140

FAX

To: Congressman Kucinich 228 6465

From: M. L. Nagy 529 5680 (phone)

Subject: Train Traffic Survey

Mr. Kucinich,

Attached is a testimonial responding to your recent 'Lakewood Community Report'. We will bring a signed version to the meeting at 2:00 pm today.

This FAX contains 3 pages including cover page.

MN

SURVEY ON INCREASED TRAIN TRAFFIC

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

☐ I agree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Lakewood because it is good for business.

☒ I disagree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Lakewood. I believe increased train traffic could mean increased noise pollution, more delays where streets intersect railroad tracks, greater possibility of dangerous collisions, and decreased property values for our community.

Sincerely,

Print Name: Jean A. Thomson

Please Mail to: Train Traffic Survey, 14400 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, 44107 or Fax to 216/228-6465.

in my backyard.

6:45 AM - did not time
7:45 AM - train was going slow - 10 minutes
8:05 AM - did not time
9:45 AM - train was going slow - 8 minutes
10:25 AM - train was going slow - 9 minutes
10:50 AM - train was going slow - 7 minutes
1:40 PM - train was going slow - did not time
2:40 PM - train was going slow - 10 minutes
3:45 PM - train was going slow - 10 minutes
6:45 PM - did not time
7:30 PM - did not time
11:00 PM - did not time
11:32 PM - did not time

I was not at home between 11:00 AM and 1:30 PM, 4:00 PM and 6:30 PM and 7:45 PM and 10:50 PM so I don't know if any trains passed through during that period. I know there are at least two trains during the night. There were more than 14 trains during this 24 hour period. (over)

SURVEY ON INCREASED TRAIN TRAFFIC

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

- ☐ I agree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Rocky River because it is good for business.
- ☒ I disagree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Rocky River. I believe increased train traffic could mean increased noise pollution, more delays where streets intersect railroad tracks, greater possibility of dangerous collisions, and decreased property values for our community.

Sincerely,

Print Name:

TIMOTHY P. HENAHAN

Please Mail to: Train Traffic Survey, 14400 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, 44107 or Fax to 216/228-6465.

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN:

I am compelled to write to you today regarding the Norfolk Southern Railroad's proposal to increase their flow of freight train traffic through Cleveland's western suburbs. As a former railroader myself (CSX Corporation), I know that this main line route is the most efficient and direct east/west passage from Chicago to New York. However, tripling the train traffic on this line will undoubtedly cause more harm to our community than any business benefit, (marginal at best), which might be derived.

As a resident of Rocky River with a school age son I dread the thought of my child crossing rail tracks at the present rate of traffic. Needless to say, any increase would exponentially add risk to our children, as well as to the entire community.

I have believed since the announced acquisition of Conrail that there is a real opportunity to eliminate this line entirely. Surely, one of the fruits of this consolidation might be for Norfolk Southern to act responsibly and divert traffic to the existing Conrail lines which traverse a much more commercial path throughout our area. Now that is what I would call ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT!

Again, I urge Norfolk Southern to respect this community from which it has greatly benefitted throughout the years, be responsive to the desires of their neighbors, (a nice bike path comes to mind), or be prepared to face the inevitable consequences of a disastrous event.

I am delighted to know that we have your support and that you will share your findings with the Surface Transportation Board. Please keep this issue as a top priority.

Yours truly,

Timothy P. Henahan
Timothy P. Henahan
President

C O V E R

FAX

S H E E T

To: Congressman Kucinich
Fax #: 228-6465
Subject: Train Traffic through Lakewood
Date: September 21, 1997
Pages: 2, including this cover sheet.

COMMENTS:

Regarding Train Traffic through Lakewood, Ohio

Currently,

- trains' whistles interrupt sleep at night. Some train whistles are blown constantly through our Lakewood neighborhood even during the middle of the night.
- train whistles during daytime interrupt normal conversation.
- noise pollution caused by train traffic increase stress in neighbors close to the tracks.
- train traffic reduces police and emergency vehicle access to all (rich and poor) northern areas of Lakewood.
- train traffic creates dust.
- train traffic is potentially dangerous to small children playing near the tracks.
- train traffic's noise makes our home on Beach Avenue difficult, if not impossible, to sell. Increased rental property along the tracks will further degrade neighborhoods already in decline.

The train companies' plan to triple the number of trains will make one block areas on either side of the tracks uninhabitable.

Sincerely,
Dennis Rinehart
Bonnie Rinehart
1290 Beach Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107
216-228-8654

J.M.G.

Aug 31, 1997

090297

1271 W. Clifton BD.
Lakewood, Ohio
44107

Dear U.S. Rep. Dennis Kucinich:

I was born & raised in Cleveland and I always voted for you because I felt you were honest and cared for the working people. However I have been a taxpayer & resident of Lakewood for 25 yrs. I am writing to you to protest the action of the Norfolk & Southern Railroad. I live right next to the tracks and I know for a fact that some of the cargo that is ~~being~~ carried is dangerous. I am worried about the children as I see them walking the tracks and more trains would mean the loss of some child. I am 79 yrs old and still vote and care about my country & those who run it.

Sincerely,
Miss Magdalen McInty

✓
9/19/97

Dear Congressman Kucinich,

In response to your newsletter relative to the planned increase of traffic on the rail system which runs through the Westshore suburbs, my wife and I are strongly opposed to additional trains for several reasons:

-as residents of the river basin in Rocky River, with the railroad bridge joining our property we daily witness the noise and traffic of passing trains. More importantly, we also experience the dirt, chemicals and metal that fall from the bridge. Old photos show this bridge to be very old. It is not only in need of engineering scrutiny and needs repainting badly, it may also not be adequate for current traffic much less an increase.

-there are plans to rebuild the railroad underpass on Wooster north of Detroit Rd. Since this is one of the few routes under the tracks out of the northern portion of Rocky River, additional rail traffic would mean even more delays for traffic and emergency vehicles.

-since we have railroad gates at our crossings, when Rocky River residents travel in Lakewood there have been accidents at crossings due to the absense of gates in that community. Young people, especially, expecting the warning of a gate have been injured, and worse. Additional traffic would compound this hazard.

Please expend every effort stop expansion of rail traffic !
David and Shari DeCapua, 421 Riverdale Dr., Rocky River

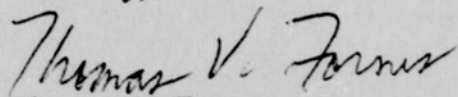
David J. DeCapua
Shari DeCapua

September 18, 1997

Dear Congressman Kucinich,

I strongly disagree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Bay Village.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas V. Fornes".

Thomas V. Fornes
283 Douglas Drive
Bay Village, OH 44140

SURVEY ON INCREASED TRAIN TRAFFIC

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

- ☐ I agree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Bay Village because it is good for business.
- ☒ I disagree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Bay Village. I believe increased train traffic could mean increased noise pollution, more delays where streets intersect railroad tracks, greater possibility of dangerous collisions, and decreased property values for our community.

Sincerely,

Print Name:

Jack & Lynn Eagleeye

Please Mail to: Train Traffic Survey, 14400 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, 44107 or Fax to 216/228-6465.

385 Apple Blossom Tr. - Bay Village

SURVEY ON INCREASED TRAIN TRAFFIC

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

- ☐ I agree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Bay Village because it is good for business.
- ☐ I disagree with the train companies' plan to triple the number of trains travelling the tracks in Bay Village. I believe increased train traffic could mean increased noise pollution, more delays where streets intersect railroad tracks, greater possibility of dangerous collisions, and decreased property values for our community.

