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U.S. Department of
Transportation
Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

General Counsel

400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

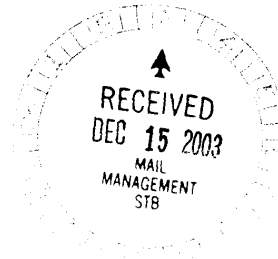
December 15, 2003

Vernon A Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Suite 700
1925 K St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

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Office of Proceedings

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Re: Finance Docket No. 34424

Dear Secretary Williams:

The United States Department of Transportation hereby gives notice of its intent to participate in the above-referenced proceeding. Please include the persons listed below as representatives of the Department. Enclosed herewith are twenty copies of this notice, as directed by Decision No. 2, as well as a computer diskette of this document, convertible into WordPerfect.

Please contact me if you have any questions, and thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Paul Samuel Smith
Senior Trial Attorney
(202) 366-9280

Joseph R. Pomponio,
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cc: Attorney General
Paul A. Cunningham, Esq.