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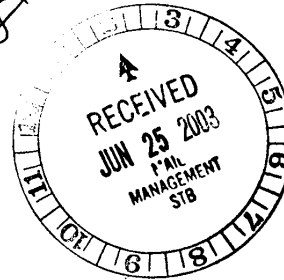
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June 25, 2003



**Via HAND DELIVERY**

Honorable Vernon A. Williams  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Re: **Docket No. 41191, West Texas Utilities Company v.  
The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company**

Dear Secretary Williams:

I am writing in reference to the Petition for Reconsideration filed by AEP Texas North ("AEP Texas") in this docket on June 18, 2003. AEP Texas' Petition for Reconsideration in large measure repeats arguments that AEP Texas made in a July 9, 2003 filing in this docket styled Petition to Stay Pending Petitions for Reconsideration and/or to Reopen ("Stay Petition"). BNSF addressed those arguments in its June 16, 2003 reply to the Stay Petition.

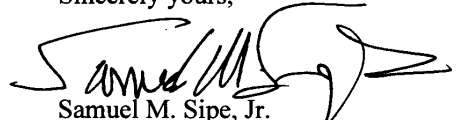
Under the Board's rules, The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company ("BNSF") has the right to reply to the Petition for Reconsideration within 20 days, and it reserves the right to do so. The purpose of this letter is to inform the Board that, notwithstanding BNSF's right to reply, BNSF has no objection to the Board ruling expeditiously on the Petition for Reconsideration at the same time it rules on AEP Texas' Stay Petition. BNSF pointed out in its June 16, 2003 reply to the Stay Petition that AEP Texas North was extremely unlikely to prevail on the merits of a possible petition for reconsideration. The actual Petition for Reconsideration now having been filed, it is clear for the same reasons set forth in BNSF's June 16 reply, that AEP Texas has identified no valid basis for reconsidering the Board's May 28, 2003 decision in this docket, which revised the Board's prior rate prescription. The most efficient course is for the Board to issue a single decision denying both AEP Texas' Stay Petition and its Petition for Reconsideration.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Board could and should also deny the June 18, 2003 Petition for Reconsideration filed by intervenor Western Coal Traffic League, which adds nothing to AEP Texas' arguments.

Kindly date stamp the extra copy provided herein and return it to our messenger for our files.

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely yours,



Samuel M. Sipe, Jr.  
Counsel for The Burlington Northern  
and Santa Fe Railway Company

cc: Kelvin J. Dowd (By Hand Delivery)  
C. Michael Loftus (By Hand Delivery)