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TO BE PLACED ON THE PUBLIC RECORD

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BEFORE THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

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STB EX PARTE NO. 711

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings

JUL 22 2011

Part of  
Public Record

PETITION OF THE NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL TRANSPORTATION LEAGUE  
FOR RULEMAKING TO ADOPT REVISED COMPETITIVE SWITCHING RULES

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OLIN CORPORATION'S STATEMENT IN SUPPORT

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Olin Corporation, through its Chlor Alkali Products Division ("Olin"), submits this statement in support of the National Industrial Transportation League's ("NITL") request for the Board to adopt revised competitive switching rules. The statutes that theoretically allow for reciprocal switching as an avenue of relief for captive shippers have been rendered meaningless by the current rules governing their application. As noted by NITL, there has not been a single request for reciprocal switching filed in the past fifteen years.

NITL's petition includes a specific proposal for revised competitive switching rules, along with a thoughtful analysis of the proposed rules. NITL's proposal is a serious attempt to encourage natural competition where it is possible, while taking into account the concerns and needs of the railroads. Revised rules are necessary to return meaning to the statutes that were enacted to encourage competition, so that competition, rather than monopolistic power, can regulate rates.

Olin continues to support additional measures proposed in STB EP 705, including an R/VC limit on the rates that railroads are permitted to charge captive shippers. Olin believes there is sufficient information in the record of STB EP 705 to support revised rules without

initiating new proceedings; however, should the Board decide that proposals for revised rules would be better addressed in separate proceedings, as NITL has proposed, Olin supports initiating such proceedings.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Olin Corporation by:

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