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SEC

SERVICE DATE - DECEMBER 11, 1998

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

No. 41670

SHELL CHEMICAL COMPANY and SHELL OIL COMPANY

v.

BOSTON & MAINE CORPORATION, ET AL.

Decision No. 27

Decided: December 10, 1998

By joint motion filed December 9, 1998, complainants¹ and defendants² have requested a 45-day extension of the procedural schedule adopted in Decision No. 26. The parties indicate that complainants and defendant CSX Transportation, Inc., the originating railroad for the traffic at issue in this proceeding, have reached an agreement in principle as to terms of a new commercial arrangement that, when finalized and reduced to writing, will allow complainants to move to dismiss this proceeding as against all defendants.

Given the circumstances, the request for an extension of the procedural schedule is reasonable. The revised schedule envisioned by the parties will therefore be adopted.

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

It is ordered:

1. Simultaneous opening submissions respecting market dominance are due on January 28, 1999.
2. Simultaneous reply submissions respecting market dominance are due on March 15, 1999.
3. Simultaneous rebuttal submissions respecting market dominance are due on April 5, 1999.

¹ The two complainants are Shell Chemical Company and Shell Oil Company. See Decision No. 26, slip op. at 1 n.1.

² There are 15 remaining defendants. See Decision No. 26, slip op. at 1 n.2.

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4. This decision is effective on its service date.

By the Board, Vernon A. Williams, Secretary.

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary