

§ 1110.6

rulemaking proposal. Comments which are filed late will be considered so far as possible without incurring additional expense, delay, or prejudice to other parties.

§ 1110.6 Petitions for extension of time to comment.

(a) Any person may petition the Board for an extension of time to submit comments in response to a notice of proposed rulemaking. The petition and one copy must be submitted at least 10 days prior to the deadline for filing comments. The filing of the petition does not automatically extend the time for the filing of petitioner's comments.

(b) The Board will grant the petition only if the petitioner shows a substantive interest in the proposed rule and good cause for the extension, and if the extension is in the public interest. If an extension is granted, notice of it will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER, and it will apply to all persons.

§ 1110.7 Availability of dockets.

Dockets of pending rulemaking proceedings are maintained in the Office of Proceedings. These dockets are available for inspection by any person, and copies may be obtained upon payment of the prescribed fee.

[74 FR 52907, Oct. 15, 2009]

§ 1110.8 Adoption of final rules.

If, after consideration of all comments received, final rules are adopted, notice will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

§ 1110.9 Petition for waiver.

Any person may petition the Board for a permanent or temporary waiver of any rule. Petitions should be filed with the Chief, Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423-0001, and should identify the rule involved.

[74 FR 52907, Oct. 15, 2009]

§ 1110.10 Petitions for reconsideration.

Any person may file a petition for reconsideration of the Board's decision in a rulemaking proceeding. Petitions should be filed within 20 days of the

49 CFR Ch. X (10-1-11 Edition)

date that the final decision is published in the FEDERAL REGISTER and should identify the interest of the petitioner, the specific action sought, and the arguments favoring that action.

PART 1111—COMPLAINT AND INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES

Sec.

1111.1 Content of formal complaints; joinder.

1111.2 Amended and supplemental complaints.

1111.3 Service.

1111.4 Answers and cross complaints.

1111.5 Motions to dismiss or to make more definite.

1111.6 Satisfaction of complaint.

1111.7 Investigations on the Board's own motion.

1111.8 Procedural schedule in stand-alone cost cases.

1111.9 Procedural schedule in cases using simplified procedures.

1111.10 Meeting to discuss procedural matters.

AUTHORITY: 49 U.S.C. 721, 10704, and 11701.

SOURCE: 61 FR 52711, Oct. 8, 1996, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1111.1 Content of formal complaints; joinder.

(a) *General.* A formal complaint must contain the correct, unabbreviated names and addresses of each complainant and defendant. It should set forth briefly and in plain language the facts upon which it is based. It should include specific reference to pertinent statutory provisions and Board regulations, and should advise the Board and the defendant fully in what respects these provisions or regulations have been violated. The complaint should contain a detailed statement of the relief requested. Relief in the alternative or of several different types may be demanded, but the issues raised in the formal complaint should not be broader than those to which complainant's evidence is to be directed at the hearing. In a complaint challenging the reasonableness of a rail rate, the complainant should indicate whether, in its view, the reasonableness of the rate should be examined using constrained market pricing or using the simplified standards adopted pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10701(d)(3). If the complainant seeks to

Surface Transportation Board, DOT

§ 1111.3

use the simplified standards, it should support this request by submitting, at a minimum, the following information:

- (1) The carrier or region identifier.
- (2) The type of shipment (local, received-terminated, etc.).
- (3) The one-way distance of the shipment.
- (4) The type of car (by URCS code).
- (5) The number of cars.
- (6) The car ownership (private or railroad).
- (7) The commodity type (STCC code).
- (8) The weight of the shipment (in tons per car).
- (9) The type of movement (individual, multi-car, or unit train).
- (10) A narrative addressing whether there is any feasible transportation alternative for the challenged movements.
- (11) For matters for which voluntary, binding arbitration is available pursuant to 49 CFR part 1108, the complaint shall state that arbitration was considered, but rejected, as a means of resolving the dispute.

(b) *Disclosure with simplified standards complaint.* The complainant must provide to the defendant all documents relied upon in formulating its assessment of a feasible transportation alternative and all documents relied upon to determine the inputs to the URCS Phase III program.

(c) *Multiple causes of action.* Two or more grounds of complaint concerning the same principle, subject, or statement of facts may be included in one complaint, but should be stated and numbered separately.

(d) *Joinder.* Two or more complainants may join in one complaint against one or more defendants if their respective causes of action concern substantially the same alleged violations and like facts.

(e) *Request for access to waybill data.* Parties needing access to the Waybill Sample to prepare their case should follow the procedures set forth at 49 CFR 1244.8.

[61 FR 52711, Oct. 8, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 2639, Jan. 16, 1998; 67 FR 36822, May 28, 2002; 72 FR 51375, Sept. 7, 2007]

§ 1111.2 Amended and supplemental complaints.

(a) *Generally.* An amended or supplemental complaint may be tendered for filing by a complainant against a defendant or defendants named in the original complaint, stating a cause of action alleged to have accrued within the statutory period immediately preceding the date of such tender, in favor of complainant and against the defendant or defendants. The time limits for responding to an amended or supplemental complaint are computed pursuant to §§ 1111.4 and 1111.5 of this part, as if the amended or supplemental complaint was an original complaint.

(b) *Simplified standards.* A complaint filed under the simplified standards may be amended once before the filing of opening evidence to opt for a different rate reasonableness methodology, among Three-Benchmark, Simplified-SAC or Full-SAC. If so amended, the procedural schedule begins again under the new methodology as set forth at §§ 1111.8 and 1111.9. However, only one mediation period per complaint shall be required.

[72 FR 51375, Sept. 7, 2007]

§ 1111.3 Service.

A complainant is responsible for serving formal complaints, amended or supplemental complaints, and cross complaints on the defendant(s). Service shall be made by sending a copy of such complaint to the chief legal officer of each defendant by either confirmed facsimile and first-class mail or express overnight courier. The cover page of each such facsimile and the front of each such first-class mail or overnight express courier envelope shall include the following legend: "Service of STB Complaint". Service of the complaint shall be deemed completed on the date on which the complaint is served by confirmed facsimile or, if service is made by express overnight courier, on the date such complaint is actually received by the defendant. When the complaint involves more than one defendant, service of the complaint shall be deemed completed on the date on which all defendants have been served. An original and ten copies of the complaint should be filed with the Board

§ 1111.4

together with an acknowledgment of service by the persons served or proof of service in the form of a statement of the date and manner of service, of the names of the persons served, and of the addresses to which the papers were mailed or at which they were delivered, certified by the person who made service. If complainant cannot serve the complaint, an original of each complaint accompanied by a sufficient number of copies to enable the Board to serve one upon each defendant and to retain 10 copies in addition to the original should be filed with the Board.

[61 FR 52711, Oct. 8, 1996, as amended at 61 FR 58491, Nov. 15, 1996]

§ 1111.4 Answers and cross complaints.

(a) *Generally.* An answer shall be filed within the time provided in paragraph (c) of this section. An answer should be responsive to the complaint and should fully advise the Board and the parties of the nature of the defense. In answering a complaint challenging the reasonableness of a rail rate, the defendant should indicate whether it will contend that the Board is deprived of jurisdiction to hear the complaint because the revenue-variable cost percentage generated by the traffic is less than 180 percent, or the traffic is subject to effective product or geographic competition. In response to a complaint filed under the simplified standards, the answer must include the defendant's preliminary estimate of the variable cost of each challenged movement calculated using the unadjusted figures produced by the URCS Phase III program.

(b) *Disclosure with simplified standards answer.* The defendant must provide to the complainant all documents that it relied upon to determine the inputs used in the URCS Phase III program.

(c) *Time for filing; copies; service.* An answer must be filed within 20 days after the service of the complaint or within such additional time as the Board may provide. The original and 10 copies of an answer must be filed with the Board. The defendant must serve copies of the answer upon the complainant and any other defendants.

