

Formal Letter to FRA and CN – Speed Limit Reduction Request

[Your Name]
[Your Address]
Barrington, IL 60010
[Your Email] | [Your Phone]

Date: [Insert Date]

TO:

Federal Railroad Administration
Office of Railroad Safety
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

AND

Canadian National Railway (U.S. Division)
935 de La Gauchetière Street West
Montreal, Quebec H3B 2M9
U.S. Contact: https://www.cn.ca/en/contact-us/?utm_source=chatgpt.com#

RE: Request to Reduce Speed Limit at CN Railroad Crossing #260 515D (IL Route 59 / Hough Street, Barrington, IL 60010)

Dear Officials,

I am writing on behalf of **concerned residents of Barrington, Illinois**, in the immediate vicinity of **Canadian National Railway Crossing #260 515D**, located at **IL Route 59 (Hough Street), Barrington, IL 60010**. This crossing lies in close proximity to the **intersection of CN's freight line with Metra's Union Pacific Northwest Line**.

According to Illinois Commerce Commission records and FRA data, the **current train speed limit at this crossing is 45 miles per hour**. We are urgently requesting that the **Federal Railroad Administration and Canadian National Railway review and reduce this speed to a maximum of 25 mph**, due to significant and ongoing **vibration-related damage** to surrounding homes and businesses.

Residents report:

- Violent ground vibrations when CN freight trains pass at high speed.

- Damage to foundations, porches, walls, and interiors of homes and commercial buildings.
- Shaking of beds, rattling of kitchenware, and in some cases, physical cracks in structures.
- Deterioration in quality of life, property value, and growing community displacement.

This crossing presents **unique engineering and safety concerns**, as it involves **two intersecting rail lines**, which intensify ground vibration when trains pass at high speed.

We respectfully request the following actions:

1. **A formal FRA safety and environmental vibration assessment** at and around Crossing #260 515D.
2. **A timetable speed reduction** to no more than 25 mph in the zone surrounding the crossing.
3. A meeting between CN, FRA, and local stakeholders to discuss ongoing impacts and mitigation solutions.

This issue has become untenable for residents and small business owners, many of whom are being forced to consider selling or leaving due to these unacceptable living conditions.

We appreciate your attention to this urgent matter and ask for a response outlining next steps and whether a vibration study or speed reevaluation is planned or possible.

Sincerely,

[Your Full Name]

On behalf of:

Citizens Against Destruction of Their Homes by Canadian Railways – <https://cadher.com/>