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THOMAS F. MCFARLAND

February 8, 2006

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: STB Finance Docket No. 34802, *PYCO Industries, Inc. -- Alternative Rail Service*
-- South Plains Switching, Ltd. Co.

Dear Mr. Williams:

In the late afternoon of February 7, I received, as counsel for South Plains Switching, Ltd. Co. (SAW), copies of Board filings as follows: (1) a letter to the Board from John D. Heffner, Esq., attorney for West Texas & Lubbock Railway Company, Inc. (WTLC), in which operating protocols in a letter agreement dated February 1, 2006, signed by SAW and WTLC, were filed with the Board, but which included an "addendum" of additional operating protocols which have not been agreed to by SAW; and (2) a pleading filed by PYCO Industries, Inc. (PYCO) headed "Memorandum Stating Reservations Concerning Service Protocol", but which includes a motion that the Board "direct SAW and WTL to consult with BNSF and then prepare a revised protocol" (at 7).

This is to advise the Board that as soon as possible, SAW will prepare and file a reply to the proposed "addendum" and to PYCO's motion. The Board is respectfully requested to refrain from action on the proposed "addendum" and motion until receipt and consideration of SAW's reply.

The Board should be aware that the signed operating protocols that WTLC and PYCO are now attempting to undo were the result of two lengthy conference telephone calls on January 30 and January 31 that were arranged under the good graces of Mr. Mel Clemens of the Board's staff, and in which WTLC, PYCO and BNSF participated. Mr. Clemens can attest that there is nothing in the letter agreement of operating protocols to which the parties did not agree. Mr. Clemens can also attest that there is nothing in the "addendum" proposed by WTLC or in the memorandum-motion filed by PYCO that was even discussed in the lengthy negotiating conferences, let alone agreed to. This difficult joint operation at Lubbock will be completely

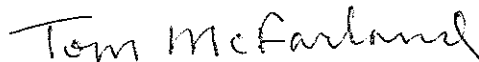
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unworkable if the operating protocols are to be a moving target, as proposed by WTLC and PYCO.

SAW will prepare and file a detailed reply as soon as possible. In the meantime, WTLC, PYCO and BNSF should be on notice that the signed operating protocols are in place and are applicable to all operations set out in the signed letter agreement. WTLC is required to abide by the signed operating protocols, not by an "addendum" that has not been agreed to. SAW trusts that WTLC will comply with its agreement, but if not, SAW is prepared to seek the Board's aid in enforcing the agreed protocols.

Very truly yours,



Thomas F. McFarland
*Attorney for South Plains
Switching, Ltd. Co.*

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