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THOMAS F. MCFARLAND

May 18, 2006

By e-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. 34844, *PYCO Industries, Inc. -- Feeder Line Development --
South Plains Switching, Ltd. Co.*

Dear Mr. Williams:

This constitutes suggestions of South Plains Switching, Ltd. Co. (SAW), the incumbent rail carrier, regarding procedures to govern processing of the feeder line application in the above proceeding. It is appropriate that SAW have input in regard to such procedures because a reply to procedural requests in the feeder line application is in order, and because the application has a potential to cause serious injury to SAW.

The discovery submitted to SAW by PYCO Industries, Inc. (PYCO) is lengthy and detailed. There are 28 document requests and 20 interrogatories, many of which have multiple parts. In addition, SAW intends to submit discovery of its own, if, and to the extent that the feeder line application is accepted for filing. If the Office of Proceedings Director determines under 49 C.F.R. § 1151.2(d)(2) that the feeder line application should be conditionally accepted and that PYCO's discovery should be answered, a minimum of 90 days should be allowed for discovery: i.e., 30 days for SAW to respond to the discovery; 30 days for SAW to submit its own discovery; and 30 days for resolution of discovery disputes. The procedures in 49 C.F.R. §§ 1151.2(d)(3), (e) and (f) should not commence until completion of discovery.

PYCO has requested an accelerated procedural schedule, but that would be inconsistent with the statutory requirement in 49 U.S.C. § 10907(c)(1) that the Board determine whether public convenience and necessity requires or permits a sale of the rail line only "after a hearing

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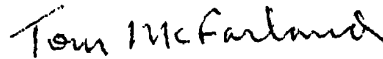
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on the record." In accordance with that statutory requirement, adequate time must be provided for development of a complete record.

Very truly yours,



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

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Mr. Dennis Olmstead, *by e-mail*