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SEC

SERVICE DATE - MARCH 21, 1997

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Finance Docket No. 33004

READING BLUE MOUNTAIN & NORTHERN RAILROAD COMPANY
--ACQUISITION AND OPERATION EXEMPTION--
CONSOLIDATED RAIL CORPORATION

Decided: March 20, 1997

By motion filed March 19, 1997, the parties, Reading Blue Mountain & Northern Railroad Company (RBMN) and Delaware and Hudson Railway Company (DHRC), jointly request that the revised procedural schedule in our decision served March 7, 1997, be extended by 3 weeks, as follows:

DHRC Evidence and Argument	April 14, 1997
Replies to DHRC Evidence and Argument	May 29, 1997
Replies to DHRC Motion to Compel	April 10, 1997
RBMN, Conrail Motions to Compel	April 14, 1997

The parties state that the requested extension would facilitate settlement negotiation.

We will grant the requested extension because it is unopposed and will facilitate settlement negotiation.

It is ordered:

1. The motion for extension is granted.
2. This decision is effective on its date of service.

By the Board, Vernon A. Williams, Secretary.

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary