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SEC

SERVICE DATE – AUGUST 15, 2007

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Finance Docket No. 35045

DULUTH, WINNIPEG AND PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY—AMENDED
TRACKAGE RIGHTS EXEMPTION—DULUTH, MISSABE AND IRON RANGE
RAILWAY COMPANY

STB Finance Docket No. 35046

DULUTH, MISSABE AND IRON RANGE RAILWAY COMPANY—AMENDED
TRACKAGE RIGHTS EXEMPTION—DULUTH, WINNIPEG AND PACIFIC
RAILWAY COMPANY

STB Finance Docket No. 35047

WISCONSIN CENTRAL LTD.—TRACKAGE RIGHTS EXEMPTION—DULUTH,
MISSABE AND IRON RANGE RAILWAY COMPANY

STB Finance Docket No. 35048

WISCONSIN CENTRAL LTD.—TRACKAGE RIGHTS EXEMPTION—DULUTH,
WINNIPEG AND PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY

STB Finance Docket No. 35049

DULUTH, MISSABE AND IRON RANGE RAILWAY COMPANY—TRACKAGE
RIGHTS EXEMPTION—WISCONSIN CENTRAL LTD.

STB Finance Docket No. 35050

DULUTH, WINNIPEG AND PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY—TRACKAGE
RIGHTS EXEMPTION—WISCONSIN CENTRAL LTD.

Decided: August 14, 2007

On July 23, 2007, United Transportation Union (UTU) filed a petition to revoke the six exemptions noticed in these proceedings on June 29, 2007, contending that their sole purpose was to circumvent existing collective bargaining agreements. The exemptions became effective on July 14, 2007.

On August 7, 2007, Wisconsin Central Ltd., Duluth, Winnipeg and Pacific Railway Company, and Duluth, Missabe and Iron Range Railway Company (collectively, CN) filed a joint motion requesting that the Board hold consideration of UTU's petition to revoke in these proceedings in abeyance for 60 days to give the parties time to negotiate a resolution of the issues raised in UTU's petition. CN states that UTU concurs in the request.

The request is reasonable and consistent with the Board's preference for private-sector negotiation and resolution of disputes. Therefore, the request will be granted.

This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

It is ordered:

1. The joint motion to hold consideration of the petition to revoke in these proceedings in abeyance for 60 days is granted.
2. The due date for CN to reply to UTU's petition to revoke is extended to October 15, 2007.
3. This decision is effective on the date of service.

By the Board, Vernon A. Williams, Secretary.

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary