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COMMENTS SUBMISSION to IAAC: August 21, 2020

To: CEAA (now the IAAC)

Re: Comments to the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) public comment period as part of the environmental assessment process for the proposed Milton Logistics Hub Project, located in Milton, Ontario.

To whom it may concern,

In response to the call for public comment on the potential environmental assessment conditions for the project. We do not believe it is relevant that these potential conditions would become legally binding on the proponent if the Minister of Environment and Climate Change ultimately issues a decision statement indicating the project may proceed—we believe that the significant adverse environmental and human health effects **cannot** be mitigated in regards to the project moving forward at this location.

Please see enclosed our petitions to the Government of Canada and the IAAC, which serves as part our community's collective response to the call for public comment.

Petition e-2731, which you have submitted on the petitions website of the House of Commons, has been certified for presentation to the House. This petition has been signed and certified with 4,049 signatories.

Whereas:

'Milton Residents Affected by Intermodal Lines (R.A.I.L.)', 'Milton Says No', and the undersigned express our serious concern with the impact of the proposed Milton Logistics hub project by CN Rail and we oppose the proposed location in Milton, Ontario;

The findings from the Environmental Assessment Panel determined that CN's proposed project will have significant adverse effects to human health that cannot be mitigated and will have devastating long-lasting impacts on residents;

Never before have significant adverse impacts on human health been found in previous panel reviews and no Federal Government has ever concluded that adverse effects on human health are justified in order to advance a project;

*The Panel found that the changes to air quality as a result of CN's proposed project include an increase in three no-threshold pollutants, which are unsafe at any level;
Within one km of the proposed site there are 34,000 residents, one hospital, 12 schools, and two long-term care facilities;
Without direct highway access, the impact of up to 1600 truck trips per day, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week and 365 days per year would negatively affect the environment, the health and safety of residents, local roads and main commuter routes, cause congestion, toxic pollution, dust and particulates and safety issues; and
Health and safety of Halton residents should matter most,*

We, the undersigned, residents of the Regional Municipality of Halton, call upon the Government of Canada to refuse the approval of the proposed CN Logistics Hub in Milton.

In addition to our responses above on behalf of our organization and on behalf of our members, signatories and the residents of Halton Region, please also note the following concerns:

COMPLAINT:

It has been our experience and the experience of other residents in the Halton Region that an organization called The Logit Group has been conducting, by means of telemarketing, surveys during which respondents are corralled by surveyors into giving desirable answers for CN. We contacted The Logit Group as a result of these complaints and they refused to tell us for whom they were conducting this survey. We are concerned the survey was, indeed, being conducted on behalf of CN or friends of CN in order to present false support for the project. Residents felt harassed, intimidated and frustrated by this untoward process.

We wish to state that we also have grave concerns about the manner in which CN has continued to provide sponsorship monies to organizations who seem to then endorse the project— including our Milton Chamber of Commerce board that has endorsed the project without consulting its membership base of near 750 member businesses. These sponsored entities have turned around and submitted letters of support to the project registry. We do hope the panel is putting these pieces together and understands how underhanded and corrupt this conduct is.

Finally, as a grassroots organization run by citizens, we do not say no, we say no to this dangerous location. We believe it is incumbent upon CN to find safe, appropriate locations for these facilities immediately adjacent to major highways in areas zoned for heavy industry. As always, our door remains open to discuss alternative locations.

Sincerely,

Stacey Newman
Director Communications
Per Milton Says No
www.miltonsaysno.com