(d) *Cross complaints.* A cross complaint alleging violations by other parties to the proceeding or seeking relief

49 CFR Ch. X (10–1–11 Edition)

against them may be filed with the answer. An answer to a cross complaint shall be filed within 20 days after the service date of the cross complaint. The party shall serve copies of an answer to a cross complaint upon the other parties.

(e) *Failure to answer complaint.* Averments in a complaint are admitted when not denied in an answer to the complaint.

[72 FR 51376, Sept. 7, 2007]

§ 1111.5 Motions to dismiss or to make more definite.

An answer to a complaint or cross complaint may be accompanied by a motion to dismiss the complaint or cross complaint or a motion to make the complaint or cross complaint more definite. A motion to dismiss can be filed at anytime during a proceeding. A complainant or cross complainant may, within 10 days after an answer is filed, file a motion to make the answer more definite. Any motion to make more definite must specify the defects in the particular pleading and must describe fully the additional information or details thought to be necessary.

§ 1111.6 Satisfaction of complaint.

If a defendant satisfies a formal complaint, either before or after answering, a statement to that effect signed by the complainant must be filed (original only need be filed), setting forth when and how the complaint has been satisfied. This action should be taken as expeditiously as possible.

§ 1111.7 Investigations on the Board's own motion.

(a) *Service of decision.* A decision instituting an investigation on the Board's own motion will be served by the Board upon respondents.

(b) *Default.* If within the time period stated in the decision instituting an investigation, a respondent fails to comply with any requirement specified in the decision, the respondent will be deemed in default and to have waived any further proceedings, and the investigation may be decided forthwith.

Surface Transportation Board, DOT

§ 1111.9

§ 1111.8 Procedural schedule in stand-alone cost cases.

(a) *Procedural schedule.* Absent a specific order by the Board, the following general procedural schedule will apply in stand-alone cost cases:

Day 0—Complaint filed, discovery period begins.

Day 7 or before—Conference of the parties convened pursuant to § 1111.10(b).

Day 20—Defendant's answer to complaint due.

Day 75—Discovery completed.

Day 120—Complainant files opening evidence on absence of intermodal and intramodal competition, variable cost, and stand-alone cost issues. Defendant files opening evidence on existence of product and geographic competition, and revenue-variable cost percentage generated by complainant's traffic.

Day 180—Complainant and defendant file reply evidence to opponent's opening evidence.

Day 210—Complainant and defendant file rebuttal evidence to opponent's reply evidence.

(b) *Conferences with parties.* (1) The Board will convene a technical conference of the parties with Board staff prior to the filing of any evidence in a stand-alone cost rate case, for the purpose of reaching agreement on the operating characteristics that are used in the variable cost calculations for the movements at issue. The parties should jointly propose a schedule for this technical conference.

(2) In addition, the Board may convene a conference of the parties with Board staff, after discovery requests are served but before any motions to compel may be filed, to discuss discovery matters in stand-alone cost rate cases. The parties should jointly propose a schedule for this discovery conference.

[61 FR 52711, Oct. 8, 1996; 61 FR 53996, Oct. 16, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 2639, Jan. 16, 1998; 68 FR 17313, Apr. 9, 2003]

§ 1111.9 Procedural schedule in cases using simplified standards.

(a) *Procedural schedule.* Absent a specific order by the Board, the following general procedural schedules will apply in cases using the simplified standards:

(1) In cases relying upon the Simplified-SAC methodology:

Day 0—Complaint filed (including complainant's disclosure).

Day 10—Mediation begins.

Day 20—Defendant's answer to complaint (including defendant's initial disclosure).

Day 30—Mediation ends; discovery begins.

Day 140—Defendant's second disclosure.

Day 150—Discovery closes.

Day 220—Opening evidence.

Day 280—Reply evidence.

Day 310—Rebuttal evidence

Day 320—Technical conference (market dominance and merits).

Day 330—Final briefs.

(2) In cases relying upon the Three-Benchmark method:

Day 0—Complaint filed (including complainant's disclosure).

Day 10—Mediation begins. (STB production of unmasked Waybill Sample.)

Day 20—Defendant's answer to complaint (including defendant's initial disclosure).

Day 30—Mediation ends; discovery begins.

Day 60—Discovery closes.

Day 90—Complainant's opening (initial tender of comparison group and opening evidence on market dominance). Defendant's opening (initial tender of comparison group).

Day 95—Technical conference on comparison group.

Day 120—Parties' final tenders on comparison group. Defendant's reply on market dominance.

Day 150—Parties' replies to final tenders. Complainant's rebuttal on market dominance.

(b) *Defendant's second disclosure.* In cases using the Simplified-SAC methodology, the defendant must make the following disclosures to the complainant by Day 170 of the procedural schedule.

(1) Identification of all traffic that moved over the routes replicated by the SARR in the Test Year.

(2) Information about those movements, in electronic format, aggregated by origin-destination pair and shipper, showing the origin, destination, volume, and total revenues from each movement.

(3) Total operating and equipment cost calculations for each of those

§ 1111.10

movements, provided in electronic format.

(4) Revenue allocation for the on-SARR portion of each cross-over movement in the traffic group provided in electronic format.

(5) Total trackage rights payments paid or received during the Test Year associated with the route replicated by the SARR.

(6) All workpapers and documentation necessary to support the calculations.

(c) *Conferences with parties.* The Board may convene a conference of the parties with Board staff to facilitate voluntary resolution of discovery disputes and to address technical issues that may arise.

(d) *Complaint filed with a petition to revoke a class exemption.* If a complaint is filed simultaneously with a petition to revoke a class exemption, the Board will take no action on the complaint and the procedural schedule will be held in abeyance automatically until the petition to revoke is adjudicated.

[72 FR 51376, Sept. 7, 2007]

§ 1111.10 Meeting to discuss procedural matters.

(a) *Generally.* In all complaint proceedings, other than those challenging the reasonableness of a rail rate based on stand-alone cost or the simplified standards, the parties shall meet, or discuss by telephone, discovery and procedural matters within 12 days after an answer to a complaint is filed. Within 19 days after an answer to a complaint is filed, the parties, either jointly or separately, shall file a report with the Board setting forth a proposed procedural schedule to govern future activities and deadlines in the case.

(b) *Stand-alone cost or simplified standards complaints.* In complaints challenging the reasonableness of a rail rate based on stand-alone cost or the simplified standards, the parties shall meet, or discuss by telephone, discovery and procedural matters within 7 days after the mediation period ends. The parties should inform the Board as soon as possible thereafter whether there are unresolved disputes that re-

49 CFR Ch. X (10–1–11 Edition)

quire Board intervention and, if so, the nature of such disputes.

[72 FR 51376, Sept. 7, 2007]

PART 1112—MODIFIED PROCEDURES

Sec.

1112.1 When modified procedure is used.

1112.2 Decisions directing modified procedure.

1112.3 Default for failure to comply with schedule; effect of default.

1112.4 Petitions to intervene.

1112.5 Joint pleadings.

1112.6 Verified statements; contents.

1112.7 Records in other Board proceedings.

1112.8 Verification.

1112.9 Sample verification for statement of fact under modified procedure.

1112.10 Requests for oral hearings and cross examination.

1112.11 Authority of officers.

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 559; 49 U.S.C. 721.

SOURCE: 47 FR 49558, Nov. 1, 1982, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1112.1 When modified procedure is used.

The Board may decide that a proceeding be heard under modified procedure when it appears that substantially all material issues of fact can be resolved through submission of written statements, and efficient disposition of the proceeding can be accomplished without oral testimony. Modified procedure may be ordered on the Board's initiative, or upon approval of a request by any party.

[47 FR 49558, Nov. 1, 1982, as amended at 61 FR 52712, Oct. 8, 1996]

§ 1112.2 Decisions directing modified procedure.

A decision directing that modified procedure be used will set out the schedule for filing verified statements by all parties and will list the names and addresses of all persons who at that time are on the service list in the proceeding. In this part, a statement responding to an opening statement is referred to as a "reply", and a statement responding to a reply is referred to as a "rebuttal". Replies to rebuttal material are not permitted. The filing of motions or other pleadings will not