Statement of John Sado Assistant to the Director and Acting Branch Chief, STB Office of Proceedings

STB Ex Parte No. 536 (Sub-No. 17), Semiannual Regulatory Agenda

STB Ex Parte No. 652, Revision of Exemption Authority Citations

STB Ex Parte No. 638, <u>Procedures To Expedite Resolution of Rail Rate Challenges To Be</u> Considered Under The Stand-Alone Cost Methodology

Chairman Nober, Vice Chairman Mulvey, Commissioner Buttrey, good morning.

Before you are three draft decisions offered as a package for voting purposes. In the first of these (STB Ex Parte No. 652), the draft before you would correct existing rules with appropriate cites to the statute and to the agency. In the second draft before you (STB Ex Parte No. 638), the Board would add back language that was inadvertently dropped during an earlier revision of the rule. Neither involves a substantive change.

As for the third decision, twice a year, the Board contributes to a <u>Federal Register</u> publication coordinated by the Office of Management and Budget that is designed to provide the public with information about rulemakings conducted by agencies of the federal government. Before you is a draft transmission to OMB. The draft includes pending rulemakings in which the Board is exploring whether to adopt new or revised rules. The draft also includes the two proceedings I just described (STB Ex Parte Nos. 652 and 638).

We would be happy to address any questions you might have. Thank you.