Sincerely,

for your records, Michelle Norton
was my mother (Lynn Eagleeye)
she passed away 2-14-96

Print Name:

Please Mail to: Train Traffic Survey, 14400 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, 44107 or Fax to 216/228-6465.

✓
Dear Dennis,
As your long time
090297

Constituent I know you will
join the petition on the
proposed increased rail traffic
thru the West Shore suburbs.

I have written to the
Federal Surface Transportation
Board also.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Gibbons

13700 Lake Ave. #7
Lakeview, Ohio

44107

FJ33388

090397

U.S. Rep. Dennis Kucinich:

We are definitely not in
favor of 38 trains per day
running through Lakewood.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Maffield
1341 St. Charles Ave.
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Karyl Maffield
Jack Maffield

✓
Congressman Dennis Kucinich

390497

14400 Detroit Ave

Lakewood, Ohio 44107

I am writing in regard to the
proposed increase in traffic on the
Norfolk & Southern R.R.

I strongly oppose this proposal as it
will affect the health and safety of many
people who reside along its route.

Thank you for your help in this
matter.

Marianne Petio

602 Huntmore Rd

Bay Village, Ohio 44140

No. FD33388

090599-3-97

Dear Congressman,

This is to inform you that we
are against the Norfolk & Southern
Railroad's proposed increase in rail
traffic through our communities.

Mr & Mrs William Nuss
and 20 year old daughter, Christy

Mr. & Mrs. William Nuss
28331 Stone Road
Bay Village, OH 44140

September 21, 1997

Federal Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environment Analysis
1925 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20433

ATTENTION: Document Number FD33388

Gentlemen:

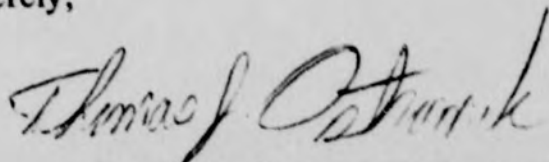
This letter is a plea to you to prevent the addition of any rail freight traffic on the Cleveland-Vermillion line of Norfolk and Southern Railroad.

This plan would disrupt so many lives, disturb the peace of beautiful neighborhoods, endanger the health of thousands of people from coal dust exposure, noise pollution, the potential danger of toxic chemicals, and the economic consequences of decreased property values and tax revenues would be devastating.

Our home is in Lakewood, Ohio where we have 27 streets that are bisected by the NS tracks. Additional trains and longer faster trains are a danger to our citizens and children. Lakewood does not have school busing and children attending 8 schools cross the tracks at least twice each day. Our police, fire and emergency vehicles would be seriously impacted by any increase in freight rail traffic through our city. More overpasses and underpasses would not remove all of the rail threats to our neighborhoods. On interstates through populated areas, signs bear the letters "HC" - hazardous cargo- with a slash through it, meaning certain trucks should take routes through industrialized areas, rather than through residential zones. Why shouldn't the same apply to freight trains?

Again, please consider the health and safety of thousands of residents in Northern Ohio and prevent the escalation of unsafe and unhealthy freight movement through our cities along Lake Erie.

Sincerely,



1628 COHASSETT AVENUE
LAKEWOOD, OHIO 44107
521-5390

September 21, 1997

Dear Congressman Kucinich,

Regarding Train Traffic through Lakewood, Ohio

Currently,

- trains' whistles interrupt sleep at night. Some train whistles are blown constantly through our Lakewood neighborhood even during the middle of the night.
- train whistles during daytime interrupt normal conversation.
- noise pollution caused by train traffic increase stress in neighbors close to the tracks.
- train traffic reduces police and emergency vehicle access to all (rich and poor) northern areas of Lakewood.
- train traffic creates dust.
- train traffic is potentially dangerous to small children playing near the tracks.
- train traffic's noise makes our home on Beach Avenue difficult, if not impossible, to sell. Increased rental property along the tracks will further degrade neighborhoods already in decline.

The train companies' plan to triple the number of trains will make one block areas on either side of the tracks uninhabitable.

Sincerely,

Dennis Rinehart
Bonnie Rinehart

Dennis Rinehart
Bonnie Rinehart
1290 Beach Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107
216-228-8654

✓
September 21, 1997

To the Federal Railroad Administration,

I want to let you know how the proposed increased railroad traffic will directly affect me and my family. We own 2 houses in Lakewood, both are close to the tracks.

Everyday we already experience what sounds like a railroad in the middle of our house. Many (but not all) of the trains are very noisy. I have to wonder why some of them are louder than others-it must have to do with the speed at which they travel through the community (faster=louder) and also how loud the whistle is and how long they blow it. We have trains coming through at all times a day. I can't even imagine what it would be like for us if the traffic is tripled. As you could imagine it would be very noisy and frankly stressful. The trains take what otherwise would be a quiet community and transform it into a very noisy one. When the trains come through so fast I worry about our community and if someone gets stuck on tracks or a child gets injured. These things to me are real risks. I don't want to see anyone hurt and I know that people have been killed at the tracks in Lakewood. I want to live in a safe community, I want to provide my tenants with a quiet neighborhood.

Obviously being a home owner and a landlord I wonder how this will affect our ability to rent our spaces and also to keep tenants and ultimately the value of the homes themselves. We have a substantial amount invested in these 2 homes, take great pride in keeping them up and I don't want their value diminished by outside forces that we seemingly have no control over.

I know that those who run the railroad are people too. I know that you have homes and you all have families. Please take into consideration what you would have for your home and neighborhood. I ask that you not increase the traffic coming through our neighborhood and that you get your drivers to slow down as they go in our neighborhood, and also that they use their horns in a more concious manner.

Sincerely,

Susan E. Schwab

Susan E. Schwab

1319 Marlowe Ave

Lakewood, Ohio 44107

September 21, 1997

U. S. Surface Transportation Board
c/o Federal Railroad Administration

RE: Norfolk Southern Railroad Company Proposal

Dear Sir:

We have been residents of Lakewood, Ohio for eleven years and are strongly opposed to the plan to triple the number of freight trains through Cleveland and the western suburbs for the following reasons:

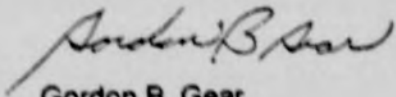
1. The whistle noises from the majority of the trains are almost unbearable—they are painful to the ears and literally jar your body. The use of these whistles is excessive and severely compromises the peaceful enjoyment of one's home for the sake of safety. (Is there any evidence that the volume of the whistle has saved lives?)
2. With increased traffic the speed of the trains will most likely decrease causing lengthy delays and hinder police and emergency vehicles.
3. Slower traffic will tempt neighborhood children who have jumped on the train for amusement while it slowly passes—a very serious safety concern.
4. Lakewood is a densely populated community. The increased traffic will adversely affect the atmosphere of our neighborhood to a more commercial one with noise, congestion, traffic, increased pollution and decreased property values.

The residents of the community have already paid dearly for the railroad running through our backyards: interrupted sleep, conversation, gardening, barbecues, working on your home, playing with your kids and pets, talking on the phone or trying to listen to a radio or television program—the list is endless. The railroad has been an uninvited guest to every facet of our lives. Rather than see the traffic increase we were led to believe that the railroad was actually planning to abandon this track, an event we have hoped and prayed for for years.

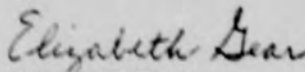
The presence of the railroad in our community is by far the most negative aspect of where we live. Denying this proposal would be in the best interest of thousands of people who have had to endure too much already. Indeed, removing this track entirely is what is needed to ensure the safety and peaceful enjoyment of so many residents. The presence of the railroad in such a densely populated area is so tragically outmoded and inappropriate at this time we would hope the U.S. Surface Transportation Board has the courage and good sense to eliminate this track entirely.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Gordon B. Gear
12803 Arliss Dr.
Lakewood, OH 44107



Elizabeth Gear
12803 Arliss Dr.
Lakewood, OH 44107

September 7, 1997

090997

Federal Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis
1925 K Street NW
Washington DC 20423

In re: No. FD 33388

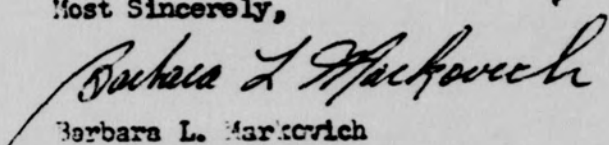
Dear Sir:

As a resident of Bay Village for more than 40 years, I am extremely opposed to the proposal by Norfolk & Southern RR to triple rail traffic through our beautiful quiet community.

Safety, health and economic impact could be devastating. The added noise would be horrendous.

I raise my hand in opposition to this proposal.

Most Sincerely,


Barbara L. Markovich

167 Lake Forest Drive

Bay Village, Ohio 44140

MR0-835-3411

✓ CC/ Congressman Dennis Kucinich

BLM/b

Control Number 234 97002 ✓

CONSTITUENT SERVICE FORM

Information taken by: BXR

Plans & Trains

DATE: 8-21-97

ISSUE: B.R.

NAME: James Rumond

ADDRESS: 7780 Wether Rd.

Almsted

44138

PHONE/FAX: 235-6126

S.S.# _____

INFORMATION: _____

Right underneath Flight Pattern
Plans & Trains:

81-120 Trains a day

FOLLOW-UP ACTION: _____

MAILED to DC 8-22-97

CASEWORKER: B RODES

DATE FILED: 8-22

PRIVACY RELEASE FORM:

Mailed to constituent? Y/N Date: _____

Date Received: _____

Control Number 234 97 001

CONSTITUENT SERVICE FORM

Information taken by: BXR

DATE: 8-21-97

ISSUE: Rail Road

NAME: ALBERT GOODLAND

ADDRESS: 87 Gull DR.

Vermillion, Ohio 44089

PHONE/FAX: 967-3890 S.S.# _____

INFORMATION: _____

Rail Road Noise

FOLLOW-UP ACTION: FILED TO DC 8-22-97

CASEWORKER: B. PUGS

DATE FILED: 8-22

PRIVACY RELEASE FORM:

Mailed to constituent? Y/N Date: _____

Date Received: _____

9-21-97

I DISAGREE WITH THE TRAIN COMPANY'S PLAN TO TRIPLE THE NUMBER OF TRAINS TRAVELING THE TRACKS THROUGH LAKEWOOD FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

- SAFETY-CHILDREN GOING TO SCHOOL
- SAFETY-DIFFICULTY AND DELAYED RESPONSE OF EMS, FIRE AND POLICE
- SAFETY-INCREASED FATALITIES WHICH HAVE ALREADY BEEN HIGH
- DECREASED PROPERTY VALUES
- NOISE LEVEL-THE TRAINS ARE LOUDER THAN WHEN THIS PROPERTY WAS PURCHASED SIX YEARS AGO. IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO BE OUTSIDE THE HOME WHEN THE TRAINS ARE BLOWING THEIR WHISTLES. MANY RESIDENTS CANNOT SLEEP THROUGH THE NIGHT WITHOUT SOME FORM OF SLEEPING PILL EVEN WITH THE WINDOWS CLOSED.
- THE ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF DIRT AND DUST CREATED BY THE TRAINS
- OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE WILL DECREASE FOR THE ENTIRE LAKEWOOD COMMUNITY

- Transport of hazardous material will be increased with no benefit to the community
- Lakewood will become a less desirable community in which to purchase a home
- No benefit to the community in any way
- Increased possibility of derailments

Christina L. Georgoff
1294 Beach Ave
Lakewood, Oh 44107
516-221-5317

The Horace Mann News Herald

November 25, 1992

Trains Rumble Through Lakewood

By: Adam Schrader and Matt Hagan

The day after the general election we visited Mayor David Harbarger. At issue was the proposed closure of twelve streets at the Norfolk and Southern Railroad crossings and the removal of one of tracks. Gates and lights would be put at fifteen other crossings.

Says Mayor Harbarger, "Lakewood has 27 crossings in the city. That is more per mile than any other city in Ohio."

Mr. Harbarger made the point that Norfolk and Southern wanted to close 19 street, but he worked it down to 12.

On the issue of installing gates and lights on the remaining crossings, he says, "There is only one set of gates and lights in Lakewood, and that is at Warren Road.

There are six streets that the state has said need gates and lights, but other than that, the state says we don't need any more. We disagree."

When asked the reasons for this and who will pay the mayor said, "This is not money related, it is strictly for safety. They will pay for it, we said we don't think it is our responsibility."

Mr. Harbarger said the gates will be installed over the next 3 or 4 years. He added that there will be east-west traffic on the one railroad, with stop-over points in Avon Lake and Downtown Cleveland. Mr. Harbarger is confident that this proposed action will pass. There have been several community meetings with Lakewood citizens questioning the value of these changes.

In our opinion, the installment of gates and additional lights is in the

City of Lakewood's best interest. However, the closure of 12 proposed streets is something Lakewood can do without. The closings would just be a hazard and a nuisance and divide Lakewood.

Harbarger, a Republican, chuckled when asked about the presidential election and said, "Obviously it didn't go my way."



CHRISTOPHER D. KUZMA
4-13-81 ~ 8-12-95

DIED AFTER BEING PULLED
OFF HIS BIKE AGAINST THE
SIDE OF A SPEEDING TRAIN
ON COOK AV. GATES WERE
INSTALLED ONE YEAR AFTER
HIS DEATH. CHOC. GRADUATE
FROM HORACE MANN IN 1995

✓ Dean Kuzma
13638 Oakbrook
N. Royalton, Ohio
44133
216-582-5461

Good afternoon, Congressman Kucinich, Mayor Cain, community mayors and neighbors.

I am here this afternoon to strongly urge the Federal Railroad Administrator to step in and stop Norfolk and Southern's proposal to triple the amount of freight traffic through Cleveland, Lakewood, Rocky River, Bay Village and Avon Lake.

I am a lifelong resident of Lakewood. I have raised my two children in Lakewood. I tell you with great conviction that tripling the rail traffic through our communities will have a drastically detrimental effect on the quality and safety of all our lives.

Most of the schools on the north half of Lakewood, Lakewood High, McKinley, St. Luke, St. James, Lincoln, Emerson, Harding, St. Ed's and St. Augustine, have their districts split by the railroad tracks, which means that many children have to cross the tracks just to get to and from school. Having more train traffic of any volume will put our children at unreasonable and unnecessary risk any time they need to go to and from school for any reason.

Lakewood Hospital is our next big concern. In an emergency, such as a heart attack, seconds can mean life or death to the victim. Increasing the rail traffic will mean more down time at the crossings and obviously a longer response time for paramedics and possibly a longer ride to the hospital. God help the person responsible for someone's death because of a slow train at a critical crossing.

North of the railroad tracks we have a very beautiful Gold Coast. It is a very heavily populated area with many high-rise condos and apartments. The thought of the majority of our emergency equipment having to wait for a train while rushing to help citizens in danger is not very comforting.

It would be different if there were no other options, but there are and our citizen's safety should not be compromised because Norfolk and Southern wants to save some money.

Sincerely,

Joyce A. Klotzbach
1284 VIRGINIA AVE
LAKESWOOD, OH. 44107

Mark and Lynne Greer
271 Breezewood Drive
Bay Village, OH 44140

090597

September 3, 1997

Congressman Dennis Kucinich
14400 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107

Dear Congressman Kucinich

This letter is regarding the proposed increased in rail traffic through the westshore communities by Norfolk & Southern Railroad. As we understand it, the proposal would increase rail traffic from 13 to approximately 38 trains per day.

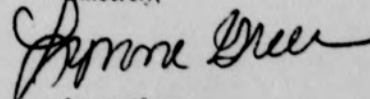
While we understand that everyone has a job to do, it is not understandable that all jobs should be done without consideration to the affect they will have on other human beings.

Increasing the rail traffic will certainly have a negative impact on our communities. The risks to the communities involved are safety of residents, ease of exit/entry to the city, decreased property values, additional noise pollution, to name a few.

The westshore communities are considered to be upscale middle class. Certainly they are part of the appeal of the City of Cleveland. With Cleveland on the upswing after many years of being down, it would be a shame to damage something that is truly good about this city. I am a Realtor, and I have worked with upper middle class transferees who specifically request to be shown properties in the westshore area because they have heard how wonderful they are even before they have arrived here! Please let's not diminish this wonderful asset to the City of Cleveland by allowing this to happen.

I think everyone can agree that 13 trains per day is reasonable, but 38 trains per day is not. My question to you is if you were in our position, wouldn't you feel as we do? Please help us fight this move by Norfolk & Southern Railroad.

Sincerely,


Lynne Greer

September 19, 1997

Regarding Increased train traffic,
proposed by Norfolk Southern Corp.

My name is Laura Robbie, I live 5 lots north of the train tracks. I believe that the Norfolk Southern Corp. has to realize that the world is getting smaller every day. The wide open spaces that they once had to run their trains through are shrinking by the minute. Lakewood is an established community, a densely populated one. The citizens here deserve respect, especially by those who are rich and powerful enough to afford secluded enclaves, far away from train tracks in which to live. These railroad corporations must learn to live with us, not above us. They have to respect our lives and our rights. They cannot be allowed to go through with an increase of traffic. We all need to learn how to share, compromise and respect each other. Train traffic through Lakewood must be kept where it is and the citizens of Lakewood must continue to teach respect and safety to their children regarding these trains.

September 17, 1997

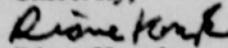
002597

Congressman Dennis Kucinich
14400 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107

Dear Congressman Kucinich,

I am writing you concerning Norfolk & Southern Railroad's proposed increase in rail traffic through Bay Village from 13 to 38 trains a day. I am a 16 year resident of Bay Village with children and feel that the increase would make living in Bay more difficult to drive through, more noisy to live near, and more unsafe for children to be near. Currently, we do not have many train delays but the increased proposal would significantly change that. There is only one street in Bay that has an overpass over the train tracks. All other south bound streets would be blocked by trains. I am sending a similar letter to the Federal Surface Transportation Board. Please continue efforts to reroute this proposal by N&S Railroad. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Diane Konyk

339 Huntmere

Bay Village, OH 44140-2505

1227 Ethel Avenue-
Lakewood, OH 44107
September 22, 1997

Representative Dennis Kucinich
14400 Detroit road
Lakewood, OH 44107

Dear Representative Kucinich;

My name is Jack Arnold and I am writing for a school project
trying to stop Conrail from increasing the number of trains
through my city.

I live in Lakewood OH (a suburb of Cleveland), and right now
there are 14 trains a day going through Lakewood. Conrail wants
to increase that to 36. That means everytime I want to go to the
corner store I will have to wait. No one in the city will be able
to sleep.

I do not know what you can do but I hope you can help.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,
Jack Arnold
Jack Arnold

September 22, 1997

Federal Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis
1925 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20423

RE: FD 33388

Dear FSTB:

It was with great dismay that I heard of Norfolk & Southern Railroad's proposal to increase rail traffic through my community if they are successful in acquiring Conrail assets.

As I live 1-1/2 blocks from the railroad tracks, I already can foresee the difficulties an increase from approximately 13 to 38 trains per day would create.

Ninety percent of my travel from home is south over the tracks. Frequently, as I leave the house, I hear a train whistle and know that I can hold my departure for at least five to ten minutes to allow for the train to pass and backed-up traffic to disperse.

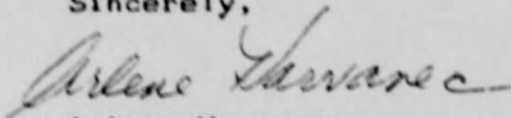
Aside from delays, the train whistles can be truly annoying. Some engineers love the sound of their horn and use it longer than necessary. Summer is particularly bad with the windows open as phone conversations and TV audio are temporarily drowned out. Along with the rattling of the windows from the vibration of the passing train, it can be quite a cacophony.

The thought of all of these aggravations tripling in occurrence is frightening. The resale values of homes in my area certainly would decrease.

Add in the safety issue of crossing the tracks and the inability of emergency vehicles to get to their destinations promptly and you have a very serious situation.

As a very concerned citizen, I urge the Board not to approve this acquisition.

Sincerely,



Arlene Harvanec
591 Juneway Drive
Bay Village, OH 44140

cc: Mayor Thomas L. Jelepia
Congressman Dennis Kucinich ✓

Dear Mr. Kucenas, 090297

I am writing with regard to reports indicating that Norfolk & Southern railroad intends to increase rail traffic on its line through Cleveland, Lakewood, Rocky River, Bay Village, and Avon Lake.

I am a Lakewood resident and have lived here my entire life. It is a wonderful community that inspires that "hometown feeling". Our safety forces (Police & Fire) are the best you can have. Our community is the most densely populated area between here and New York as you are aware. The Police & Fire Departments work very hard to keep the community safe.

John

As a resident of 46 yrs I Strongly PROTEST!! what the railroad is planning to do - increase rail traffic to 34 trains per day - 16 is bad enough - NO increase should be allowed. Who is it that no one cares about the "little guy"? Is money all that counts?

I would like to recommend a Committee of residents from all of the communities gathering signatures to send to the Federal Surface Transportation Board. Strongly Protesting this move. The signatures would have to be residents of the communities. I would like to volunteer for Lakewood if this should come about. I went to high school at St. Augustines

care & know she would help me. If you would like to get the residents started on this project I can be reached at

DAY W) - 687-6512
EVE H) - 328-5054

Sincerely
Joyce Ann Klotz
1284 Virginia Ave
Lakewood, Ohio
44107

P.S. - You're doing a great job!

