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September 20, 2006

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C. Robert Henrikson
Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer
MetLife, Inc.
200 Park Avenue, 12th Fl
New York, NY 10166

Dear Mr. Henrikson,

I was disappointed to learn that MetLife is planning to move some or all of its operations from Western Queens, which is located in my Congressional district. MetLife's presence here has been a symbol of the strength and vitality of the Long Island City business community.

While many new businesses are choosing to make Western Queens their home, including United Nations Federal Credit Union and the New York Blood Bank, there is no question that MetLife's decision creates a sense of uncertainty about an interesting and dynamic neighborhood. In fact, with the Queens Plaza Roadway Rebuilding, the development of a new Citigroup tower, the expansion of Silvercup studios and the development of Queens West, Long Island City is a fast changing, growing and vigorous business district. I understand that a total of a million square feet of commercial space and 24,000 units of housing will open in Long Island City in the next 18 months.

I expect that MetLife, like most corporations, will continue to have offices outside of its headquarters and I am hopeful that MetLife will choose to keep a critical mass of personnel in Western Queens. Long Island City is one of the best locations for reasonably-priced, centrally located office space in the City. As more businesses and residents settle in the area, it is poised to become a more interesting retail environment as well.

I would like the opportunity to meet with you about your plans for Long Island City. My office will be contacting you to see if we can find a mutually agreeable time to meet. MetLife has been an important part of this community since 2001, and I hope it will continue to be a vigorous presence for many years to come.

Very truly yours,


CAROLYN B. MALONEY
Member of Congress

CBM/mre

Please reply to: 1651 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10128

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