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KARL MORELL

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JUL 13 2007
RECEIVED

July 13, 2007

BY HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable Vernon Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20423

219761

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 35063, Michigan Central Railway, LLC –
Acquisition and Operation Exemption – Lines of Norfolk Southern
Railway Company
STB Finance Docket No. 35064, Watco Companies, Inc., and
Watco Transportation Services, Inc. – Continuance in Control
Exemption – Michigan Central Railway, LLC

219760

Dear Secretary Williams:

Attached for filing are the original and ten copies of a Motion for Protective Order.

Please time and date stamp the extra copy of the Motion and return it with our messenger.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely yours,


Karl Morell

Enclosures

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

FINANCE DOCKET NO. 35063

219761

JUL 13 2007
RECEIVED

**MICHIGAN CENTRAL RAILWAY, LLC –
ACQUISITION AND OPERATION EXEMPTION –
LINES OF NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY**

FINANCE DOCKET NO. 35064

219760

**WATCO COMPANIES, INC., AND
WATCO TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, INC. —
CONTINUANCE IN CONTROL EXEMPTION —
MICHIGAN CENTRAL RAILWAY, LLC**

MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
JUL 16 2007
Part of
Public Record

KARL MORELL
Of Counsel
BALL JANIK LLP
Suite 225
1455 F Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 638-3307

Attorney for:
Michigan Central Railway, LLC

Dated: July 13, 2007

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

FINANCE DOCKET NO. 35063

**MICHIGAN CENTRAL RAILWAY, LLC –
ACQUISITION AND OPERATION EXEMPTION –
LINES OF NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY**

FINANCE DOCKET NO. 35064

**WATCO COMPANIES, INC., AND
WATCO TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, INC. —
CONTINUANCE IN CONTROL EXEMPTION —
MICHIGAN CENTRAL RAILWAY, LLC**

MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1104.14(b), Michigan Central Railway, LLC (“Michigan Central”), a noncarrier, Watco Companies, Inc. (“Watco Companies”) and Watco Transportation Services, Inc. (“Watco Transportation”) (collectively, “the Parties”), respectfully move for the entry of a Protective Order (in the form set forth in Appendix A hereto) in each of the above-captioned proceedings. The order is required to permit the Parties to submit to the Board certain documents that contain highly sensitive commercial terms, and to make such documents available to outside counsel for interested parties, solely for use in this proceeding.

The requested Protective Order would apply in both of the above-captioned proceedings. In Finance Docket No. 35063, Michigan Central is filing today a Petition for Exemption (and a related Petition to Revoke Class Exemption) with respect to Michigan

Central's proposed acquisition and operation of certain rail lines currently owned and operated by Norfolk Southern Railway Company ("NSR") in Michigan and Indiana. In Finance Docket No. 35064, Watco Companies and Watco Transportation are filing a notice of exemption, pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §1180.2(d)(2), in connection with their continuance in control of Michigan Central after it becomes a rail carrier.

In Finance Docket No. 35063, Michigan Central is submitting (under seal) a complete, unredacted copy of the executed Transaction Agreement, which includes, as exhibits, copies of all of the agreements to be entered into in connection with the proposed transactions.¹ The Transaction Agreement and related agreements are designated "Highly Confidential." Public, redacted versions of these documents also are being filed.

The information redacted from the public versions of these documents is highly confidential, commercially sensitive information. The proposed Protective Order is necessary to protect this highly confidential information from public disclosure. The requested Protective Order will enable the Parties to present these documents to the Board (and, upon request accompanied by a signed copy of the protective order, to outside counsel for interested parties for whom the information may be relevant), while at the same time preserving the confidentiality of that sensitive information, and any other sensitive information that might be produced in connection with this proceeding.

The proposed Protective Order is modeled substantially on similar orders that the Board has entered in other recent proceedings. For the foregoing reasons, the Parties respectfully request that a Protective Order be entered in each of the above-captioned proceedings, in the

¹ One draft agreement concerning the assignment and assumption of ancillary wire and pipeline agreements has yet to be completed.

form set forth in Appendix A to this Motion, including the forms of confidentiality undertakings that accompany it.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karl Morell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karl" being more prominent than the last name "Morell".