Matthew E. Majher
1315 West 108th Street
Cleveland, OH 44102-1515

Congressman Kucinich:
FYI
Matthew Majher

September 4, 1997

Federal Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis
1925 K St. NW
Washington, DC 20423

Re: Document FD33388

Dear Board Members:

I am writing this letter to express my anger and dissatisfaction regarding the proposed break-up of Conrail Corp. by Norfolk Southern Corp. (NS) and CSX Transportation Inc. I am upset because a few months ago NS promised that if they acquired Conrail's tracks in Northern Ohio, they would sell their existing NS tracks to the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (RTA). This promise was well received by the community for it would greatly expand public transportation in Cuyahoga County which has obvious benefits. However, I have recently learned that NS's promise was indeed a lie. Instead, they are now proposing to keep their existing lines and dramatically increase rail traffic. They have proposed increasing the frequency of trains on the lines, as well as increasing the number of cars per train, as well as decreasing the speed of each train. This is a terrible proposal considering the safety and environmental factors involved. Their current proposal has virtually no benefit for the Greater Cleveland area. From an economic viewpoint, their proposal will decrease the value of the homes along this corridor. You should be aware that there has been a renaissance in these neighborhoods. New families have moved into this previously depressed, drug ridden area and have made this an attractive place to live. To allow NS to run rampant in this area with long, slow, coal-carrying trains, would be a devastating step backwards. From a public safety perspective, NS's proposal will cut-off the northern portion of the county resulting in serious delays in responses by police, fire departments, and paramedics. These are problems that cannot be simply resolved by building under/overpasses because there are too many railroad crossings in this area. Not all of the crossings can be accommodated. In fact, presently not all of the crossings have safety gates. These intersections are already dangerous, it is wrong to make them worse.

I am a pragmatic person and I believe that problems can be worked out among parties as long as both parties want the problems resolved. However, NS originally promised to sell these lines to RTA, and recently they did a complete "about-face." This makes me question the sincerity of NS. I do not believe they want to work with the community on this matter, instead it appears they will do what they please. Therefore, for the reasons stated above I request that you deny the proposed break-up of Conrail by CSX and NS on the grounds of public safety and the adverse effects to the community.

Sincerely,

Matthew E. Majher

Matthew E. Majher

25309 Bayfair Court
Bay Village, Ohio
44140

September 15, 1997

Congressman Dennis Kucinich
14400 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio
44107

Dear Congressman Kucinich,

I am writing to you concerning the planned increase in rail traffic through our community of Bay Village. It saddens my heart to even think of this happening. All of us here would have to restructure our daily routines to work around the schedules of the railroads so we could pass over trains blocking roads. Why, we would be cut off from the areas south of our homes a good deal of the time. Think of the safety and health consequences. I myself am a diabetic with a serious heart condition, I sure would hate to be held up on the Columbia Road railroad tracks with an emergency while one of their trains is tying up our progress, this could result in death.

Norfolk & Southern are planning to increase train traffic through our community from 13 to 38 trains a day. That is not a few more a day, that is three times as much!!

The traffic will be crazy with everybody looking for a way to get to other roads the trains don't cross over. My husband I can not live like that. We will most likely be forced to move somewhere else, somewhere they don't have a train problem like this.

Please do whatever you can to help us. Please block the proposal to allow N&S and CSX to be able to do this to our community,

We thank you sincerely,

Mr Austreberto V. Cruz

Mrs Madeline K Cruz

Austreberto V Cruz
Madeline K Cruz

30310 Ashton Lane
Bay Village, OH 44140-1717
216-871-3450

090297

August 29, 1997

Mr. Dennis Kucinich
Congressman
14440 Detroit Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

Please keep working to prevent the rerouting of more trains through Lakewood, Rocky River and Bay Village.

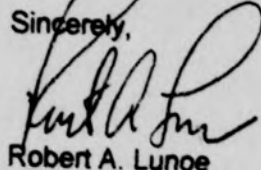
Truly this is a real public safety issue because of the large number of crossings and the lack of safe underpasses/overpasses for motorists and pedestrians to use to avoid crossing in front of the trains.

The communities along the Norfolk Southern tracks are densely populated residential areas, and increasing the train traffic through these areas is both dangerous and undesirable.

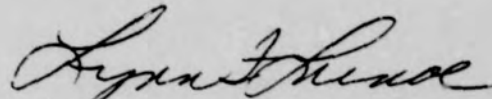
As a resident of Western Bay Village, I am concerned about emergency vehicles having unhampered access to regions south of the railroad tracks, where all of the hospitals and emergency medical care facilities are located. The closest overpass to me is at I-90 and Clague. If the tracks are blocked by a train passing or even stopped on the tracks, the five mile trip from my home to the Clague underpass would cost precious minutes for emergency vehicles. Also, access to I-90, the major artery to medical trauma centers, major businesses, entertainment and recreation areas would be blocked.

Please ask the Transportation Board to rethink what they are doing. Lakewood alone has too many serious train/auto accidents with the current train traffic. Surely more lives will be lost if the traffic increases! Please do not allow this to happen to the residents of these communities. Our safety and the safety of our children and those who work in our community will be greatly compromised.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Lunoe



Lynn F. Lunoe

cc: Mayor Thomas Jelepik, City of Bay Village

SARAH BALAS
608 Elmwood Rd.
Bay Village, OH. 44140

Telephone (216) 835-2624

No. FD 33388

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing this letter because of my concern about the proposed increase in train traffic near my home. My husband and I live three houses away from the tracks and don't mind the current traffic delays. However, I have two concerns. The first is that every time we want to cross the tracks we will likely be delayed by the trains. My second concern is that emergency vehicles are going to be delayed in crossing the tracks. A little history about my husband will explain my grave concern. My husband is in the end stages of Cystic Fibrosis and is oxygen dependent. He lives at home with me and is waiting for a lung transplant. When there are big storms and our power goes out, we need the power company to be able to get through right away, so that he doesn't have to go without oxygen. We also need to have ambulances able to get to our house right away.

I hope you rethink your proposal so that the people in our community can feel safe and have good access to the help they may need.

Thank you for your time,

Sarah Balas

Sarah Balas

Congressman Dennis Kucinich
14400 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Re: No. FD 33388

Dear Sir:

This letter is my protest to the proposed increase in rail traffic through the westshore communities from 13 to approximately 38 trains a day.

As a westshore resident I sincerely believe that the safety, health and economic impact that this proposal would have on virtually all of us in such a densely populated area could be devastating.

In closing, while railroads play a vital role in our country, common sense has to exist when the safety and welfare of literally thousands of individuals and families are at stake.

I thank you for reading my letter and I hope that an alternate solution will be forthcoming in the future.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Edwina A. Kovesdy

Address:

*20061 Frontier Drive
Rocky River, Ohio 44116*

NOTE: I have lived in Rocky River 32 yrs and feel the train traffic is already too much for our city. This proposal is absolutely a deterioration of what we have worked so long to preserve for our citizens.

September 2, 1997

Federal Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environment Analysis
1925 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20433

ATTENTION: Document Number FD33388

Gentlemen:

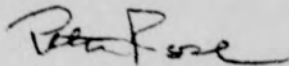
This letter is a plea to you to prevent the addition of any rail freight traffic on the Cleveland-Vermilion line of Norfolk and Southern Railroad.

This plan would disrupt so many lives, disturb the peace of beautiful neighborhoods, endanger the health of thousands of people from coal dust exposure, noise pollution, the potential danger of toxic chemicals, and the economic consequences of decreased property values and tax revenues would be devastating.

Our home is in Lakewood, Ohio where we have 27 streets that are bisected by NS tracks. Additional trains and longer, faster trains are a danger to our citizens and children. Lakewood does not have school busing and students attending 8 schools cross the tracks at least twice each day. Our police, fire and emergency vehicles would be seriously impacted by any increase in freight rail traffic through our city. More overpasses and underpasses would not remove all of the rail threats to our neighborhoods. On interstates through populated areas, signs bear the letters "HC" - hazardous cargo - with a slash through it, meaning certain trucks should take routes through industrialized areas, rather than through residential zones. Why shouldn't the same apply to freight trains?

Again, please consider the health and safety of thousands of residents in Northern Ohio and prevent the escalation of unsafe and unhealthy freight movement through our cities along Lake Erie.

Sincerely,



21180 Detroit Rd

Congressman Dennis Kucinich
14400 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Re: No. FD 33388

Dear Sir:

This letter is my protest to the proposed increase in rail traffic through the westshore communities from 13 to approximately 38 trains a day.

As a westshore resident I sincerely believe that the safety, health and economic impact that this proposal would have on virtually all of us in such a densely populated area could be devastating.

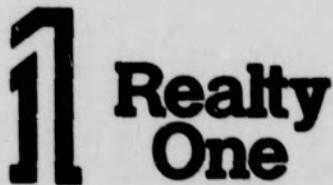
In closing, while railroads play a vital role in our country, common sense has to exist when the safety and welfare of literally thousands of individuals and families are at stake.

I thank you for reading my letter and I hope that an alternate solution will be forthcoming in the future.

Sincerely,

Frank C. Coughlin

Address: 20065 Franklin Dr.
Rocky River, Ohio 44116



BAY VILLAGE OFFICE
662 DOVER CENTER ROAD
BAY VILLAGE, OHIO 44140-2376
(216) 835-6500 (CLEVELAND)
(216) 323-7525 (ELYRIA)
(216) 933-6550 (AVON LAKE)
FAX (216) 835-1780

September 10, 1997

Congressman Dennis Kucinich
14400 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Re: No. FD 33388

Dear Sir:

This letter is my protest to the proposed increase in rail traffic through the westshore communities from 13 to approximately 38 trains a day.

As a westshore resident I sincerely believe that the safety, health and economic impact that this proposal would have on virtually all of us in such a densely populated area could be devastating.

In closing, while railroads play a vital role in our country, common sense has to exist when the safety and welfare of literally thousands of individuals and families are at stake.

I thank you for reading my letter and I hope that an alternate solution will be forthcoming in the future.

Sincerely,

Dennis W. Kucinich

Address:

30606 Winton
Bay Village 44140

September 10, 1997

Congressman Dennis Kucinich
14400 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Re: No. FD 33388

Dear Sir:

This letter is my protest to the proposed increase in rail traffic through the westshore communities from 13 to approximately 38 trains a day.

As a westshore resident I sincerely believe that the safety, health and economic impact that this proposal would have on virtually all of us in such a densely populated area could be devastating.

In closing, while railroads play a vital role in our country, common sense has to exist when the safety and welfare of literally thousands of individuals and families are at stake.

I thank you for reading my letter and I hope that an alternate solution will be forthcoming in the future.

Sincerely,

Kathleen J. Brennan

Address: 28514 Knickerbocker
Bay Village, Ohio 44140

612 Revere Drive
Bay Village, OH 44140
September 24, 1997

Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423
Reference: # FD 33388

Dear Sir;

We are writing this letter with the sincere hope that you will hear our deep concerns on the Norfolk Southern's (NS) proposal to increase traffic through our western suburbs to more than triple from what we have been experiencing.

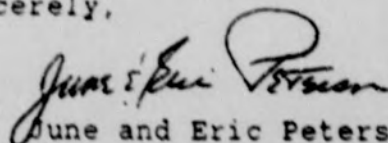
Bay Village is located between Lake Erie to the north and the Norfolk Southern train track to the south. All our major medical needs are located to the south of us on the other side of the tracks. Recently my wife had a stroke. I called 911 and had her in the hospital (on the OTHER SIDE OF THE TRACK) in 10 minutes. The doctors were most appreciative of getting her to the hospital so soon . By having treatment so quickly her, the effects of the stroke were minimized. Had we been held up by a train going by at the particular time we crossed the tracks, time would have been lost - valuable time.

There are many reasons why we are very concerned about this latest change of increase train traffic. In addition to the concern for medical needs as pointed out , there is the inconvenience factor on all our daily activities, the concern for decreasing property values, the noise level. Since Bay Village is long in length (East to West) but short in depth (North to South), train traffic is very noticeable and unpleasant.

We live with what we have become accustom to. We feel that the proposed increase in train traffic would not be in the interest of our community. We hope and pray you will look at this proposal as a change that is not going to occur.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


June and Eric Peterson

1535 Spring Garden
Lakewood Ohio 44107
September 11, 1997

Representative Dennis Kucinich
1440 Detroit road
Lakewood, OH 44107

Representative Dennis Kucinich

Dear representative,

My name is Tod Womack, and I'm from Horace Mann Middle School. I would like to talk about the trains how I feel about them and what could be done to stop this from happening. I would also like to know what exactly you think about the trains coming through.

I seriously don't think we and other cities should be forced to let these trains come in and change the way things have been around here for a long time. I think the trains are going to ruin our economy by things like making more traffic, the police fire department and ambulances are going to have longer response times, there will be a lot more noise keeping people awake, and it could be hazardous to peoples health.

I serioudely hope that you can stop these trains from coming. Write back if you can.

Sincerely,

Tod Womack
Tod Womack

STB

FD

33388

10-1-97

K

MOCH

26/26

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

My name is Lisa Schneider and I live on 26927 Knickerbocker in Bay Village OH. I am married and have two children: Nicole, 2 and Andrew, 3 mos. I have lived in this home for almost my whole life. My husband and I purchased it from my father one year ago. The train tracks run in my backyard, a little over a hundred feet from my home.

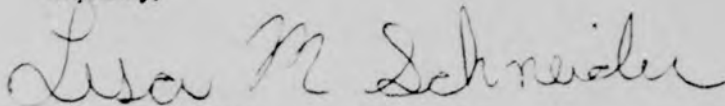
Growing up by the tracks, I got used to the trains going by. At that time, they weren't very bothersome. Recently though, they run at all hours of the day and night. Many a times I have been awoken by a train blaring its horn at 3:00 in the morning. It's hard to put children to bed and get a good nights rest when trains are going by all of the time. You may be saying to yourself, "Well, you knew about the trains when you bought your home." True, but I wasn't anticipating the trains getting louder and increasing. My husband and with the help of family has made major renovations to our home in order to increase its value and make it more liveable. Unfortunately, the value of our home will go down if the proposed increase in train traffic goes into effect. No one will want to purchase a home that is a hundred feet away from train tracks that have 36 trains daily going by. That's a major disruption to life, safety, and privacy.

My main concern is the safety issue. With two young children, I worry about whether or not I can let them play in the backyard. With an increase in train traffic comes an increase of possible accidents. What will you do to ensure the safety of my family in the case of a derailement? The fence and shrubery my husband and I are planning to place along the backyard by the tracks aren't going to do much. Will you construct sound barriers along the tracks that border homes, such as the ones you see on the highway? Are you going to reimburse me the money that I will lose in the value of my home?

There is also another issue to be looked at, car traffic. If 36 trains go by, lots of traffic will be tied up due to the wait of passing trains. Lakewood would turn into one big parking lot. Rocky River would have to build another fire firestation. Residents of Bay would have to take extra long routes to get out of the city. Did you think of this? Probably not.

Lastly, put yourself in our shoes. Would you be for increased train traffic if you live in the neighborhoods that were majorly effected by this? Would you have the same concerns? I understand that materials and products need to be shipped, but at what cost? I am sure there are other means and other ways that they can be shipped without disrupting people's lives. Please take into serious consideration of what I have mentioned. I beg you not to increase the traffic. Living with 12-14 trains a day is enough headaches.

Sincerely,



Lisa M. Schneider

September 21, 1997

Honorable Dennis Kucinich
US Ohio District 21
House Representatives

Representative Kucinich,

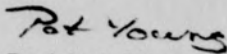
Thank you for fighting the increase train traffic through the Western suburbs of Cleveland. We are property owners north of the tracks. Our daughter and her friends walk to St. Rose School and must cross the tracks. The children are already aware of the need to schedule their departures around the 8:10a.m. train or face tardiness because of their delay in crossing the tracks. As parents, we try to educate our children as to train and road safety but running late or other child teasing may cloud the child's judgment causing them to risk their safety to get to school or home.

The present schedule of trains is tolerable for the neighborhood and its citizens. Citizens have adjusted their travel patterns to overcome train delays when faced with crossing the tracks. If train travel increases, citizens will alter their driving routes diverting their business from previous patronized businesses. The question - "Who will financially suffer more small businesses or a large conglomerate?" needs to be addressed.

As the arguments unfold, I hope the Federal Railroad Administration weigh all concerns and judge the merits and solutions that will benefit all such as financial benefits to the suburbs, environmental responsibilities of railroad to the suburbs and city, citizen contentment and safety, railroad profitability and alternatives.

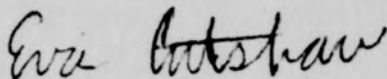
Thank you for listening to our concerns.

Sincerely,



Patricia A. Young

Evanna Cutshaw
1293 W. 114 St.
Cleveland, Ohio 44102



Please fight to prevent added
trains passing through Lakewood.

Reasons:

- (1) safety of children
- (2) emergency vehicles reaching
parts of city quickly
- (3) police & medical services quickly
- (4) hazardous cargo passing through
- (5) lowering of property value
- (6) inconvenience for all
- (7) more accidents

Thank you,

Mary Anne McFarland
1195 French Ave
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

09/19/97 07:35 AM

DENNIS

I HAVE BEEN A RESIDENT OF LAKEWOOD OHIO FOR THE PAST 29 YEARS, AND HAVE LIVED AT MY PRESENT ADDRESS FOR THE PAST 15 YEARS, THIS HOUSE IS 5TH FROM THE TRACKS, I FEEL THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER TO LIVE BY THE AIRPORT. MY HOUSE SHAKES!!!!!! THE LOUD TRAIN HORN AT 4 IN THE MORNING, THE COUNTLESS # OF CARS HIT EVERY YEAR, THINKING EVERY TIME IT GOES BY WHAT TYPE OF CHEMICAL IS ON IT, WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THERE WAS A CHEM LEAK, THE HIGH SPEED THAT THE TRAIN TRAVELS, SOME HOUSES ARE SO CLOSE TO THE TRACK IF THERE WAS A DERAILMENT HOW MANY PEOPLE WOULD BE KILLED HOUSE DESTROYED !!!!!, I PUT TIME, MONEY AND HEART INTO MY HOUSE AND TO HAVE THE VALUE OF MY PROPERTY GO DOWN BECAUSE I !!! DON'T!!!! THINK!!!! SO!!!!!! I FEEL THAT ALL TRAIN TRAFFIC SHOULD BE HALTED



Arthur Jensen
1349 Lakeland
LAKESIDE, Ohio 44107

1185 French Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107
September 15, 1997

Representative Dennis Kucinich
14400 Detroit Road
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Dear Representative Kucinich:

I am a seventh grade student in Horace Mann Middle School. I'm 13 and have lived in Lakewood all my life. My language arts classmates and I are writing to mayors and represnetatives who are trying to stop the train increations in Ohio's suburbs.

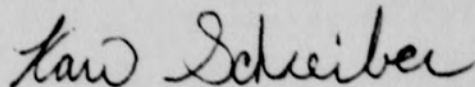
The increasing number of trains will be a nuisance to the residents and to the roadway traffic in the area. When the train traffic goes up so will the noise, pollution, reduced property values, and the chances of hazardous waste.

The kids will also be in danger with the trains. I babysit every Tuesday and sometimes on Fridays and Saturdays. The kid I babysit love going for walks and the trains will be a hazard to us all.

I think you should do what ever you can to stop the trains. I believe the people fighting this will win. I know the suburb residents will be a lot happier.

Thank you for reading this.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karl Schreiber". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Karl Schreiber

The proposal of Norfolk Southern to triple the number of freight trains running through Cleveland, Lakewood, Rocky River and Bay Village, show us that they are out of touch. This increase will ruin the quality of life for thousands of people who have work so hard to earn.

For last 9 out of 18 years we have lived in Bay Village. . . our home backs up to the railroad tracks. . . we have a first hand knowledge of the affect that trains can have on your life. We have stayed in Bay Village because we enjoy the quality of life that Bay Village offers. (see the Cleveland Magazine)

Listed below are the affects, concerns and comments, that my family have about how Norfolk Southern proposal.

Five years ago we had to have our home (2100 sq ft.) re-nailed, do to the vibration from the trains. Daily train traffic causes our windows and objects in our home to rattle and move, this type of vibration and structural damage will only increase.

Homes that live along the tracks are between 5 and 10 thousand dollars less in value then those who live just across the street.

The transportation of hazardous materials on I-90 in the same western communities of Cuyahoga County is prohibited. Why should trains be allowed? The rail run through a more densely populated areas. By Norfolk Southern transporting these materials they are jeopardizing thousands of people lives.

Can our community fire departments deal with and are they equip for hazardous material accidents, or train derailments.

Can Rocky River, Westlake and Bay Village pass a law prohibiting the transportation of hazardous materials?

Any family will tell you that they can not carry a conversation, or talk on telephone, or listen to music, or watch television with their windows or doors open. Anyone living near Cleveland International Airport have gotten federal support to lessen the noise, why shouldn't this be the same?

With a single railroad track that runs on the north side, through Rocky River, Westlake and Bay Village (the residential side) the trains has a tendency to slow down and stop. Taking miles and time to stop and restart. This causes traffic to be stopped for more then three minutes.

Please consider how this will affect thousands of people lives, not just for money.

Mr. & Mrs. James W. Lustek
631 Dwight Drive
Bay Village, Ohio 44410

September 8, 1997

090997

Federal Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis
1925 K Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20423

Gentlemen:

Reference: No. FD 55588

I worked for the railroad for forty-five years and I am in favor of railroads for transportation; however, at present I am distressed. My house (I have lived here for 37 years) vibrates from the fast trains across the street. With the increased rail traffic the vibration will cause damage to my home. Also, I am having a problem keeping the furniture and floors free of dust since more trains have been added.

