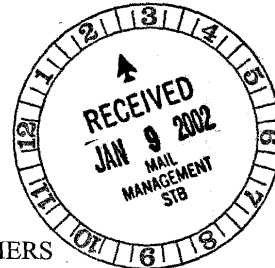


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ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

AMENDMENT NO. 4
TO
RELEASED RATES DECISION NO. MC-999
RELEASED RATES OF MOTOR COMMON CARRIERS
OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS



PETITION FOR MODIFICATION OF
DECISION EFFECTIVE DATE

ENTERED
Office of the Secretary
JAN 10 2002
Part of
Public Record

EXPEDITED ACTION REQUESTED

HOUSEHOLD GOODS CARRIERS'
BUREAU COMMITTEE

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DATED: JANUARY 9, 2002

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

AMENDMENT NO. 4
TO
RELEASED RATES DECISION NO. MC-999
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Comes now the Household Goods Carriers' Bureau Committee (HGCBC or Petitioner) on behalf of its member carriers and, pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1115.5(a), requests modification of the effective date of the December 18, 2001, decision of the Board served December 21, 2001, in this proceeding. Petitioner requests that the decision effective date now set at January 20, 2002, be modified to May 12, 2002. In support of the relief sought, Petitioner states:

When effective, the December 18, 2001, Board decision will require that the approximately 1,900 HGCBC member carriers initiate major changes in the terms under which they may limit their liability for loss or damage to the household goods shipments they transport and the manner in which they advise their shipper customers of available shipment valuation options. The Board's decision makes it clear that before those changes may become effective, carriers must have in place an entirely new regime surrounding their authority to limit liability for shipment loss or damage. As explained in the Board's decision, the following actions must be completed before HGCBC carriers limit their liability in the manner authorized:

- 1) A notice to shippers must be drafted and incorporated in all bills of lading describing the authorized shipment valuation options and carrier liability. This step will require redesign and printing of hundreds of thousands of bills of lading and orders for service. Since it is also customary to include valuation statements on orders for service, both documents must be redesigned and printed. See Released Rates Decision No. MC-999, Amendment No. 3, *Released Rates of Motor Common Carriers of Household Goods*, decided October 5, 1995. To ensure as much clarity as possible, such notices must be circulated to the HGCBC for comments prior to finalization.
- 2) HGCBC must consult with the National Association of Consumer Agency Administrators on the specific language to be included in the bill of lading liability option notice.
- 3) A brochure must be drafted and printed for distribution by carriers to shippers explaining the available shipment valuations and carrier liability options. In view of the pendency of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration proceeding involving the publication, *Your Rights and Responsibilities When You Move*, it will also be necessary to consult with FMCSA on the status of that proceeding and the fact that the Board's decision will require a complete revision of the shipment

valuation/carrier liability section of that publication. Obviously, this situation impacts the current publication as well as the revised publication proposed in the pending FMCSA proceeding. *Transportation of Household Goods; Consumer Protection Regulations*, 63 Fed.Reg. 27126, 27147-58 (1998).

4) A major educational effort must be initiated by HGCBC to inform its member carriers and their agents of the terms of the Board's decision and their responsibilities when presenting and discussing valuation options and limitations of carrier liability with their customers. This effort is essential since household goods shipments are normally booked for transportation well in advance of the customers' desired moving dates. This means moving industry sales personnel must be prepared to explain to prospective customers the terms of the new released valuation if their shipments are moving subsequent to the effective date of the Board's decision. Given the impending 2002 moving season, this is no small task.

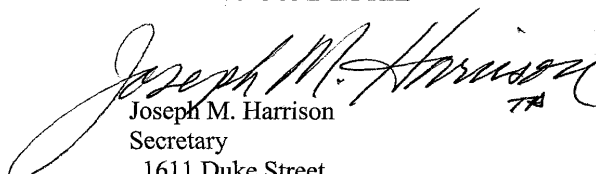
The foregoing steps will require that the HGCBC staff and affected industry personnel devote significant time and resources to this effort in order to ensure that HGCBC carriers accurately implement the requirements set forth in the Board's December 18, 2001, decision. Accordingly, Petitioner respectfully requests that the current decision effective date of January 20, 2002, be modified to May 12, 2002.

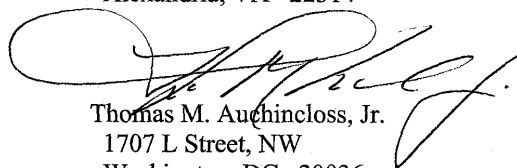
Petitioner requests expedited action on this Petition. The fact that the effective date of the Board's decision will trigger implementation of new released valuation standards for HGCBC carriers requires that the decision effective date be known as soon as possible since all shipments tendered for transportation on and after that date must conform to the new requirements. As previously explained, this situation is necessitated

by the fact that household goods shipments are normally booked well in advance of their tender date and shipment valuation decisions are made at the time of booking.

Respectfully submitted,

HOUSEHOLD GOODS CARRIERS'
BUREAU COMMITTEE


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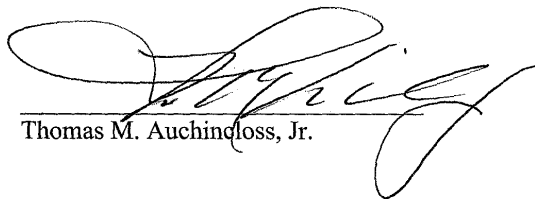
Dated: January 9, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this 9th day of January 2002 served the foregoing
Petition for Modification of Decision Effective Date upon the following parties of record
in this proceeding by first class mail, properly addressed with postage prepaid.

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