



Michael A. Nelson
Transportation/Management
Consulting

214830
131 North Street Dalton, MA 01226
Phone/Fax: (413) 684-2044
email: mnelso6@berkshire.rr.com

October 6, 2005

VIA FEDEX

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

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

OCT - 7 2005

Part of
Public Record



Attn: STB Ex Parte No. 658

Dear Secretary Williams,

Pursuant to the Board's Notice dated September 14, 2005 in Ex Parte No. 658, The 25th Anniversary Of The Staggers Rail Act Of 1980: A Review And Look Ahead, this letter constitutes my notice of intent to participate in the hearing scheduled for October 19, 2005. I am an independent transportation consultant, and over the past 21 years have provided testimony before this Board and its predecessor on numerous railroad matters. My testimony in this proceeding is being sponsored by and presented on behalf of Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation.

I currently expect my testimony will address the following topics:

- events of the past 25 years, with a particular focus on the wave of rail mergers and acquisitions, and its effects on rail competition;
- changes in the role of regulation that would be appropriate as circumstances change;
- issues related to the timing of the Board's possible responses to changing circumstances; and,
- ten or more suggestions of specific potential actions that the Board might consider.

I request a time allotment of 10 minutes at the hearing, and would be amenable to any enlargement of that time that the Board may deem appropriate to discuss specific issues.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Nelson

Enclosures: 10 copies.