BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Docket No. Ex Parte 704

REVIEW OF COMMODITY, BOXCAR, AND TOFC/COFC EXEMPTIONS

REPLY OF THE NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL TRANSPORTATION LEAGUE, THE AMERICAN FOREST AND PAPER ASSOCIATION AND THE PAPER AND FOREST INDUSTRY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE TO MOTION OF THE AMERICAN SHORT LINE AND REGIONAL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION TO EXTEND PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

The National Industrial Transportation League ("League"), the American Forest & Paper Association ("AF&PA"), and the Paper & Forest Industry Transportation Committee ("PFITC") (collectively, "Interested Parties") hereby reply to the "Motion of the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association to Extend Procedural Schedule" ("Motion") in the above-captioned proceeding, which was filed on November 4, 2010. The ASLRRA requests an extension of 120 days. While the Interested Parties would not object to a 30 day extension that would postpone the December 9, 2010 hearing until after the holiday season, the 120 day extension requested by the ASLRRA is unnecessary for the scope of testimony that the Board has requested.

The League is one of the oldest and largest national associations representing companies engaged in the transportation of goods in both domestic and international commerce. The League was founded in 1907, and currently has over 600 company members. These company members range from some of the largest users of the nation's and the world's transportation system, to smaller companies engaged in the shipment and receipt of goods. Many members of the League

are engaged in transportation of exempt traffic via rail, and therefore have a strong interest in this proceeding.

AF&PA is the national trade association of the forest products industry, representing pulp, paper, packaging and wood products manufacturers, and forest landowners. The forest products industry relies on the railroads for the transportation of raw materials to its mills and for bringing finished products to the marketplace. Most of this traffic is exempt.

PFITC is an association of paper, pulp and forest products logistics professionals whose purpose is to work with our transportation providers, local, State and Federal governments and other associations to ensure that our industry has access to a transportation network that can provide the service required to ensure our industry remains competitive domestically and globally. Most of PFITC's members ship exempt traffic.

In the Notice served in this docket on October 25, 2010 ("Notice"), the Board seeks comments on "the effectiveness of [the commodity, boxcar and TOFC/COFC] exemptions in the marketplace; whether the rationale behind any of these exemptions should be revisited; and whether the exemptions should be subject to periodic review." Notice at 3. The Board has not proposed to take any formal action as a result of these hearings that would modify or revoke any exemption. Rather, this is an information-gathering hearing to determine if the public believes that there is a need or desire for the Board to review these exemptions given the passage of time and changes in the market for rail transportation services. Participation in this hearing does not require the collection of extensive data or the development of complex analyses. If the Board concludes from the testimony presented that modification or revocation of any exemption may be desirable, such action would be taken in a subsequent proceeding pursuant to a procedural schedule that provides for the submission of data and analyses, and the opportunity to reply to

such evidence. The ASLRRA and other interested parties have ample time to prepare such evidence because no such proceeding has even been proposed at this time.

The Interested Parties welcome the Board's decision to hold a hearing on this important subject and look forward to presenting their testimony to the Board. For the foregoing reasons, The Interested Parties urge the Board not to unnecessarily delay this hearing as requested by the ASLRRA.

Respectfully submitted,



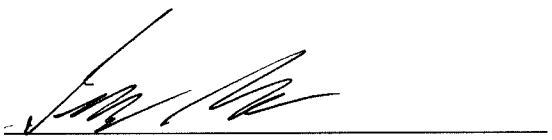
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November 15, 2010

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that this 15th day of November 2010, I served a copy of the foregoing by electronic and first class mail, upon:

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