

**Surface Transportation Board
Ex Parte 711 (Sub-No. 1) Meetings
June 28, 2017**

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Vice Chairman Daniel Elliott

Participants

TFI: Chris Jahn
Justin Louchheim

STB: Vice Chairman Dan Elliott
Janie Sheng

Meeting Summary

TFI expressed general support for the opportunity to engage the STB in ex parte meetings, including Ex Parte 711.

TFI expressed support for STB's reciprocal switching proposal, noting that it would allow competition to have a greater role in the rail marketplace, reduce the need for STB rate regulation, and would provide more efficient service, competitive prices, and access to new markets. TFI also shared the view that reciprocal switching, if approved in a way that works efficiently, is likely to be used sparingly, but would be a positive factor in many negotiations to enhance service and make costs more competitive.

TFI shared that many of its member companies also ship in Canada, where reciprocal switching, known in Canada as inter-switching, has existed for about 100 years. Many TFI members operating in Canada have used inter-switching and indicate that it works efficiently and seamlessly in Canada.

TFI expressed concern that the STB's case-by-case approach could result in lengthy delays and substantial litigation costs. TFI asked that the current proposal be modified to insure that cases are handled efficiently, potentially including a hard time limit on proceedings and procedures for expeditiously submitting evidence.