KARL MORELL
Of Counsel
BALL JANIK LLP
Suite 225
1455 F Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 638-3307

Attorney for:
Michigan Central Railway, LLC

Dated: July 13, 2007

APPENDIX A

PROTECTIVE ORDER

1. For purposes of this Protective Order:

(a) "Confidential Documents" means documents and other tangible materials containing or reflecting Confidential Information.

(b) "Confidential Information" means traffic data (including but not limited to waybills, abstracts, study movement sheets, and any documents or computer tapes containing data derived from waybills, abstracts, study movement sheets, or other data bases, and cost work papers); the identification of shippers and receivers in conjunction with shipper-specific or other traffic data; the confidential terms of contracts with shippers or carriers; confidential financial and cost data; divisions of rates, trackage rights compensation levels and other compensation between carriers; and other confidential or proprietary business or personal information.

(c) "Designated Material" means any documents designated or stamped as "CONFIDENTIAL" or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" in accordance with paragraph 2 or 3 of this Protective Order and any Confidential Information contained in such materials.

(d) "Proceedings" means those before the Surface Transportation Board (Board) concerning the transactions in STB Finance Docket Nos. 35063 and 35064, and any related proceedings before the Board, and any judicial review proceedings arising from STB Finance Docket Nos. 35063 or 35064 or from any related proceedings before the Board.

2. If any party to these Proceedings determines that any part of a document it submits, discovery request it propounds, discovery response it produces, transcript of a deposition or hearing in which it participates, or pleading or other paper to be submitted, filed, or served in these Proceedings contains Confidential Information or consists of Confidential Documents, then that party may designate and stamp such Confidential Information and Confidential Documents as "CONFIDENTIAL." Any information or documents designated or stamped as "CONFIDENTIAL" shall be handled as provided for hereinafter, except that no prohibition in any subsequent paragraph is applicable to an exchange of information pursuant to paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Protective Order.

3. If any party to these Proceedings determines that any part of a document it submits, discovery request it propounds, or a discovery response it produces, or a transcript of a deposition or hearing in which it participates, or pleading or other paper to be submitted, filed, or served in these Proceedings contains shipper-specific rate or cost data; division of rates, trackage rights compensation levels, other compensation between carriers; or other competitively sensitive or proprietary information, then that party may designate and stamp such Confidential Information as "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL." Any information or documents so designated or stamped shall be handled as provided hereinafter, except that no prohibition in any subsequent paragraph is applicable to an exchange of information pursuant to paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Protective Order.

4. Information and documents designated or stamped as "CONFIDENTIAL" may not be disclosed in any way, directly or indirectly, or to any person or entity except to an employee,

counsel, consultant, or agent of a party to these Proceedings, or an employee of such counsel, consultant, or agent, who, before receiving access to such information or documents, has been given and has read a copy of this Protective Order and has agreed to be bound by its terms by signing a confidentiality undertaking substantially in the form set forth at Exhibit A to this Protective Order.

5. Information and documents designated or stamped as "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" may not be disclosed in any way, directly or indirectly, to any employee of a party to these Proceedings, or to any other person or entity except to an outside counsel or outside consultant to a party to these Proceedings, or to an employee of such outside counsel or outside consultant, who, before receiving access to such information or documents, has been given and has read a copy of this Protective Order and has agreed to be bound by its terms by signing a confidentiality undertaking substantially in the form set forth at Exhibit B to this Protective Order.

6. Any party to these Proceedings may challenge the designation by any other party of information or documents as "CONFIDENTIAL" or as "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" by filing a motion with the Board or with an administrative law judge or other officer to whom authority has been lawfully delegated by the Board to adjudicate such challenges.

7. Designated Material may not be used for any purposes, including without limitation any business, commercial or competitive purposes, other than the preparation and presentation of evidence and argument in STB Finance Docket Nos. 35063 and 35064, any related proceedings before the Board, and/or any judicial review proceedings in connection with STB Finance Docket Nos. 35063 or 35064 and/or with any related proceedings.

