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April 25, 2009

Mr. Barry D. Cooper
Federal Aviation Administration
Great Lakes Region
2300 East Des Plaines Ave.
Des Plaines, IL 60018

Re: O'Hare Noise in Edgewater Community of Chicago

Dear Mr. Cooper:

Starting this morning and continuing until at least 12:30 p.m., the jet plane noise over my neighborhood (6000N – 1300W in Chicago) was intolerable. There were two lines of inbound jets: one apparently over approximately Devon Avenue, and one apparently over Bryn Mawr. The noise at times was so loud that I had difficulty having a back yard conversation with my neighbor on a nice spring day. This is but one example of an ever-increasing jet noise problem. We have never had jet noise issues before the O'Hare "modernization" program and the related runway re-configurations. The new runways are destroying the peace and quiet of our once-quiet neighborhood. I request that the FAA take steps to substantially reduce the impact of the reconfiguration and the resulting jet noise on our families and property values in the Edgewater community.

My understanding is that this is only the beginning of the problem and that when the O'Hare program is complete, almost all jet traffic will be on East/West runways that route planes directly over Edgewater. This community was never notified of any impact that the O'Hare project would have on our peace and quiet. We are many miles from the airport and have not had these issues before.

Please advise what steps the FAA intends to take to reduce jet noise over the Edgewater community of Chicago. I really would like to be able to have a conversation with my next door neighbor again without the need to shout over the jets.

Very truly yours,

cc: Hon. Arlene Mulder
Mr. Brian Gilligan
Alderman Mary Ann Smith