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Ms. Cynthia T. Brown

Chief, Section of Administration of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423

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RE: Finance Docket No. 27590 (Sub-No. 4)
TTX Company – Application For Pooling Reauthorization

Dear Ms. Brown:

I write today in support of the TTX Application For Pooling Reauthorization which is pending before the Board. As you know, the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association represents over 485 Class II and Class III railroads and switch carriers who operate across North America. Our members benefit daily from the flatcar pool provided by TTX. Many small railroads own few cars of their own. Thus, the reliable availability of specialty flatcars from TTX allows our members to serve diverse customer needs knowing that needed flatcars will be available. Our small railroad members would be hard pressed indeed to obtain the flatcars were it not for the service provided by TTX. In addition, our member railroads have limited networks and are highly reliant on the pooling service offered by TTX. TTX is a key player in assuring a fluid national rail network across carrier platforms. Our small carriers rely on the availability of specialty flatcars to provide “first mile, last mile” service in what are often rural and economically fragile parts of the country.

For these reasons ASLRRRA strongly supports TTX’s application for a fifteen-year extension of its pooling authority to ensure that TTX will continue to supply efficient and economical flatcar service in the years to come for small railroads and the benefit of the larger economy as a whole.

Respectfully,



Richard F. Timmons, President
American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association