

Voting Conference, January 19, 2005

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Motor Carrier Rate Bureaus – Periodic Review Proceeding
STB Ex Parte No. 656

Good morning Chairman Nober, Vice Chairman Buttrey, and Commissioner Mulvey.

Over the last decades, many motor carrier bureaus have gone out of business. As part of its notice recently served and published instituting the current periodic review proceeding, the Board asked the public to help to update the agency's records as to which motor carrier bureaus are still operating under Board authority, and the agency proffered a list of five bureaus believed to be defunct. In response to this request, two of these bureaus filed comments stating – correctly – that they are still operating under Board authority. The two bureaus are the Nationwide Bulk Trucking Association and the Machinery Haulers Association. The draft notice before you would correct the prior notice to inform the public that these two bureaus continue to operate under agreements approved by this agency. We are taking this action now to notify all interested persons before the due date for public comments in this proceeding.

In response to a motion filed by the National Motor Freight Traffic Association and the National Classification Committee, the draft decision would also extend the deadlines for filing comments by approximately 2 weeks. They state that the extension is necessary to provide sufficient time to make sure that their comments properly reflect the views of their members.

This concludes our presentation. We would be happy to answer any of your questions.