

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

Docket No. AB 1043 (Sub-No. 1)

MONTREAL, MAINE & ATLANTIC RAILWAY, LTD.—DISCONTINUANCE OF  
SERVICE AND ABANDONMENT—IN AROOSTOOK AND PENOBSHOT COUNTIES,  
ME.

Decided: July 1, 2010

On February 25, 2010, Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway, Ltd. (MMA) filed an application under 49 U.S.C. § 10903 for authority to discontinue service over and abandon approximately 233 miles of line in Aroostook and Penobscot Counties, Me.<sup>1</sup> The State of Maine, by and through its Department of Transportation, has expressed opposition to the proposed discontinuance of service and abandonment. The proceeding has also drawn interest and opposition from various parties, including shippers and community interests.

In a decision served on June 22, 2010, the Board announced that it will hold a public hearing. The purpose of the hearing will be to allow interested persons to comment on the application. The public hearing will take place on July 7, 2010, beginning at 9:00 a.m., at the District Court House, 27 Riverside Drive, Presque Isle, ME 04769. Based on notices of intent to participate in the hearing solicited earlier in this proceeding, the Board set forth a tentative list of speakers and asked parties to confirm by June 24, 2010, that their proposed speakers will be testifying at the July 7 hearing.

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<sup>1</sup> MMA seeks discontinuance and abandonment authority for the following: (1) the Madawaska Subdivision, consisting of approximately 151 miles of line between milepost 109 near Millinocket and milepost 260 near Madawaska in Penobscot and Aroostook Counties; (2) the Presque Isle Subdivision, consisting of approximately 25.3 miles of line between milepost 0.0 near Squa Pan and milepost 25.3 near Presque Isle in Aroostook County; (3) the Fort Fairfield Subdivision, consisting of approximately 10 miles of line between milepost 0.0 near Presque Isle and milepost 10.0 near Easton in Aroostook County; (4) the Limestone Subdivision, consisting of approximately 29.85 miles of line between milepost 0.0 near Presque Isle and milepost 29.85 near Limestone in Aroostook County; and (5) the Houlton Subdivision, consisting of approximately 16.9 miles of line between milepost 0.0 near Oakfield and milepost 16.9 near Houlton in Aroostook County.

Based on responses received after the June 22 decision, the Board is issuing a revised list of speakers, which is attached as the Appendix to this decision. The revised list reflects that several parties will not be attending and that several parties will have different representatives.<sup>2</sup>

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

It is ordered:

1. Time for the hearing is allotted as reflected in the Appendix to this decision.
2. This decision is effective on the date of service.

By the Board, Joseph H. Dettmar, Acting Director, Office of Proceedings.

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<sup>2</sup> John H. Cashwell III, the new speaker testifying on behalf of Portage Wood Products, is being given 10 minutes rather than the 7 minutes that was allotted to the party in the June 22 order, because he will also be addressing the concerns of John W. McNulty of the Seven Islands Land Company, who now will not be able to speak at the hearing.

**SCHEDULE OF SPEAKERS**

<b><u>Party</u></b>	<b><u>Time Allotted</u></b>
Hon. Olympia J. Snowe, United States Senate	10 Minutes
Hon. Susan M. Collins, United States Senate	10 Minutes
Hon. Michael H. Michaud, Member of Congress	10 Minutes
<b>Panel I: Government</b>	
State of Maine, Department of Transportation David Cole, Commissioner of the Maine Department of Transportation or Designee	20 Minutes
<b>Panel II: Carrier</b>	
Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway, Ltd. (MMA) Robert C. Grindrod, MMA's President and CEO Linda J. Morgan James E. Howard	30 Minutes
<b>Panel III: Shippers</b>	
Fraser Timber Limited Arkon Horne or Designee	7 Minutes
Portage Wood Products John H. Cashwell III	10 Minutes
Irving Woodlands LLC Robert J. Pinette, Vice President	7 Minutes
Huber Engineered Woods, LLC Alan Weber, Vice President for Logistics and Supply Chain	7 Minutes
Louisiana-Pacific Corporation Travis Turner, Manager of Houlton Facility	7 Minutes
<b>Panel IV: Community Associations</b>	
LEADers Encouraging Aroostook Development (LEAD) James M. Davis, Secretary	5 Minutes

Aroostook Partnership for Progress (APP) 5 Minutes  
Walter J. Elish, President of APP

Presque Isle Industrial Council 5 Minutes  
Larry E. Clark

Presque Isle Area Chamber of Commerce 5 Minutes  
Theresa M. Fowler

Southern Aroostook Development Corporation 5 Minutes  
Jon A. McLaughlin, Executive Director

**Panel V: Community Interests**

Maine Public Service Company (Maine PSC) 5 Minutes  
Rodney K. Leach, Manager of Supply Chain and  
Facilities Management, Maine PSC

Northern Maine Development Commission 5 Minutes  
Denis Berube

The Aroostook Hospitality Inn 5 Minutes  
Steve Dobson

**Panel VI: Labor**

Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen 5 Minutes  
Kevin Moore, General Chairman for the General Committee of Adjustment of BLET

**Panel VII: Other**

Eric S. Strohmeyer 2 Minutes