



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

STOP 0268 – Room 4008-S
1400 Independence Avenue, SW.
Washington, D.C. 20250-0200

February 12, 2007

Mr. Vernon A. Williams
Office of the Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Case Control Unit, Attn: STB Ex Parte No. 664
1925 K Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) requests that the Surface Transportation Board grant it leave to file comments regarding Ex Parte No. 664, Methodology to be Employed in Determining the Railroad Industry's Cost of Capital, by close of business Thursday, February 15, 2007. The comments were due by close of business Monday, February 12, 2007. USDA was still reviewing its comments. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Arthur L. Neal, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Arthur L. Neal, Jr.
Acting Associate Deputy Administrator
Transportation and Marketing Programs