



**U.S. Department of
Transportation**
Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

General Counsel

**400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590**

October 12, 2004

Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Suite 700
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Re: Southern Motor Carrier Rate Conference, Inc.
Section 5a Application No. 46 (Sub-No. 20)

Dear Secretary Williams:

Pursuant to the Board's decision in the above-referenced docket served October 1, this is to inform you that the United States Department of Transportation intends to participate in the oral hearing scheduled for October 27, 2004. The undersigned will appear on behalf of the Department, and requests an allotment of ten minutes time.

Respectfully submitted,

PAUL SAMUEL SMITH
Senior Trial Attorney
(202) 366-9280