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SERVICE DATE - DECEMBER 29, 1999

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

Section 5a Application No. 61 (Sub-No. 6)

NATIONAL CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE — AGREEMENT

Decided: December 27, 1999

In our decision issued in this proceeding on December 18, 1998, we announced our intention to approve renewal of the bureau agreement of the National Classification Committee (NCC) only if the agreement is amended to provide for more effective shipper participation, and if collective publication of the Uniform Bill of Lading is deleted from the agreement. We stated, however, that we would not initiate the necessary followup proceedings until the end of 1999, in order to give Congress the opportunity to address the issues that had been raised. Instead, we temporarily approved NCC's agreement until the end of 1999.

NCC and the American Trucking Associations, Inc., sought reconsideration of our decision, and various shipper groups replied in opposition. Additionally, Congress recently passed legislation (the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999, H. R. No. 3419) that bears on this proceeding.

We intend to issue a decision, no later than February 15, 1999, addressing the issues that have been raised in this proceeding. In the meantime, we will temporarily extend our approval of NCC's agreement.

It is ordered:

1. We temporarily extend our approval of NCC's agreement.
2. This decision is effective on December 29, 1999.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan, Vice Chairman Clyburn and Commissioner Burkes.

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary