

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

Office of Economics

Mr. Timothy J. Strafford, Esq.
Associate General Counsel & Corporate Secretary
Association of American Railroads
425 3rd Street, SW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20024

July 23, 2018

Dear Mr. Strafford:

On June 20, 2018, I received a request for access to the Surface Transportation Board's Confidential Carload Waybill Sample from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey ("Port Authority"). Notice of the request was published in the *Federal Register* on July 3, 2018. Pursuant to the Notice, any objections to the request were required to be filed no later than 14 calendar days from publication. See 49 C.F.R. § 1244.9(d)(3)(i). Accordingly, objections were due by July 17, 2018. None were received on or before that date.

On the morning of July 18, my decision authorizing release of the requested carload waybill data was transmitted to the Port Authority. A copy of my decision is attached. Your letter on behalf of the Association of American Railroads ("AAR"), dated July 18, 2018 and objecting to the Port Authority's request, was not received by the Office of Economics until early afternoon (via email), after my decision had been issued.

Because AAR's letter was untimely and submitted after the issuance of my decision, AAR's objection is moot. A copy of AAR's letter and this response will be placed on the Board's website.

Sincerely,



William Brennan, PhD
Acting Director, Office of Economics
US Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

Attachment