



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

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June 26, 2003

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Mr. Vernon A. Williams
Office of the Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Case Control Unit, Attn: STB Finance Docket No. 34342
1925 K Street, NW.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Dear Mr. Williams:

Please accept this original letter and certificate of service, as well as 25 copies of each, as the Department of Agriculture's (USDA) intent to participate in the Surface Transportation Board's (STB) proceeding, Finance Docket No. 34342: *Kansas City Southern -- Control -- The Kansas City Southern Railway Company, Gateway Eastern Railway Company, and the Texas Mexican Railway Company*. A diskette containing an electronic copy of USDA's intent to participate is also enclosed.

On behalf of USDA, please add the following name to the service list for this proceeding as a party of record: Barbara C. Robinson, Deputy Administrator, Transportation and Marketing, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave, SW, Room 2510-South Building, Washington, D.C. 20250-0266.

Sincerely,

Bill Hawks
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs

Enclosure

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that on June 27, 2003, he caused a copy of the Department of Agriculture's intention to comment to be served first-class mail, postage paid, on the Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation, the Attorney General of the United States, William A. Mullins, Esq., Troutman Sanders LLP, and Richard H. Streeter, Esq., Barnes & Thornburg.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bill Hawks", written over a horizontal line.

William Hawks
Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs
United States Department of Agriculture