



Eric M. Hocky
Direct Dial 215 640 8523
Email: ehocky@thorpreed.com

ATTORNEYS AT LAW SINCE 1895

VIA E-FILING

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

July 22, 2010

Re: STB Docket No. AB-1043 (Sub-No. 1)
Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway, Ltd.
- Abandonment and Discontinuance of Service -
In Penobscot and Aroostook Counties, Maine
**Request for Extension of Briefing Schedule / Expedited
Consideration Requested**

Dear Ms. Brown:

In a decision served late on July 20, 2010, the Board requested supplemental evidence and argument on the Board's authority to impose access in this case, and the type of access that could or should be imposed. Supplemental filings are due by July 27, 2010, and replies are due August 3, 2010.

As noted by the Board in its July 20, 2010 decision, and by my client the State of Maine, Department of Transportation (the "State") in its offer of financial assistance filed on July 19, 2010, the State and the applicant Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway, Ltd. ("MMA") continue to negotiate various issues in connection with the possible purchase of the Abandonment Lines by the State. These issues include the access issues on which the Board has requested supplemental filings.

MMA and the State believe that it would be preferable if they were able to reach a negotiated settlement of these issues, and believe that there is a better likelihood of success if they could spend their immediate efforts on seeking resolution of the issues. Accordingly, MMA and the State respectfully request that the Board extend the deadlines for supplemental filings and replies by one week, until August 3, 2010 and August 10, 2010, respectfully, in order to give the parties additional time to negotiate.

In order to save the time and effort that MMA, the State and other potential parties might spend on their supplemental filings, the State and MMA request that the Board issue a decision on this request by Friday, July 23, 2010. Because we are requesting a decision on such short notice, we have sent courtesy copies of this letter to the office so the Members of the Board.

Counsel for MMA has authorized me to state that MMA joins in the extension request set forth herein.

Pittsburgh

Philadelphia

Princeton

Wheeling

Thorpe Reed & Armstrong, LLP
One Commerce Square
2005 Market Street
Suite 1000
Philadelphia, PA 19103-7041
215 640 8500
215 640 8501 Fax

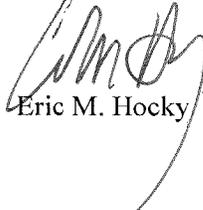


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Thank you for your consideration. Please let us know if you need any additional information.

Respectfully,



Eric M. Hocky

EMH/e

cc (by fax):

Chairman Elliott – 202.245.0450
Vice Chairman Mulvey – 202.245.0453
Commissioner Nottingham – 202.245.0452
Joseph Dettmar – 202.245.0464

cc (by email):

James Howard, Esq.
Linda Morgan, Esq.
Toni Kemmerle, Chief Counsel