



January 4, 2018

The Honorable Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-00001

244931

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
January 4, 2018
Part of
Public Record

Re: The Illinois State Toll Highway Authority
Petition for Declaratory Order - STB Docket FD 36075

Dear Ms. Brown:

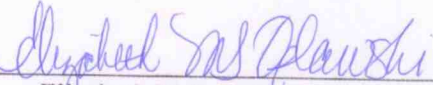
This letter responds to the Board's Order of November 30, 2017 seeking a status report from the parties in the above-reference matter by January 4, 2018.

The Illinois State Toll Highway Authority and Soo Line Railroad Company d/b/a Canadian Pacific jointly file this status report. In their most recent November 29, 2017 status report, the parties advised the Board that they were independently discussing a settlement and asked the Board to allow them to continue their discussions before participating in any Board-sponsored mediation. The parties believe that they have made significant progress towards reaching a settlement agreement in this matter and respectfully request an additional 30-day period to continue their direct discussions prior to participation in any Board sponsored mediation, if necessary or appropriate. Accordingly, the parties agree that any Board-sponsored mediation be scheduled to begin no earlier than February 9, 2018 and no later than March 5, 2018, unless otherwise requested by the parties.

Respectfully submitted,

The Illinois State Toll Highway Authority
By: Lisa Madigan,
Attorney General, State of Illinois

Soo Line Railroad Company d/b/a
Canadian Pacific

By: 
Elizabeth M.S. Oplawski
Acting General Counsel

By: 
David F. Rifkind
Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have this 4th day of January, 2018 served copies of the letter to the Surface Transportation Board executed by representatives of The Illinois State Toll Highway Authority and the Soo Line Railroad Company d/b/a Canadian Pacific in response to the Board's Order of November 30, 2017, upon all parties of record in this proceeding via electronic mail or U.S. First Class Mail.

/s/ Elizabeth M.S. Oplawski