

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

302993

STB Ex Parte No. 767

FIRST-MILE / LAST-MILE SERVICE

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
September 13, 2021
Part of
Public Record

REPLY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS
TO THE MOTION TO EXTEND THE PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

On September 2, 2021, the Surface Transportation Board ("Board") served a decision that requests comments from stakeholders on issues related to first-mile / last-mile ("FMLM") service. The decision requests that commenters address several topics, including the identification of FMLM issues, the design of metrics to measure FMLM service, the current data tracked by carriers, and the costs and benefits of any suggestions. Within each topic area the Board has set forth multiple questions it seeks information on. The decision requests comments be filed by October 18, 2021, and replies be filed by November 16, 2021. On September 7, 2021, the American Chemistry Council and The Fertilizer Institute ("ACC/TFI") filed a motion to extend those dates to December 17, 2021, and February 17, 2022, respectively. The Association of American Railroads ("AAR") supports the requested extension of time.

Additional time will facilitate a robust record that adequately responds to the wide-ranging decision that implicates millions of carloads of freight moving to and from tens of thousands of rail-served origins and destinations across the country each year. AAR and its freight railroad members are carefully reviewing the decision and beginning to formulate comments. The requested extension will aid in that effort.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KDK', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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