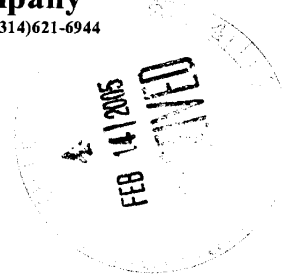


213257



International Lighting Manufacturing Company
1825 N. 19th Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63106 P.O.Box 302, 63166 (314)621-0600 Fax:(314)621-6944
Customer Service and Sales Dept. 1-800-325-7050



February 7, 2005

Mr. Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: STB Ex Parte No. 656

Dear Mr. Williams,

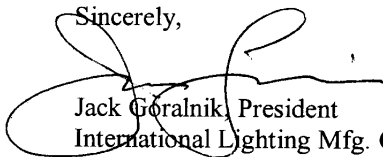
Our company has been in the lighting manufacturing business for over 60 years. One of our major expenses is the freight we pay for to ship our products to our customers.

It is my understanding that the Surface Transportation Board is currently evaluating the antitrust exemption granted to the National Classification Committee. I urge you strongly to deny the continuance of this exemption.

In today's deregulated economy, freight rates should be determined in the open market by negotiation between individual shippers and truckers. It is simply inappropriate to continue to have rates set by a committee developed to operate in a highly regulated past.

However, if you determine that there is some reason to continue the NCC, then it should be reorganized to give shippers an equal voice with truckers.

Sincerely,


Jack Goralnik, President
International Lighting Mfg. Co.

JCG/dec

Cc: Mr. Dick Upton
American Lighting Association
World Trade Center
P.O. Box 420288
Dallas, TX 75342-0288

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