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EXPRESS MAIL

September 29, 2003

Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Washington, DC 20423

Re: Finance Docket No. 34364
Vermont Railway Inc. – Petition for Declaratory Order



ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

SEP 30 2003

Part of
Public Record

Dear Secretary Williams:

As you know, Vermont Railway filed a supplemental petition in this cause on September 15, 2003. Under the rules of the Board at 49 C.F.R. 1104.13, the State of Vermont is entitled to file a reply to this petition within 20 days, or by October 6, 2003. However, as indicated in my August 11, 2003 "Notice of Unavailability", I was unavailable September 12-19 and will also be unavailable October 1-8. Given that this period of absence comprises 11 of the 20 days in which the State has to file its reply, I write to advise the Board that the State will be filing its reply to the Supplemental Petition on or before October 17, 2003.

The State of Vermont respectfully requests that the Board not act in response to Vermont Railway's Supplemental Petition until the State of Vermont has had the requested opportunity to prepare and file appropriate responses.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Elias
Jeanne Elias
Assistant Attorney General

Enclosure

cc: Andrew Goldstein (by Express Mail)
Service List (by First Class Mail)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the foregoing letter to the Surface Transportation Board
has, this 29th day of September, 2003, been served by first-class mail, postage prepaid,
on the following persons:

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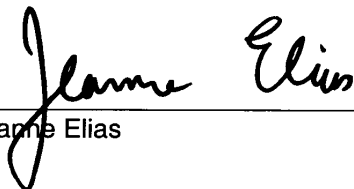
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