

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD & WASHINGTON STATE DEPT. OF
TRANSPORTATION ANNOUNCE BRIEFINGS ON CITIZEN-PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE
FOR "NORTHERN COLUMBIA BASIN RAILROAD PROJECT"**

The Surface Transportation Board (Board) and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) have announced that, on **Tuesday, October 23, 2007**, a WSDOT representative will conduct two briefings, **in Moses Lake, Washington**, for members of the Port of Moses Lake Commission, the Moses Lake City Council, and all interested parties regarding the proposed "Northern Columbia Basin Railroad Project" (Project). The Project is the subject of the Board proceeding entitled Northern Columbia Basin Railroad Project—Construction and Operation in Moses Lake, Washington, STB Finance Docket No. 34936.

STB and WSDOT are working as co-lead agencies for the environmental review of the Project, and the purpose of the briefings is to present findings related to the analysis of a citizen-proposed alternative to the Project. The meetings are scheduled for:

Tuesday, October 23
3:30 P.M.
Port of Moses Lake Commission
Grant County International Airport
Moses Lake, Washington

and

Tuesday, October 23
7:00 P.M.
Moses Lake City Council
City Hall, 321 Balsam Street
Moses Lake, Washington

For further information concerning the Project, please contact **Christa Dean, Attorney and Section of Environmental Analysis Project Manager**, at telephone (202) 245-0299, or e-mail christa.dean@stb.dot.gov; or **Elizabeth Phinney, WSDOT Rail Environmental Manager**, at phone (360) 705-7902, or e-mail phinnee@wsdot.wa.gov. Information is also available on the project Web site at:

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/Rail/NorthernColumbiaBasinRR/>.

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