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SERVICE DATE – LATE RELEASE NOVEMBER 15, 2012

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

Docket No. EP 714

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN NOTICES AND PETITIONS CONTAINING
INTERCHANGE COMMITMENTS

Decided: November 14, 2012

This decision grants, in part, the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association's (ASLRRA) request to extend the deadlines for comments and reply comments by providing for a 15-day extension of the existing deadlines.

By Notice of Proposed Rulemaking served on November 1, 2012, the Board proposed a rule that would establish additional disclosure requirements for notices and petitions for exemption where the underlying lease or line sale includes an interchange commitment. The Board sought comments on this proposed rule and ordered that comments would be due by December 3, 2012, and reply comments by January 2, 2013.

By letter filed on November 7, 2012, ASLRRA requested that the Board extend those deadlines by 45 days. The Association of American Railroads filed a letter supporting this request on November 9, 2012. While an extension is warranted, we do not believe that 45 additional days is necessary. We believe that a 15-day extension would allow sufficient time for the preparation of comments. As a result, we will extend the deadline for filing comments in this proceeding to December 18, 2012. We will likewise extend the deadline for filing reply comments by 15 days to January 17, 2013.

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

It is ordered:

1. ASLRRA's request to extend the comment and reply deadlines is granted in part. Comments are due by December 18, 2012, and reply comments are due by January 17, 2013.
2. This decision is effective on its service date.

By the Board, Chairman Elliott, Vice Chairman Mulvey, and Commissioner Begeman.