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SERVICE DATE - MARCH 23, 2001

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Ex Parte No. 582 (Sub-No. 1)

MAJOR RAIL CONSOLIDATION PROCEDURES

Decided: March 22, 2001

By decision served March 16, 2001, the Board issued the schedule of appearances and the time provided for each party to speak at the oral argument in this proceeding which has been set for Thursday, April 5, 2001, at 10:00 a.m. in the Surface Transportation Board Hearing Room (Room 760) at 1925 K Street, N.W., in Washington, D.C.

In the decision served February 23, 2001, we required parties that filed initial comments, reply comments, and/or rebuttal comments in response to the notice of proposed rulemaking served October 3, 2000,¹ and that wished to participate in the oral argument to notify the Secretary of the Board in writing by Friday, March 9, 2001. Based on the filings received in response to the February 23 decision, we issued a schedule of participants for the April 5 oral argument in a decision served on March 16, 2001. We subsequently received a late-filed request from Donald F. Griffin, Assistant General Counsel for the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees (BMWE), to speak at the oral argument. Mr. Griffin's letter was dated and postmarked March 5, 2001, but was not received at the Board until March 16, 2001. Because no party will be prejudiced by our accepting BMWE's request, we will do so and add BMWE to the schedule of appearances as shown in the attached Appendix. Mr. Griffin also advised the Board that BMWE will coordinate its presentation with that of the Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO – Rail Labor Division, at the oral argument.

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

It is ordered:

1. BMWE's request to appear at the oral argument is accepted, and BMWE is added to the schedule of appearances as shown on the attached Appendix.

¹ Major Rail Consolidation Procedures, STB Ex Parte No. 582 (Sub-No. 1) (STB served Oct. 3, 2000, and published that day at 65 FR 58974).

2. This decision is effective on the date of service.

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

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary

APPENDIX
LIST of PARTICIPANTS for ORAL ARGUMENT on THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2001

	<u>TIME ALLOTTED</u>
<u>U.S. GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION</u>	
U.S. Department of Transportation	8
	Total 8 minutes
<u>CLASS I RAILROADS AND RELATED INTERESTS</u>	
Association of American Railroads	15
Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company	8
Canadian National	8
Canadian Pacific	8
CSX	8
Kansas City Southern	8
Norfolk Southern	8
Union Pacific	8
National Railway Labor Conference	15
	Total 86 minutes
<u>RAIL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS</u>	
Rail Labor Division of the TTD, AFL-CIO, and its affiliates / Allied Rail Unions	15
IBEW / ATDD-BLE / IAM	5
Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes	3
United Transportation Union	10
	Total 33 minutes
<u>REGIONAL & SHORTLINE RAILROAD ASSOCIATION</u>	
American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association	10
	Total 10 minutes
<u>GENERAL SHIPPERS, CHEMICALS & PLASTICS COMPANIES & ASSOCIATIONS</u>	
National Industrial Transportation League	15
American Chemistry Council / American Forest & Paper Association	15
BASF Corporation	3
OxyChem and Oxy Vinyls	3
Williams Energy Services	3
	Total 39 minutes
<u>COAL INTERESTS</u>	
The "Subscribing Coal Shippers" Group (WCTL; APPA; NRECA; AEC; City of Grand Island, NE; City Utilities of Springfield, MO; LUS; PRPA; SRPAI&PD; TMPA; and NSPM D/B/A Excel Energy).	5
Committee to Improve American Coal Transportation	5
Consumers United for Rail Equity	8
Edison Electric Institute	12
	Total 30 minutes
<u>AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION</u>	
National Grain & Feed Association	10
	Total 10 minutes
<u>PASSENGER RAILROADS & RELATED INTERESTS</u>	
National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak)	5
American Public Transportation Association	3
United Rail Passenger Alliance, Inc.	3
	Total 11 minutes
<u>PORT INTERESTS</u>	
American Association of Port Authorities	3
Jackson County Port Authority (Port of Pascagoula, MS)	5
Port Authority of New York and New Jersey	5
Port of Seattle, WA	5
	Total 18 minutes
<u>STATE/LOCAL INTERESTS</u>	
State of Maryland	5
	Total 5 minutes