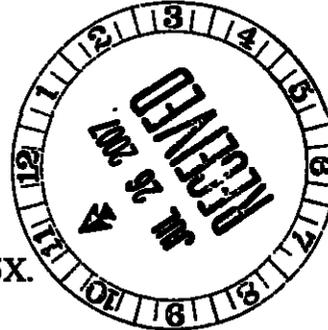


FROM: James Riffin
1941 Greenspring Drive
Timonium, MD 21093
July 25, 2007
(443) 414-6210

TO: Vernon Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423



RE: STB Finance Docket Nos. AB 32 / 53X and AB 355 / 5X.

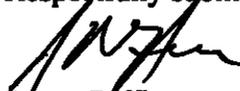
Dear Secretary Williams:

I am faxing herewith to the Board the following documents, to be filed in Finance Docket Numbers: AB 32 / 53X and AB 355 / 5X.

Comments of James Riffin *219855*
Notice of Intent to File an Offer of Financial Assistance *219856*
Petition to Toll Date an Offer of Financial Assistance Must Be Filed By. *219857*

I am sending via overnight delivery the original and ten copies of the above three documents.

Respectfully submitted,


James Riffin

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JUL 26 2007

Part of
Public Record

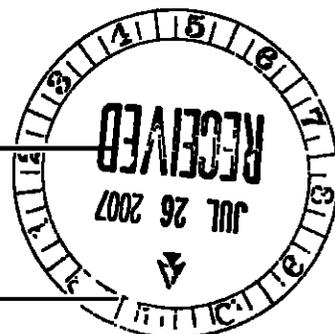
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Public Record

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

21985C

STB DOCKET NO. AB-32 (Sub- No. 53X)
STB DOCKET NO. AB 355 (Sub- No. 5X)



**BOSTON & MAINE CORPORATION
SPRINGFIELD TERMINAL RAILWAY COMPANY
ABANDONMENT AND DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE EXEMPTION
GEORGETOWN BRANCH, ESSEX COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS**

**PETITION TO TOLL DATE
AN OFFER OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE MUST BE FILED BY**

James Riffin, ("Riffin" or "Petitioner") herewith files this Petition to Toll Date an Offer of Financial Assistance Must Be Filed By, and for reasons states:

1. On July 9, 2007, the Surface Transportation Board ("Board") served notice that the Boston & Maine Corporation and Springfield Terminal Railway Company ("BMC") had filed an Abandonment Exemption ("AE") to abandon 1.47 miles of line situated in Essex County, MA, which AE and line is the subject matter of the above entitled proceeding ("Line").
2. In the Board's July 9, 2007 decision, the Board stated the due date for filing an Offer of Financial Assistance in the above entitled case would be 10 days after the effective date of the notice of exemption.
3. On July 25, 2007, Riffin, pursuant to the applicable regulations of the Surface Transportation Board ("STB" or "Board"), filed his formal Notice of Intent to File an Offer of Financial Assistance ("OFA Notice"), to purchase from BMC the Line which is the subject of the above entitled proceeding.
4. On July 25, 2007, a copy of Riffin's OFA Notice was mailed, via first class mail, to Michael Q. Geary, counsel for BMC. In that OFA Notice, Riffin requested BMC provide Riffin

with 49 CFR §1152.27(a) information regarding the Line. Riffin cannot prepare an informed Offer of Financial Assistance without first reviewing the information Riffin requested.

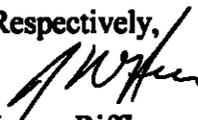
5. Under 49 CFR 1152.27 (c), the offeror may ask that the Board toll the time period within which an OFA must be submitted, in order to provide sufficient time for the abandoning railroad to provide the offeror with the information specified in 49 CFR 1152.27(a).

6. Once Riffin receives the information he has requested from BMC, he anticipates it will take 30 days to have experts evaluate the data, then provide him with guidance regarding the economic viability of the line.

7. Granting this Petition is in conformity with 49 USC §10101 (7) [reducing regulatory barriers to entry into the industry]; (13) [to ensure the availability of accurate cost information in regulatory proceedings; (15) [to provide for the expeditious handling and resolution of all proceedings]. Granting this Petition would not significantly adversely affect BMC's ability to exit the industry along this line, for BMC has not indicated that it intends to immediately salvage the rails then sell the real estate.

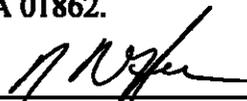
8. WHEREFORE, your Petitioner would request the time period within which to file an OFA be 30 days from the date of the Board's decision granting the exemption, or until 30 days after receipt by Riffin of the 49 CFR 1152.27(a) information Riffin has requested, whichever is later.

Respectively,


James Riffin

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 25th day of July, 2007, a copy of the foregoing Petition to Toll Date an Offer of Financial Assistance Must be Filed By, was served by first class mail, postage prepaid, upon Michael Q. Geary, Staff Attorney, Boston & Maine Corporation (Pan Am Railways), Law Department, Iron Horse Park, No Billerica, MA 01862.



James Riffin