



Transportation
and Marketing
Program

1400 Independence Ave. SW
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Washington, D.C. 20250

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
August 6, 2015
Part of
Public Record

August 6, 2015

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

Re: Extension of closing date for EP 722 – Railroad Revenue Adequacy

Dear Board Members:

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) hereby respectfully requests the Surface Transportation Board (STB) extend the open record period of Ex Parte (EP) 722, Railroad Revenue Adequacy, until August 20, 2015.

USDA is currently working on final edits to a cooperative agreement research report by Dr. Gerard J. McCullough, University of Minnesota, that we believe should be included as part of the record. The research paper is titled, “Constrained Market Pricing and Revenue Adequacy: Regulatory Implications for Shippers and Class I U.S. Freight Railroads.” The paper reviews the history of freight railroad regulation in the U.S. since 1980 and analyzes the development of constrained market pricing and revenue adequacy. It identifies questions that STB—along with affected policymakers and rail market participants—may want to address in evaluating the relationship between constrained market pricing and revenue adequacy. It also provides an analysis of these theories.

USDA would like to submit the paper for inclusion in the record when it is finished.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Arthur Neal, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Arthur Neal, Jr.
Deputy Administrator
Transportation and Marketing Programs
Agricultural Marketing Service
United States Department of Agriculture

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