Would appreciate anything you can do to derail the M&S from increasing traffic through the suburb of Bay Village, Ohio.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

E. H. Keisling

Esther H. Keisling
24000 Knickerbocker Rd
Bay Village, Ohio 44140

Copy to :
✓ Congressman Dennis Kucinich
14400 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Mayor Thomas L. Jealepis
City of Bay Village, Ohio

September 8, 1997

090997

Congressman Dennis Kucinich
14400 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood OH 44107

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

I am a resident of Bay Village, Ohio. As you probably already know, Norfolk & Southern (N&S) Railroad has proposed an increase in rail traffic through the westshore communities from 13 to approximately 38 trains per day. This is contingent upon N&S and CSX's successful acquisition of Conrail assets which must be approved by the Federal Surface Transportation Board in June of 1998.

The safety, health, and economic impact this could have on virtually all of us in such a densely populated area could be devastating. Consequently, although discussions are underway with N&S to determine alternate routes, this proposal to virtually triple traffic leaves us no other choice but to fight with everything in our power to prevent this from occurring.

I strongly urge you to fight on our behalf that either they find alternate routes, or that this acquisition be squashed. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,


Judith Koelliker
400 Walmar Drive
Bay Village OH 44140

092597

9/22/97

Mike Schwab
1319 Marlowe Ave.
Lakewood, Ohio 44107
226-6935

Dear Mr. Kucinich,

I am concerned about having more train traffic. As a landlord, it may influence my ability to rent housing because of increased noise. Therefore, it could effect a landlord's ability to produce income.

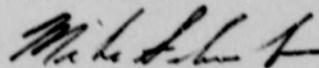
As a result, housing in Lakewood could take a dramatic decline. As we know, there are a lot of rentals in Lakewood. Good landlords may choose to move out, and "slumlords" may take over, creating the afore mentioned decline.

Lakewood's decline would have a dramatic effect on cities like Rocky River and Fairview Park, not to mention a devastating effect on West Park.

Having more trains in a heavily populated area is a definite safety problem. There are already a number of fatal accidents attributed to the railroad running through Lakewood.

Please prevent the noise associated problems and the fatalities.

Truly yours,



Mike Schwab

090297

28610 Knickerbocker Road
Bay Village, OH 44140
August 29, 1997

Congressman Dennis Kucinich
14400 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

This letter is to express my strong opposition to the increase in traffic through our suburb by the Norfolk and Southern Railroad.

Since I am a resident of Knickerbocker Road, this issue is particularly important to me. My concerns include the increased noise of trains, the decrease in property value, the safety issues and much more.

Thank you for your continuing battle. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

Eloise W. Neeson
Eloise W. Neeson

August 29, 1997

090297

Federal Surface Transportation Board
Selection of Environment Analysis
1925 K Street NW
Washington DC 20423

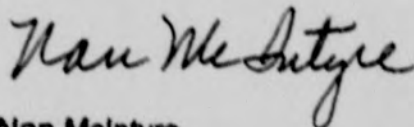
RE: Document Number FD33388

I am writing to voice my serious concerns about the possibility of a significant increase in the train traffic that could be allowed to travel by my home. I live at 1308 Ramona Avenue in Lakewood, Ohio. Our home is four houses away from the tracks.

My husband and I carefully considered the amount of train traffic when making the decision to purchase this property. Since moving into the house in April, 1996, we have learned that even the current level of traffic can cause serious consequences. Shortly after moving in, a young man was killed on the tracks at Marlow Avenue; this is the cross street we must use to cross the tracks. Our son and several of his friends were outside playing when this occurred. The gruesome facts of this terrible accident are something we have had a difficult time putting out of our minds. I fear that the increase in train traffic will increase the likelihood of this type of accident.

Just across the tracks is Lakewood Hospital. We have first hand knowledge of the frequency with which emergency vehicles are called to respond to medical emergencies. In addition, police and fire trucks must often respond to emergencies that require they cross the tracks. I do not want my family and home to be in jeopardy because of the increased train traffic.

Sincerely,



Nan McIntyre
1308 Ramona Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

cc: Congressman Dennis Kucinich
Senator Mike DeWine

090297

1380 Gladys Ave.
Lakewood, Ohio
August 29, 1997

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

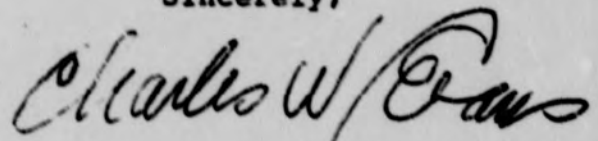
One can't help but feel Norfolk Southern Corporation's latest plan to increase rail traffic through this area is another nail in Lakewood's coffin.

This scheme will be just another burden to drive thinking people, who have the means, out of an overtaxed, over regulated, over crowded, under represented community.

The railroad in question will undoubtedly attempt the closure of many of our streets which are crossed by Norfolk Southern's tracks. The railroad's faulty rational is that this will prevent accidents and save lives. In reality this is just the railroad's self-serving propaganda. The R.R. knows more crossing gates will be needed with the proposed additional rail traffic. They, the R.R. brass don't want to pay a penny for additional crossing gates. That being the case the majority of the costs for the safety devices will be passed on to the taxpayers as records will show it has been in the past.

It is hoped that we of Lakewood will be well represented, by our local public officials, in the matter of expanded rail traffic through my town.

Sincerely,



Charles W. Evans
(CBR. 221-2296)

cc; Fed. Surface Transportation Board, Steve FitzGerald and others.

crossing will be unable to move on,
but have nowhere to go.

P.S. I have also mailed copy to:

Federal Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis
1925 K St. NW
Washington DC 20423

Respectfully

Velma R. Reddy
27100 Knickerbocker Rd.
#212
Bay Village, Oh.
44140

Dear Congressman Kucinich;

The proposal of Norfolk and Southern
Railroad to increase trains from 13 to
approximately 38 per day, through the
western communities have greatly concerned
nearby residents. I am a widow 84 years
old, residing at the Knickerbocker apartments
(across the street on the corner of Knickerbocker
and Dunes Ctr. Rd.) The crossing is directly
in front of us.

I don't like to think of the affect of tripling
the trains would have on us.

No doubt most of residents here have a
little hearing loss, but, believe me, when
some of these engines "play their tunes",
we end up holding our ears.

We hope and pray that you will be
humane enough to consider other alter-
natives.

Also, with the addition of that many
more trains, disgruntled drivers at the

September 19, 1997

#FD 33388

Federal Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis
1925 K Street NW
Washington, DC 20423

Dear Members of the Federal Surface Transportation Board:

I am writing this letter to express my opposition to any increase in train traffic along the railroad tracks which are located through the westshore communities of suburban Cleveland. Many residents of Lakewood, Rocky River and Bay Village are concerned about future ramifications of the plan on our communities. I have received correspondence from both Mayor Tom Jelepis and Congressman Dennis Kucinich outlining these negative ramifications. They have been made known to your board members as well. My greatest concerns are the safety issues raised by such a planned increase.

As you review the request by Norfolk and Southern Railroad, I hope that you will consider the serious consequences their proposed plan would have on the future of the families who live along the tracks as well as those who live in the communities whose safety will be threatened.

Sincerely,

(Cynthia) Jane Stocking
639 Brooke Lane
Bay Village, Ohio 44140

cc. Mayor Thomas L. Jelepis
Congressman Dennis Kucinich ✓