



SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP
1501 K STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005
+1 202 736 8000
+1 202 736 8711 FAX

AMERICA • ASIA PACIFIC • EUROPE

RATKINS@SIDLEY.COM
+1 202 736 8889

245364

November 7, 2017

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
November 7, 2017
Part of
Public Record

William J. Brennan
Office of Economics
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423

Re: Request for Release of 2006-2015 Confidential Waybill Data

Dear Acting Director Brennan:

The Association of American Railroads (“AAR”) respectfully requests a nine-day extension of the deadline for parties to file objections to Thompson Hine LLP’s (“Thompson Hine’s”) request for access to the Confidential Waybill Sample. *See* Letter from J. Moreno to W. Brennan (Oct. 20, 2017) (“Request Letter”); 82 Fed. Reg. 50220 (Oct. 30, 2017).

The Request Letter is unusually broad, seeking ten years of data regarding every Class I railroad and the associated revenue masking factors, which are used to preserve the confidentiality of revenues attributable to contract traffic. The request to release this competitively sensitive revenue information is of broad interest to industry stakeholders, including the railroads and shippers whose confidential contract rates would be included in the requested disclosure. A short extension is appropriate to ensure that interested parties have the opportunity to fully address the issues implicated by the request. *See* 49 C.F.R. § 1244.9(d)(3).

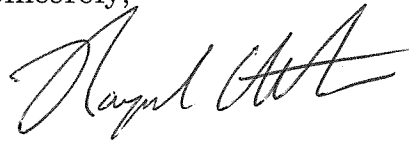
Under the nine-day proposed extension, objections would be due on Wednesday, November 22, instead of Monday, November 13. Counsel for AAR has contacted Thompson Hine about this request, and Thompson Hine indicated that it does not consent to the proposed extension.

SIDLEY

Page 2

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raymond A. Atkins". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Raymond" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Atkins".

Raymond A. Atkins
Counsel for AAR

cc: Jeffrey O. Moreno, Thompson Hine LLP