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Re: WB15-45 
Alexander Dusenberry to: Steel, Jr., Adrian L.

07/23/2015 09:34 AM

Mr. Steel,

We have confirmed that BEA code 86 in 1994 and 1995 corresponds to a location across the border of Missouri and Illinois, and not the part of Louisiana containing Lake Charles. The issue arises from a change in how BEA metropolitan area codes are reported to the Board in the Waybill data over the years. While the Bureau of Economic Analysis has a map for 1995 which indicates that the BEA code containing Lake Charles, Louisiana is 086, it didn't begin to be reported in the Waybill as 086 until 1996. Prior to 1996, the BEA codes in the Waybill are consistent with the BEA's map for 1977. The BEA code which contains Lake Charles in the 1977 map is 116.

However, it is important to note that when the BEA changes its metropolitan area codes, it's not just the number for that area that changes, but also the way BEA decides to group counties. This means that BEA code 116 for older years is not exactly the same group of counties as BEA code 86 in more recent years. Even though it doesn't synch up perfectly, using BEA code 116 in 1994 and 1995 is as close as it's possible to get using BEA codes to the same geographic area as BEA code 86 from 1996 onward.

We therefore have recreated your data request for 1994 and 1995 using BEA code 116 rather than 86, which would replace the data we had previously provided for 1994 and 1995. This should be what most closely matches your request.

Alexander Dusenberry
Alexander.Dusenberry@stb.dot.gov
(202)245-0319

"Steel, Jr., Adrian L."

Mr. Dusenberry - As we discussed, FTI Cons...

07/20/2015 03:20:01 PM

From: "Steel, Jr., Adrian L." <AS steel@mayerbrown.com>
To: "Alexander.Dusenberry@stb.dot.gov" <Alexander.Dusenberry@stb.dot.gov>
Date: 07/20/2015 03:20 PM
Subject: WB15-45

Mr. Dusenberry –

As we discussed, FTI Consulting (on behalf of BNSF) has identified a problem with the 1994 and 1995 Confidential Carload Waybill data files that were provided to BNSF in response to the above-referenced waybill request. The files appear to have erroneous BEA data. Although the waybill file shipments we received from the Board for 1994 and 1995 show BEA 86 as the originating or terminating BEA, the actual origination and termination stations for which shipment data are reported are outside BEA 86, extending as far north as Michigan and including eastern carriers that do not serve Lake Charles (e.g., NS).

We would like your advice on how to best resolve this issue. We could modify the scope of BNSF's request from the BEA level to a list of the specific stations from which BNSF wants data. Then, someone at the Board could do the programming for the specific extract. Second, the Board could revise the files that were provided to include the correct stations for BEA 86. Finally, we could request the entire

waybill sample files for 1994 and 1995, and FTI could perform the extract. To the extent a modification of BNSF's request is needed to implement one of the proposed resolutions, please consider this to be such a modified request.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Otherwise, we will wait to hear from you as to how the Board would like to proceed. Thank you.

Adrian Steel

Adrian L. Steel, Jr.
Mayer Brown LLP
1999 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006-1101
202-263-3237
202-468-9008 (Cell)
202-263-5237 (Fax)
asteel@mayerbrown.com

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