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SEC

SERVICE DATE - JUNE 5, 1998

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. AB-32 (Sub-No. 83)

BOSTON AND MAINE CORPORATION--ABANDONMENT--IN HARTFORD AND NEW
HAVEN COUNTIES, CT

STB Docket No. AB-355 (Sub-No. 23)

SPRINGFIELD TERMINAL RAILWAY COMPANY--DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE--IN
HARTFORD AND NEW HAVEN COUNTIES, CT

Decided: June 4, 1998

By decision served on April 22, 1998, the Board found that the public convenience and necessity permit applicants Boston and Maine Corporation (B&M) and Springfield Terminal Railway Company (ST) to abandon and discontinue service, respectively, over a line of railroad known as the Canal Branch extending from milepost 14.50 in Cheshire, CT, to milepost 24.00 in Southington, CT, a distance of 9.50 miles, in Hartford and New Haven Counties, CT (the line). The decision authorizing abandonment and discontinuance was scheduled to become effective on May 22, 1998, unless an offer of financial assistance (OFA) was filed on or before May 1, 1998. On May 1, 1998, Dalton Enterprises, Inc. (Dalton) filed an OFA under 49 U.S.C. 10904 and 49 U.S.C. 1152.27(c) to purchase the line for \$650,240.

In a decision served on May 5, 1998, Dalton was found to be financially responsible. The effective date of the decision authorizing abandonment and discontinuance was postponed to permit the financial assistance process to proceed. The decision also noted that, on or before June 1, 1998, either party could request that the Board establish terms and conditions for the sale of the line if no agreement was reached during negotiations.

On June 1, 1998, Dalton requested that the Board establish the terms and amount of compensation for the sale of the line. By letter dated June 2, 1998, applicants request that the time for filing their evidence and response to Dalton's request be extended from June 5, 1998 to June 9, 1998. Applicants state that they require additional time to complete and file their response.

The request is reasonable and will be granted.

STB Docket No. AB-32 (Sub-No. 83), et al.

It is ordered:

1. Applicants' reply to Dalton's request to set terms is due on June 9, 1998.
2. This decision is effective on its date of service.

By the Board, Vernon A. Williams, Secretary.

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary