

LAW OFFICE
THOMAS F. McFARLAND, P.C.
208 SOUTH LASALLE STREET - SUITE 1890
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604-1112
TELEPHONE (312) 236-0204
FAX (312) 201-9695
mcfarland@aol.com

THOMAS F. McFARLAND

June 24, 2004

By electronic mail

Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Case Control Unit, Suite 713
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Finance Docket No. 27590 (Sub-No. 3), *TTX Company - Application For
Approval Of Pooling Of Car Service With Respect To Flatcars*

Dear Mr. Williams:

In behalf of First Union Rail Corporation, David J. Joseph Co. and Bombardier Capital Rail Inc., this is to request an extension of three weeks, to July 28, 2004, of the date for oral argument in the above proceeding.

The requested extension is necessitated by the short notice before the argument; by the unavailability of key personnel in the height of the vacation season; and by the need for more time to digest Petitioner's lengthy rebuttal in order to be in a position to adequately respond to questions by the Board on issues raised by that rebuttal. The 15 days' notice of the argument is inadequate, especially in light of the intervening Fourth of July Holiday. Knowledgeable employees of the companies requesting this extension have been unable to rearrange vacation plans on such short notice. TTX's rebuttal is unusually lengthy; there is insufficient time prior to the scheduled argument date to adequately deal with the issues raised in that rebuttal.

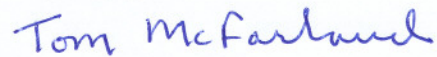
If the requested extension were to be granted, undue pressure would not be placed on the Board in meeting the September 1, 2004 target date for its decision in this proceeding. A delay in the date for oral argument has much less effect on the Board's ability to prepare a timely decision than does a delay in an evidentiary filing date. There still would be more than 30 days after the requested extended date for argument for the Board to prepare its decision.

All parties of record are being served with a copy of this requested extension by expedited means of service.

Vernon A. Williams
June 24, 2004
Page 2

The Board is respectfully urged to rule on this extension request on an expedited basis.

Very truly yours,



Thomas F. McFarland
*Attorney for First Union Rail Corporation,
David J. Joseph Co., and Bombardier
Capital Rail Inc.*

TMcF:kl:wp8.0\994\ltrstb2

cc: All Parties of Record, *by e-mail or fax*
Richard Seymour
Trey Savage
Rick Mitchell