



Surface Transportation Board
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Office of the General Counsel

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Meeting under Section 5, STB Reauthorization Act

May 1, 2019

Present: Members Begeman, Fuchs, and Oberman
Staff Bill Brennan, Mike Boyles, Rachel Campbell, Anika Cooper, Allison Davis, Chris Diamond, Ellen Erichsen, Amanda Gorski, Kim Hillenbrand, Craig Keats, Lucy Marvin, Lisa Novins, Valerie Quinn, Janie Sheng

Topic: Rate Reform Task Force Recommendations

Summary of the Matters Discussed, Prepared by General Counsel Craig Keats:

At this meeting, staff briefed Board Members on certain recommendations made in the Rate Reform Task Force Report issued on April 29, 2019. The Report recommended improvements to the existing rate review processes and proposed new rate review methodologies that the Board could consider. This meeting focused on one aspect of the Report: how to improve rate relief processes for parties involved in smaller disputes.

Staff and Board Members discussed the following issues:

1. The recommended legislation that would permit the Board to require arbitration of smaller disputes.
2. The potential use of “final offer” principles in STB adjudications in smaller disputes.
3. Possible types of rate reasonableness and market dominance presentations parties might make in such cases.
4. Possible changes to the process explored in the Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in EP 665 (Sub-No. 2).