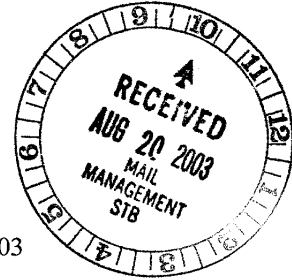


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August 19, 2003

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

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

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

AUG 22 2003

Part of
Public Record

Re: Granite State Concrete Co., Inc. and Milford-Bennington
Railroad Co., Inc. v. Boston and Maine Corporation and
Springfield Terminal Railway Co.

Docket No. NOR 42083

Dear Secretary Williams:

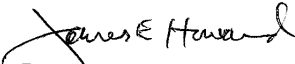
In accordance with 49 CFR 1111.10, the parties have conferred with respect to discovery and a procedural schedule. The parties propose the following schedule for the adjudication of the above captioned matter:

1. The parties agree that they may commence discovery immediately and that they will respond to one another's requests for documents, interrogatories or other written discovery within 15 days after service of such discovery. Beginning with the date on which the Board adopts a procedural schedule, the parties will have 45 days to complete discovery.
2. Within 30 days after the close of discovery, Granite State and Milford-Bennington will file and serve their opening evidence and argument.
3. Within 30 days after the service of evidence and argument by Granite State and Milford-Bennington, Boston and Maine and Springfield Terminal will file and serve their reply evidence and argument.
4. Within 15 days after the service of reply evidence and argument by Boston and Maine and Springfield Terminal, Granite State and Milford-Bennington will file and serve their rebuttal evidence and argument.

5. In addition to any depositions taken in accordance with paragraph 1 above, either party may depose any person who submits a verified statement on behalf of the other party.

Please contact the undersigned counsel for Granite State and Milford-Bennington or Robert B. Culliford, counsel for Boston and Maine and Springfield Terminal, if you have questions or require any further information. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,


James E. Howard

cc: Robert B. Culliford