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November 17, 2003

Via Hand Delivery

The Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

209430

RE: Section 5A Application No. 46 (Sub-No. 20), *Southern Motor Carriers Rate Conference, Inc.*

Dear Secretary Williams:

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. §1104.7, The National Industrial Transportation League ("the League") hereby requests an extension of time to reply to the November 5, 2003 "Petition of Southern Motor Carriers Rate Conference, Inc. to Reopen and Reconsider the Proceeding on the Present Record, or Alternatively, for a Further Hearing and the Setting of a Procedural Order for the Submission of Additional Evidence" ("SMC Petition"). Replies to the SMC Petition are due, under the Board's rules, within 20 days of its filing, or by November 25, 2003. The League requests an extension that would provide it with an additional 20 days, or until December 15, 2003 to reply.

In support of this request, the undersigned counsel will be traveling the week of November 17, 2003 attending the League's annual meeting. Further, the undersigned counsel already has numerous other commitments during the next several weeks, including several filings due in other STB proceedings.

For the above reasons, the League respectfully urges that this request be granted and that its reply to the Petition should be due on December 15, 2003.

Should you have any questions regarding the foregoing, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Nicholas J. DiMichael
Counsel for The National Industrial Transportation League

cc: Parties of Record

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