

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

Docket No. EP 705

COMPETITION IN THE RAILROAD INDUSTRY

Decided: June 13, 2011

This decision adds a second day to the public hearing in this proceeding that is scheduled to begin June 22, 2011.

By notice served on January 11, 2011 (January notice), the Board announced its intent to hold a public hearing on May 3, 2011, to explore the current state of competition in the railroad industry and possible policy alternatives to facilitate more competition, where appropriate. The January notice provided deadlines for submission of initial comments, reply comments, notices of intent to participate (with written testimony), and submissions by other interested persons, and noted that, although the Board planned to hold the hearing in a single day, it might extend the hearing if the number of participants or the breadth of submitted written testimony so required.

By decision served on February 4, 2011, the Board granted an extension of time for the various deadlines set in the January notice, and rescheduled the public hearing from May 3, 2011, to June 22, 2011. The Board again noted that, if necessary, it would extend the hearing for a second day.

The comments, reply comments, and written testimony filed are both numerous and extensive. In addition, many parties have requested time to speak at the public hearing. Based on the voluminous record on this matter and the number of participants requesting to speak at the hearing, the Board will add a second day, June 23, 2011, to the public hearing scheduled to begin June 22, 2011. The schedule of appearances will be provided in a forthcoming Board decision.

This decision will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

It is ordered:

1. The public hearing in this proceeding will be held on June 22-23, 2011.
2. This decision is effective on its service date.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell, Director, Office of Proceedings.