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STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

Illinois Pollution Control Board
Attn: Carol Webb
Suite 11-500
100 W. Randolph Street
Chicago, IL 60601

PCB 04-36
PC#2

Board Members,

My name is Suzanne Simpson and I lived next to the Petrosius' house on Maridon Road. My home was 300' from the tollway during the installation of the sound wall under debate. I worked diligently to no prevail to have the pilings inspected during the installation process due to an obvious error in design and or installation.

I have enclosed a letter I sent to the tollway in 1994 stating my concerns at that time. As you will read, the tollway was informed that the wall they were installing was going to be below road level. They were informed of this before the walls were inserted.

I was very happy to pass this information along to Mr. Petrosius due to the amount of time and effort I spent on this and the obvious amount of time and money Mr. Petrosius has also spent. The tollway at that time had the same position it has now. They knew it was incorrect, but they would do nothing to correct it. I wish I were aware of the Pollution Control Board in 1994 because that would have been a wonderful option for my neighbors and myself. It could have been twelve years of a better life style for us all.

Since moving from the area I now fully realize just how much my neighbors and myself were inconvenienced and limited to how we went about our daily lives.

I wish my old neighbors all the luck in the world in achieving what I could not. It was a wonderful area to live with the exception of the noise.

Sincerely,

Suzanne M. Simpson

7335 Maridon Rd
Countryside IL 60525

Suzanne M. Simpson, CPA

10321 5th Avenue ♦ La Grange, Illinois 60525 ♦ (708) 354-9410

October 17, 1994

Mr. Frank Howard, Chief Attorney
Illinois State Toll Highway Authority
One Authority Drive
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

**CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Dear Mr. Howard:

Our property lies within 300 feet of I-294, where the new 75th Street ramp enters the northbound tollway. We purchased this home in November 1992 after several discussions with individuals at the Tollway and United Parcel Service, regarding construction plans. My concern obviously, had to do with how the local residents would be effected by such construction. The conversations were very helpful and reassuring that our choice of a new home was a good one.

Since then, I have spoken to Scott Dworschak periodically regarding the sound wall that was to be constructed near our property. Traveling I-294 from Alsip to O'Hare regularly, I observed various sections of the wall going up. One day in June, I came home to find construction had begun at the end of Maridon Road. By the end of the third day's work, it was obvious that something was wrong.

As the wall comes out from behind the house at the end of the road (which incidentally the Tollway owns and the contractors have been using as a headquarters since we moved here), the wall was slightly higher than the Tollway. However, the wall takes two substantial drops, so that the highest point as it comes across Maridon Road is even with the Tollway, and the point closest to my and my neighbor, Bill Piper's house, is at least four feet below the level of the Tollway. At that point I called Mr. Dworschak to discuss the situation. After a lengthy discussion, I reluctantly agreed to give it a couple of weeks for the work to be completed and to evaluate the noise level.

In addition to the height of the wall, at least a 30 foot gap was originally left between the concrete wall and the wood fence that surrounds the interchange. This gap was eventually closed with additional wood fencing after our on-site meeting with Mr. Dworschak.

It has proved to be neither the sight wall nor sound barrier that we were told would be erected. The wall is too short to block the sight of the tollway, and the noise level has more than doubled since construction of the wall. After repeated phone calls, and a number of unreturned messages later, Bill Piper, his son Bob Piper, Pat McDonak (Countryside Village Manager), Pat Rogers (Lyons Township Supervisor), and I met with Mr. Dworschak, on August 18, 1994. We toured the site, Mr. Piper's property, and my property.

Since this meeting, I have spoken to Mr. Dworschak, and my husband has spoken to Ken Desmaretz (your chief engineer). We have been told that the Tollway is not going to anything more regarding the wall because "based on Federal guidelines, we have done all that we are required to do." We, and the other effected residents along Maridon Road and 5th Avenue Cutoff, find this response completely unacceptable. Observing the wall erected along other sections of the tollway, it is quite obvious to even the untrained eye that something is wrong here.

Since the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority has no qualms about infringing upon citizens homes and livelihoods, we find it necessary to keep pursuing this until we reach a satisfactory conclusion. Until this point, we have given the Tollway every opportunity to acknowledge its own error, and remedy the situation quietly and peacefully. Since those opportunities have been ignored, I now find it necessary to request copies of the papers documenting the design and construction of the wall, from 95th Street to I-290, including the sound studies that were done, under the Freedom of Information Act. I understand that I am obligated to pay *reasonable* copying and messengering costs. I also understand that you are obligated to respond to this request within ten days of receipt. I can be reached in my office during the day at (708) 766-7007. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Suzanne M. Simpson

CC: Bill Piper
Pat Rogers

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RECEIVED 10/30/94

SENDER:

1. Complete items 1 and 2 for additional services.
 2. Complete items 3 and 4.
 3. Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so that we can return this card to you.
 4. Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back if space does not permit.
 5. Write "Return to Sender Requested" on the mailpiece below the addressee's name.
 6. The return receipt will show to whom the article was delivered and the date delivered.

7. Article Addressed to:

MR FRANK HOWARD
 CHIEF ATTORNEY
 14 ST TOLL HWY AUTHORITY
 ONE AUTHORITY DRIVE
 DOWNERS GROVE, IL 60515

8. Article Number:

7265 965 099

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