

By the Board, Chairman Morgan, Vice Chairman Burkes, and Commissioner Clyburn.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-3238 Filed 2-10-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[Sec. 5a Application No. 118 (Sub-No. 2), et al.]

EC-MAC Motor Carriers Service Association, Inc., et al.¹

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Request for proposals and comments.

SUMMARY: The Surface Transportation Board (Board) seeks suggested methodologies that the motor carrier rate bureaus that have applied for renewal of their operating authority can use to adjust the collective rates established by their bureaus to prevailing levels of market based rates, as required by the Board's decisions in *EC-MAC Motor Carriers Service Association, Inc., et al.*, Sec. 5a Application No. 118 (Amendment No. 1), et al. (STB served Dec. 18, 1998, and Feb. 11, 2000).

DATES: Opening proposals or comments are due April 11, 2000. Reply comments are due May 11, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Send an original and 10 copies of proposals, comments, and replies, referring to "Section 5a Application No. 118 (Sub-No. 2), et al.," to: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joseph H. Dettmar, (202) 565-1600.

¹ This proceeding embraces the following other motorcarrier rate bureau renewal applications: *Pacific Inland Tariff Bureau, Inc.—Renewal of Agreement*, Section 5a Application No. 22 (Sub-No. 8); *The New England Motor Rate Bureau, Inc.*, Section 5a Application No. 25 (Sub-No. 9); *Middlewest Motor Freight Bureau, Inc.—Renewal of Agreement*, Section 5a Application No. 34 (Sub-No. 10); *Niagara Frontier Tariff Bureau, Inc.*, Section 5a Application No. 45 (Sub-No. 16); *Southern Motor Carriers Rate Conference, Inc.*, Section 5a Application No. 46 (Sub-No. 21); *Carriers Traffic Association—Agreement*, Section 5a Application No. 55 (Amendment No. 2); *Machinery Haulers Association Inc.—Agreement*, Section 5a Application No. 58 (Sub-No. 4); *Rocky Mountain Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc.*, Section 5a Application No. 60 (Sub-No. 11); *Nationwide Bulk Trucking Association, Inc.—Agreement*, Section 5a Application No. 63 (Sub-No. 4); *Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc.—Agreement*, Section 5a Application No. 70 (Sub-No. 12); and *Willamette Tariff Bureau, Inc.—Renewal of Agreement*, STB Section 5a Agreement No. 116 (Sub-No. 1).

[TDD for the hearing impaired: 1-800-877-8338.]

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Additional information is contained in the Board's decisions, which are available on our website at "WWW.STB.DOT.GOV."

Decided: February 4, 2000.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan, Vice Chairman Burkes, and Commissioner Clyburn.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-3136 Filed 2-10-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[Section 5a Application No. 9 (Amendment No. 8)]

Application of the National Motor Bus Traffic Association, Inc., for Extended Approval of its Conformed Agreement

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Surface Transportation Board (Board) seeks comments on whether the Board should approve the application of the National Motor Bus Traffic Association, Inc. (NBTA), for extended approval of its rate bureau agreement.

DATES: Opening comments are due March 13, 2000. Reply comments are due March 27, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Send an original and 10 copies of comments and replies, referring to "Sec. 5a Application No. 9 (Amendment No. 8)," to: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joseph H. Dettmar, (202) 565-1600. [TDD for the hearing impaired: 1-800-877-8339.]

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In our decision and notice issued today in *EC-MAC Motor Carriers Service Association, Inc., et al.*, Section 5a Application No. 118 (Sub-No. 2), et al. (*EC-MAC*) (which are available on the Board's website at "WWW.STB.DOT.GOV"), we expressed concern with the way in which motor freight carrier rate bureaus collectively set "benchmark" class rates, from which discount rates may be offered to many, but not all, shippers. We indicated our intent to approve the rate bureau agreements of the motor freight bureaus only if class rates were reduced to market-based levels, and we requested

public input on ways in which to achieve our objective.

NBTA has asked to have its agreement approved. It states that, while it does file tariffs on behalf of its member carriers, its members express their rates in dollars and cents, and not as discounts off of collectively-established bureau rates. Thus, it states that the issues over which we expressed concern in the *EC-MAC* proceeding should not be factors in our consideration of its agreement.

We tend to agree with NBTA that the issues about which we raised concerns in *EC-MAC* should not be of concern here. Nonetheless, any person who believes that we should initiate further proceedings of the sort that we are pursuing in *EC-MAC*, or that the agreement should be disapproved or conditioned for other reasons may file comments.

Decided: February 4, 2000.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan, Vice Chairman Burkes, and Commissioner Clyburn.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

Release of Waybill Data

The Surface Transportation Board has received requests from Sidley & Austin on behalf of Norfolk Southern Corporation and Norfolk Southern Railway Company (WB568—1/3/2000), from Stephen Brown (WB569—2/1/2000), and from Sidley & Austin on behalf of Canadian Pacific Railway Company, Soo Line Railroad Company, St. Lawrence and Hudson Railway Co. Limited, and Delaware and Hudson Railway Co., Inc. (WB471-5—February 4, 2000) for permission to use certain data from the Board's Carload Waybill Samples. A copy of the requests may be obtained from the Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis, and Administration.

The waybill sample contains confidential railroad and shipper data; therefore, if any parties object to these requests, they should file their objections with the Director of the Board's Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis, and Administration within 14 calendar days of the date of this notice. The rules for release of waybill data are codified at 49 CFR 1244.8.