

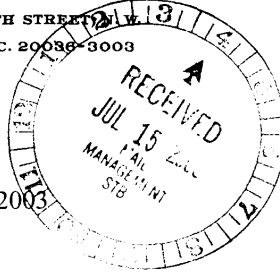
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July 15, 2003

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VIA BY HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W., Room 711
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

FILED
JUN 15 2003
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Re: Ex Parte No. 638, Procedures To Expedite Resolution Of
Rail Rate Challenges To Be Considered Under The Stand-Alone
Cost Methodology

Dear Secretary Williams:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced proceeding please find an original and ten copies of the Western Coal Traffic League's Reply In Support Of BNSF's Petition For Reconsideration. Also enclosed is a WordPerfect diskette containing an electronic copy of the submission.

An additional copy of the filing is enclosed. Please indicate receipt and filing by time-stamping the additional copy and returning it to the bearer of this letter.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

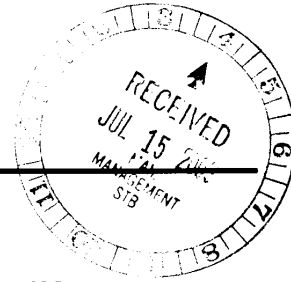
Sincerely,

Kelvin J. Dowd
An Attorney for
The Western Coal Traffic League

Enclosure

cc: Parties of Record

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**



**PROCEDURES TO EXPEDITE)
RESOLUTION OF RAIL RATE)
CHALLENGES TO BE CONSIDERED)
UNDER THE STAND-ALONE)
COST METHODOLOGY)**

Ex Parte No. 638

**REPLY IN SUPPORT OF
BNSF'S PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION**

The Western Coal Traffic League ("WCTL"), a party of record to this proceeding, pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 1104.13 (a), hereby replies in support of the Petition For Reconsideration filed on June 26, 2003 by the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company ("BNSF").

WCTL agrees with BNSF that an amendment to the Board's existing evidentiary filing regulations to allow parties to major rail rate cases a reasonable interval between the filing of highly confidential or confidential, and public versions of stand-alone cost evidence will reduce the likelihood of inadvertent public disclosure of confidential information without any meaningful impairment of the public's right to review the records of important rail rate proceedings. The relief requested by BNSF is reasonable, properly balances the interests of the public and those of litigants to maximum rail rate cases, and should be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

THE WESTERN COAL TRAFFIC LEAGUE

By: William L. Slover
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Dated: July 15, 2003

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I served copies of the foregoing Reply In Support Of
BNSF's Petition For Reconsideration upon the following parties of record by United
States First Class Mail, postage prepaid. Dated this 15th Day of July, 2003 at Washington,
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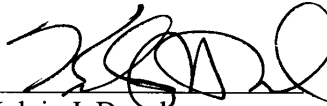
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