

**Public & Media Advisory: Surface Transportation Board Provides Schedule of Appearances, Time Allocations for Public & Media Attendance at August 31 Public Hearing on "Small Railroad Abandonments"**

Surface Transportation Board Chairman Roger Nober today provided a schedule of speakers' appearances and their time allocations for the STB's **August 31, 2004** public hearing concerning *Class Exemption for Expedited Abandonment Procedure for Class II and Class III Railroads*, STB Ex Parte No. 647.

The hearing will be held immediately after the conclusion of the STB's voting conference, which begins at **10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 31, 2004, in Room 760**, the STB's hearing room, on the **7th Floor** of the agency's headquarters in the **Mercury Building, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.**

The STB officially announced the public hearing in STB Ex Parte No. 647 in a [Notice issued to the public on July 22, 2004](#). The schedule of speakers' appearances and time allocations as published in the STB's [August 24, 2004 decision in STB Ex Parte No. 647](#) is attached. That decision is available for viewing and downloading via the agency's Web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>. A printed copy of the Board's decision also is available for a fee by contacting **ASAP Document Solutions, 9332 Annapolis Rd., Suite 103, Lanham, MD 20706, telephone (301) 577-2600**, or via [asapmd@verizon.net](mailto:asapmd@verizon.net). A fact sheet is attached.

A live broadcast of the hearing will be accessible via the STB's agency's Web site at "<http://www.stb.dot.gov>," under "**Information Center**"/"**Webcast**"/"**Live Audio**" on the home page.

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**ATTACHMENT**

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**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD PUBLIC HEARING**  
*Class Exemption for Expedited Abandonment Procedure for Class II and Class III Railroads,*  
**STB Ex Parte No. 647, August 31, 2004**

**SCHEDULE OF APPEARANCES**

**Party / Speaker / Time Allotted**

**Petitioners**

Speaker: Mark H. Sidman, Weiner, Brodsky, Sidman, Kider P.C. (Note: The Petitioners will open and may reserve part of their time for rebuttal) / 30 minutes

**Association of American Railroads**

Speaker: Linda J. Morgan, Covington & Burling / 15 minutes

**United Transportation Union**

Speaker: Daniel R. Elliot, III / 15 minutes

**Rail Labor Division of the Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO**

Speaker: Mitchell Kraus / 15 minutes

**MATTER AT ISSUE:**

The Surface Transportation Board's August 31, 2004 public hearing concerning *Class Exemption for Expedited Abandonment Procedure for Class II and Class III Railroads*, STB Ex Parte No. 647, will provide a forum for the discussion of a petition filed with the STB by a group of 65 short-line and regional railroads ("Petitioners") requesting a rulemaking to amend the agency's current rail-line abandonment regulations.

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