



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

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March 22, 2019
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Office of the General Counsel

Meeting under Section 5, STB Reauthorization Act

January 31, 2019

Present: Members Begeman, Fuchs, and Oberman
Member Staff Valerie Quinn, Amanda Gorski, Ellen Erichsen, Lisa Novins
Agency Staff Craig Keats, Rachel Campbell, Allison Davis, Anika Cooper,
Scott Zimmerman, Usha Naik, Adil Gulamali, Cynthia Brown, Sarah Fancher,
Elizabeth Webster

Topic: EP 747, Payment, Filing, and Service Procedures

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

In August 2018, the Board issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) proposing to update its regulations relating to methods of payment, filing procedures, electronic service of Board decisions, and fees for copying, printing, and related services, in order to promote efficiency, accessibility, and cost savings for both the Board and the public, and to enhance the accessibility of information relating to proceedings and functions of the Board. Several parties filed comments in response to the NPRM. In this meeting, staff briefed Board Members about the existing processes, the comments, and ways to make these processes more efficient and user-friendly.

Staff and Board Members discussed the following issues:

1. Existing fees, how they are collected, and ways to use “pay.gov” to modernize the process.
2. Electronic filing: how it is currently used by the Board and by other agencies, and how it might be used in the future to reduce burdens of paper-filing on the Board and on filers.
3. Electronic versus mail service of Board decisions.
4. The levels of fees for copying, printing, and similar functions when requested by members of the public.