

FOR RELEASE
02/20/1998 (Friday)
No. 98-9

Contact: Janie Sheng (202) 245-0221

FedRelay 1 (800) 877-8339
www.stb.gov

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD ANNOUNCES HEARINGS ON RAIL ACCESS
AND COMPETITION ISSUES**

FOR RELEASE:
Friday, February 20, 1998
No. 98-9
Contact: Dennis Watson
(202) 565-1596
TDD (202) 565-1695

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
ANNOUNCES HEARINGS
ON RAIL ACCESS AND COMPETITION ISSUES**

Surface Transportation Board (Board) Chairman Linda J. Morgan announced today that the Board has scheduled hearings to review rail access and competition issues. The review is being conducted at the request of Senators John McCain, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, and Kay Bailey Hutchison, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine.

Under the schedule announced by the Board, written comments will be due by **March 26, 1998**, and oral hearings will begin on **April 2, 1998**. In its decision, the Board stated: "To meet the responsibility entrusted to us by Congress, we invite comments, data, studies, and proposals for legislative action."

The Board's notice was issued today in the case entitled *Review of Rail Access and Competition Issues*, STB Ex Parte No. 575.

###