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SEC

SERVICE DATE - LATE RELEASE MARCH 17, 1998

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. 42027

NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY

v.

CONSOLIDATED RAIL CORPORATION

Decided: March 17, 1998

By complaint filed March 11, 1998, Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSC) requests that we order Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail) to establish a "reasonable rail rate" for the movement of coal in unit trains from Conrail's interchange with the Union Pacific Railroad Company at Momence, IL, to NIPSC's generating plant near Wheatfield, IN.

By motion filed March 16, 1998, Conrail, citing scheduling conflicts, requests a one-week extension of time, from March 30 to April 6, 1998, to file an answer.<sup>1</sup> Conrail states that NIPSC does not object.

Conrail's motion for an extension will be granted.

It is ordered:

1. Conrail's reply to the complaint is due on April 6, 1998.
2. This decision is effective on its date of service.

By the Board, Vernon A. Williams, Secretary.

Vernon A. Williams  
Secretary

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<sup>1</sup> Because the complaint does not allege that a specific rate quoted by Conrail is unreasonable but, at least at this stage, appears to involve merely a request that we order Conrail to establish a rate for the movement, whose reasonableness may be challenged later, we do not yet view this as a maximum reasonableness rate complaint, and we did not require the processing fee for such a complaint. Thus, our rules for processing rail rate reasonableness cases do not apply and will not apply until actual rates are challenged.