8. Any party who receives Designated Material in discovery shall destroy such materials and any notes or documents reflecting such materials (other than file copies of pleadings or other documents filed with the Board and retained by outside counsel for a party to these Proceedings) at the earlier of: (1) such time as the party receiving the materials withdraws from these Proceedings; or (2) the completion of these Proceedings, including any petitions for reconsideration, appeals or remands.

9. No party may include Designated Material in any pleading, brief, discovery request or response, or other document submitted to the Board, unless the pleading or other document is submitted under seal, in a package clearly marked on the outside as "Confidential Materials Subject to Protective Order." See 49 C.F.R. § 1104.14. All pleadings and other documents so submitted shall be kept confidential by the Board and shall not be placed in the public docket in these Proceedings except by order of the Board or of an administrative law judge or other officer in the exercise of authority lawfully delegated by the Board.

10. No party may include Designated Material in any pleading, brief, discovery request or response, or other document submitted to any forum other than this Board in these Proceedings unless: (1) the pleading or other document is submitted under seal in accordance with a protective order that requires the pleading or other document to be kept confidential by that tribunal and not be placed in the public docket in the proceeding; or (2) the pleading or other document is submitted in a sealed package clearly marked, "Confidential Materials Subject to Request for Protective Order," and is accompanied by a motion to that tribunal requesting issuance of a protective order that would require the pleading or other document be kept confidential and not be placed in the public docket in the proceeding, and requesting

that, if the motion for protective order is not issued by that tribunal, the pleading or other document be returned to the filing party.

11. No party may present or otherwise use any Designated Material at a Board hearing in these Proceedings, unless that party has previously submitted, under seal, all proposed exhibits and other documents containing or reflecting such Designated Material to the Board, to an administrative law judge or to another officer to whom relevant authority has been lawfully delegated by the Board, and has accompanied such submission with a written request that the Board, administrative law judge or other officer: (a) restrict attendance at the hearing during any discussion of such Designated Material; and (b) restrict access to any portion of the record or briefs reflecting discussion of such Designated Material in accordance with this Protective Order.

12. If any party intends to use any Designated Material in the course of any deposition in these Proceedings, that party shall so advise counsel for the party producing the Designated Material, counsel for the deponent, and all other counsel attending the deposition. Attendance at any portion of the deposition at which any Designated Material is used or discussed shall be restricted to persons who may review that material under the terms of this Protective Order. All portions of deposition transcripts or exhibits that consist of, refer to, or otherwise disclose Designated Material shall be filed under seal and be otherwise handled as provided in paragraph 13 of this Protective Order.

13. To the extent that materials reflecting Confidential Information are produced by a party in these Proceedings, and are held and/or used by the receiving person in compliance with paragraphs 1, 2, or 3 above, such production, disclosure, holding, and use of the materials and of the data that the materials contain are deemed essential for the disposition of this and any related proceedings and will not be deemed a violation of 49 U.S.C. §§ 11323 or 11904, or of any other relevant provision of the ICC Termination Act of 1995.

14. All parties must comply with all of the provisions of this Protective Order unless the Board or an administrative law judge or other officer exercising authority lawfully delegated by the Board determines that good cause has been shown warranting suspension of any of the provisions herein.

15. Nothing in this Protective Order restricts the right of any party to disclose voluntarily any Confidential Information originated by that party, or to disclose voluntarily any Confidential Documents originated by that party, if such Confidential Information or Confidential Documents do not contain or reflect any Confidential Information originated by any other party.

