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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENT ON RAIL RATE-CASE PROCEDURES FOR GRAIN SHIPPERS

The Surface Transportation Board today announced a review of rate case procedures to ensure they are accessible to grain shippers and provide effective protection to grain shippers.

The Board has instituted a proceeding, <u>Rail Transportation of Grain</u>, <u>Rate Regulation Review</u>, EP 665 (Sub-No. 1), seeking comment from interested parties on grain shippers' ability to seek relief for unreasonable rates effectively, including input on proposals for modifying existing procedures, or for new, alternative rate-relief methodologies.

The Board's action follows an earlier proceeding, <u>Rail Transportation of Grain</u>, EP 665, that explored grain-transportation markets following concerns expressed by grain producers, public officials, and other stakeholders over rail rate and service issues. More recently, the Board concluded another proceeding, <u>Rate Regulation Reforms</u>, EP 715, that reformed rate case procedures, but recognized that further review might be needed in this area.

Comments in <u>Rail Transportation of Grain, Rate Regulation Review</u>, EP 665 (Sub-No. 1) are due on March 12, 2014, and replies are due on May 12, 2014. To view the Board's decision, <u>click here</u>.

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