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May 23, 2005

Mr. Kevin K. Wright, Commissioner
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 East Capitol Av.
Springfield, IL 62701

Re: Nicor Rate Case Docket No. 04-0779

Dear Mr. Wright:

Marmion Academy is a private boy's secondary school located in the western suburbs of Chicago. We have been serving our community for more than 70 years by providing our students with a premier college prep curriculum.

The proposed Nicor increase in distribution rates to gas transportation customers will have a detrimental effect on our finances. Our utility rates are already extremely high and an increase in the 20%-40% (or higher) in these fees could make the difference between the decision to heat our buildings or consider program cuts.

Please reject this proposed rate and tariff increase.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jeffery T. Walan".

Jeffery T. Walan
Treasurer