Exhibit A

UNDERTAKING – CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL

I, _____ have read the Protective Order governing the production and use of Confidential Information and Confidential Documents in STB Finance Docket Nos. 35063 and 35064, understand the same, and agree to be bound by its terms. I agree not to use or permit the use of any Confidential Information or Confidential Documents obtained pursuant to that Protective Order, or to use or to permit the use of any methodologies or techniques disclosed or information learned as a result of receiving such data or information, for any purpose other than the preparation and presentation of evidence and argument in Finance Docket Nos. 35063 and 35064, any related proceedings before the Surface Transportation Board, and/or any judicial review proceedings in connection with Finance Docket Nos. 35063 or 35064 and/or with any related proceedings. I further agree not to disclose any Confidential Information, Confidential Documents, methodologies, techniques, or data obtained pursuant to the Protective Order except to persons who are also bound by the terms of the Order and who have executed Undertakings in the form hereof, and that at the conclusion of this proceeding (including any proceeding on administrative review, judicial review, or remand), I will promptly destroy any documents containing or reflecting materials designated or stamped as "CONFIDENTIAL," other than file copies, kept by outside counsel, of pleadings and other documents filed with the Board.

I understand and agree that money damages would not be a sufficient remedy for breach of this Undertaking and that parties producing confidential information or confidential documents shall be entitled to specific performance and injunctive and/or other equitable relief as a remedy for any such breach, and I further agree to waive any requirement for the securing or posting of any bond in connection with such remedy. Such remedy shall not be deemed to be the exclusive remedy for breach of this Undertaking but shall be in addition to all remedies available at law or equity.

Dated:

Exhibit B

UNDERTAKING --HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL

I, _____ am outside [counsel] [consultant] for _____, for whom I am acting in this proceeding. I have read the Protective Order governing the production and use of Confidential Information and Confidential Documents in STB Finance Docket Nos. 35063 and 35064, understand the same, and agree to be bound by its terms. I agree not to use or to permit the use of any Confidential Information or Confidential Documents obtained pursuant to that Protective Order, or to use or to permit the use of any methodologies or techniques disclosed or information learned as a result of receiving such data or information, for any purpose other than the preparation and presentation of evidence and argument in Finance Docket Nos. 35063 and 35064, any related proceedings before the Surface Transportation Board, or any judicial review proceedings in connection with Finance Docket Nos. 35063 or 35064 and/or with any related proceedings. I further agree not to disclose any Confidential Information, Confidential Documents, methodologies, techniques, or data obtained pursuant to the Protective Order except to persons who are also bound by the terms of the Order and who have executed undertakings in the form hereof.

I also understand and agree, as a condition precedent to my receiving, reviewing, or using copies of any information or documents designated or stamped as "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL," that I will take all necessary steps to assure that said information or documents be kept on a confidential basis by any outside counselor outside consultants working with me, that under no circumstances will I permit access to said materials or information by employees of my client or its subsidiaries, affiliates, or owners, and that at the conclusion of this proceeding (including any proceeding on administrative review, judicial review, or remand), I will promptly destroy any documents containing or reflecting information or documents designated or stamped as "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL," other than file copies, kept by outside counsel, of pleadings and other documents filed with the Board.

I understand and agree that money damages would not be a sufficient remedy for breach of this undertaking and that other parties producing confidential information or confidential documents shall be entitled to specific performance and injunctive and/or other equitable relief as a remedy for any such breach, and I further agree to waive any requirement for the securing or posting of any bond in connection with such remedy. Such remedy shall not be deemed to be the exclusive remedy for breach of this Undertaking but shall be in addition to all remedies available at law or equity.

OUTSIDE [COUNSEL] [CONSULTANT]

Dated:

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify this 13th day of July, 2007, that I have caused the foregoing Motion for Protective Order to be served by first class mail, postage pre-paid, on the Governor and the Department of Transportation of the States of Indiana and Michigan, on the national offices of the labor unions with employees on the affected lines, and on the following parties:

National Railroad Passenger Corp., 60 Massachusetts Ave., NE, Washington, DC 20002

Marquette Rail LLC, 5500 First Street, Ludlington, MI 49431

Michigan Southern Railroad Co., 1318 South Johnson Road, Peoria, IL 61607

Grand Rapids Eastern Railroad Inc., 101 Enterprise Drive, Vassar, MI 48768

Mid-Michigan Railroad, 432 E. Grove Street, Greenville, MI 48838 USA

In addition, notice of this filing and instructions on how to obtain copies thereof have been or will be served by fax, email, or first class mail, postage prepaid, on all shippers located on the rail lines involved, within one week of the date hereof.


