



45c FORTY PLUS FOUNDATION

Since 1939 - America's oldest non-profit out placement service
Mailing Address: 7 Monmouth Road, Oakhurst, N.J. 07755-1656 Office: (732) 489-1393

E-mail: tomislavneuman@aol.com

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HONORABLE VERNON A. WILLIAMS, SECRETARY
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
1925 K STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20423-0001

Re: Docket No. AB-167 (Sub-No. 1094)A

CHELSEA PROPERTY OWNERS - ABANDONMENT--
PORTION OF THE CONSOLIDATED RAIL CORPORATION'S
WEST 30TH STREET SECONDARY TRACK IN NEW YORK, NY

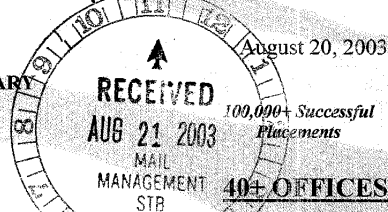
Dear Secretary Williams;

The FORTY PLUS FOUNDATION, wishes to thank both the Board, Chairman Nober and yourself for your generous accommodation to facilitate our participation within the Public hearing held here in NYC last month regarding the above.

Please enter my appearance in this proceeding on behalf of the FORTY PLUS FOUNDATION'S "Manhattan Central Railway Systems, LLC." (MCRS). MCRS intends to participate in this proceeding as a party of record. Accordingly, please place my name, at the address provide below, on the service list to receive all pleadings and decisions in this proceeding.

As the board may be aware, last Thursday, August 14th, NYC along with 8 states (and Canada) was affected by the largest blackout in US history for several days. Unfortunately, this catastrophic event has dramatically impeded our diligent efforts to comply with the Chairman's order to have all briefs regarding Docket No. AB-167 (Sub-No. 1094)A, submitted by August 26th, 2003.

In light of this unexpected disruption of our carefully scheduled efforts to coordinate both key participants and now forced to salvage damaged electronic files in order to comply with the Chairman's order, we respectfully request an extension of 10 (ten) days in order to marshal our team, documents and resources to submit a thoroughly complete brief.



August 20, 2003

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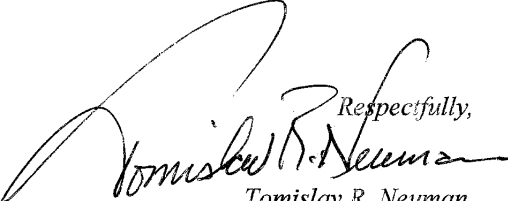
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It would be greatly appreciated, considering the current time constraints, if your office could confirm receipt of this correspondence along with the Board's decision regarding this request, via e-mail [tomislavneuman@aol.com] if possible.

Please forgive any unintentional breach of protocol as a consequence of this highly unusual circumstance and respectfully, this is our initial dealings with the Board. It would be appreciated if your office could provide me with an updated service list of parties whom we may be required to provide notice of our requests and future documents.

I will make the effort to contact your office directly in order to review the above and discuss next logical steps. We thank the Board in advance for its consideration and look forward to complying with all STB requirements in order to continue our participation in this very vital matter.

I would appreciate it if you would date-stamp the enclosed extra copy of this letter and return it in the enclosed self-addressed, stamped envelope. In the event you have any questions or require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned directly. Thank you very much for your attention.

 Respectfully,
Tomislav R. Neuman

Tomislav R. Neuman,
Executive Director
MANHATTAN CENTRAL RAILWAY SYSTEMS, LLC.
7 Monmouth Road, Suite #1
Oakhurst, NJ 07755-1656
(732) 222-4758
E-mail: tomislavneuman@aol.com

cc: R. Nober - STB

TRN/jm

Zichm

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FACSIMILE SENT TO

NAME: HONORABLE VERNON A. WILLIAMS, SECRETARY
COMPANY: SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
PHONE: (202) 565-1674
FAX: (202) 565-9004
DATE: August 20, 2003
of PAGES: - 3 -

FACSIMILE FROM

NAME: TOMISLAV R. NEUMAN, Executive Director
COMPANY: Manhattan Central Railway Systems, LLC
PHONE: (732) 222-4758
FAX: (732) 222-4758

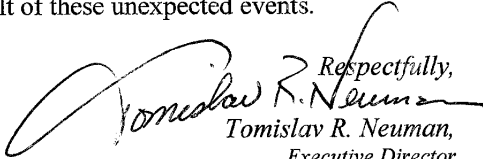
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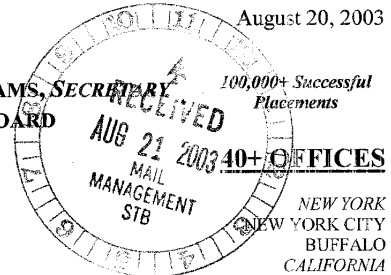
Per our conversation earlier today, attached please find our request for *leave to file late* in regards to the above referenced case, please be advised that our formal request is being directed to your attention via overnight delivery. As we briefly discussed, our files, key personal and schedules have been seriously disrupted as a result of last week's massive blackout in our area.

I hope that the attached sufficiently articulates our unfortunate circumstances. We greatly appreciate the Board taking the time and extending the courtesy to postpone our filing deadline several days as a result of these unexpected events.

Respectfully,

Tomislav R. Neuman,
Executive Director
MANHATTAN CENTRAL RAILWAY SYSTEMS, LLC.
7 Monmouth Road, Suite #1
Oakhurst, NJ 07755-1656

Attachments:
cc: R. Nober - STB
TRN/jm

August 20, 2003



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