



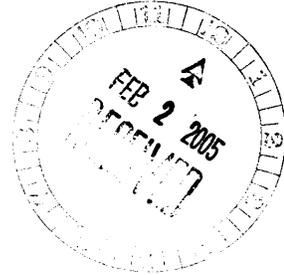
Hubbell Lighting, Inc.

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January 25, 2005

Mr. Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20423-0001



Reference STB Ex Part No. 656

Dear Mr. Williams:

Our company is in the lighting manufacturing business. One of our largest costs is for freight.

We understand the Surface Transportation Board is evaluating the appropriateness of extending continued antitrust exemption for the National Classification Committee. We urge you to deny the continuance of this collective agreement.

We believe it inappropriate to continue the collective agreement activity of the National Classification Committee in today's deregulated economy. Freight cost should only be determined in the open market with agreements/contracts determined between individual shippers and trucking companies.

If there is some overriding reason why the National Classification Committee should continue, then it should be reorganized with its makeup of 50% shippers and 50% trucking companies.

Sincerely,

Ken Whitesides
Manager Transportation / Hubbell Lighting

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Cc: Dick Upton, President
American Lighting Association