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**Brotherhood of Locomotive
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GENERAL COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT
BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE – MONTANA RAIL LINK

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Mr. Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Washington, DC 20423

June 5, 2006

Re: F.D. No. 34880, UP-Tr. Rts.-BNSF Betw. Portland/North Portland JCT.
F.D. No. 34881, UP-Tr. Rts.-BNSF Betw. Bullfrog Jct./River St.-Tacoma

Dear Mr. Williams:

This protest is on behalf of Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen, General Committee of Adjustment, BNSF & MRL, in opposition to the above entitled notices of exemption, filed May 26 and May 31, 2006.

I have reviewed the petitions for stay filed by UTU/GO-386, and which are pending.

Our organization desires to become a party to these proceedings, and we endorse the UTU's position. The operation of the two exemptions should be stayed by the Board.

BLET members would be adversely affected if the transactions and related agency agreements are permitted to become effective.

Very truly yours,

Dennis R. Pierce
General Chairman

Cc: Robert T. Opal-UP
Sarah W. Bailiff-BNSF