

34816
SEC

SERVICE DATE - LATE RELEASE JUNE 24, 2004

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. 42071

OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY
v.
THE BURLINGTON NORTHERN AND
SANTA FE RAILWAY COMPANY

Decided: June 24, 2004

By a motion filed on June 10, 2004, Otter Tail Power Company (Otter Tail) seeks an extension of time to file its reply to a motion to strike filed by The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) on June 8, 2004. Otter Tail requests that its June 28, 2004 deadline for filing a reply be extended until July 20, 2004. Otter Tail states that the extension is needed because its expert witnesses are preparing materials in other rate cases, including rebuttal evidence in AEP Texas North Company v. The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company, STB Docket No. 41191 (Sub-No. 1), which is due on July 6, 2004. Otter Tail represents that BNSF does not oppose the requested extension.

The request is reasonable. Accordingly, the motion to extend the due date for Otter Tail's reply will be granted.

It is ordered:

1. Otter Tail's motion for extension of time is granted.
2. Otter Tail's reply to BNSF's motion to strike is due by July 20, 2004.
3. This decision is effective on its date of service.

By the Board, Vernon A. Williams, Secretary.

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary