



133266

U.S. Department
of Transportation

Office of the Administrator

400 - Seventh St., SW
Washington, DC 20590

**Federal Motor Carrier
Safety Administration**

Refer to: MC-P

Mr. Michael E. Mathis
Director, Government Affairs
International Brotherhood of Teamsters
25 Louisiana Ave. N.W.
Washington, DC 20001

JUN 21 2001

FMCSA - 98 - 3297 - 63
98 - 3298 - 53
98 - 3299 - 54

Dear Mr. Mathis,

This responds to your letter of June 11, 2001, in which you request a 60-day extension to the public comment period for three Notices of Proposed Rulemaking that the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration issued to address the application process for Mexican-domiciled motor carriers and the appropriate monitoring of such new entrant carriers. I appreciate the substantial amount of resources that you must dedicate to a most important convention, and your interest in submitting timely and well-crafted comments to the docket. However, I am not able to grant your request for an extension.

On February 6, 2001, the Arbitral Panel established under Chapter 20 of the North American Free Trade Agreement concluded that the United States has breached its obligations under Annex I to the Agreement and unanimously recommended that the United States bring its practices into compliance with its obligations under the Agreement. The decision of the Panel grants Mexico the option to impose significant trade sanctions on the United States at any time.

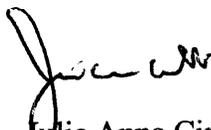
The President has expressed the commitment of the United States to honor the cross-border access provisions of the Agreement and to implement the findings of the Arbitral Panel. The three Notices of Proposed Rulemaking are critical components in the effort to implement the President's commitment. With the potential implementation of trade sanctions, we must move quickly to implement the findings of the Panel decision.

FMCSA believes the 60-day comment period provides adequate time to review the two proposed application forms and the safety monitoring system. The issues addressed in the three proposals are well known to parties with an interest in cross-border access and the Agreement.

I encourage you and your members to participate in these rulemakings by submitting comments to the public docket. The process of preparing a Final Rule takes some time during which comments can still be submitted to and posted on the public docket. It is our agency practice, as stated in the Notices of Proposed Rulemaking, to consider such late-filled comments to the extent feasible. Therefore, I suggest that even if you are unable to complete your comments by the July 2 deadline published in the Federal Register, you should submit them as soon as possible to maximize our ability to take account of your review of our proposals.

Thank you for your letter and interest in this issue.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Anna Cirillo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a distinct "C" at the end.

Julie Anna Cirillo
Acting Deputy Administrator



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Office of the Administrator

400 - Seventh St., SW
Washington, DC 20590

**Federal Motor Carrier
Safety Administration**

Refer to: MC-P

Mr. Edward Wytkind
Executive Director
Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO
888 16th Street N.W., Suite 650
Washington, DC 20006

JUN 21 2001

Dear Mr. Wytkind,

This responds to your letter of June 11, 2001, in which you request a 60-day extension to the public comment period for three Notices of Proposed Rulemaking that the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration issued to address the application process for Mexican-domiciled motor carriers and the appropriate monitoring of such new entrant carriers. I appreciate the substantial amount of resources that you must dedicate to a most important convention, and your interest in submitting timely and well-crafted comments to the docket. However, I am not able to grant your request for an extension.

On February 6, 2001, the Arbitral Panel established under Chapter 20 of the North American Free Trade Agreement concluded that the United States has breached its obligations under Annex I to the Agreement and unanimously recommended that the United States bring its practices into compliance with its obligations under the Agreement. The decision of the Panel grants Mexico the option to impose significant trade sanctions on the United States at any time.

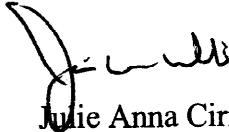
The President has expressed the commitment of the United States to honor the cross-border access provisions of the Agreement and to implement the findings of the Arbitral Panel. The three Notices of Proposed Rulemaking are critical components in the effort to implement the President's commitment. With the potential implementation of trade sanctions, we must move quickly to implement the findings of the Panel decision.

FMCSA believes the 60-day comment period provides adequate time to review the two proposed application forms and the safety monitoring system. The issues addressed in the three proposals are well known to parties with an interest in cross-border access and the Agreement.

I encourage you and your members to participate in these rulemakings by submitting comments to the public docket. The process of preparing a Final Rule takes some time during which comments can still be submitted to and posted on the public docket. It is our agency practice, as stated in the Notices of Proposed Rulemaking, to consider such late-filled comments to the extent feasible. Therefore, I suggest that even if you are unable to complete your comments by the July 2 deadline published in the Federal Register, you should submit them as soon as possible to maximize our ability to take account of your review of our proposals.

Thank you for your letter and interest in this issue.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Anna Cirillo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "A".

Julie Anna Cirillo
Acting Deputy Administrator



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Office of the Administrator

400 - Seventh St., SW
Washington, DC 20590

**Federal Motor Carrier
Safety Administration**

Refer to: MC-P

Mr. Robert Molofsky
General Counsel
Amalgamated Transit Union
5025 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20016

JUN 21 2001

Dear Mr. Molofsky,

This responds to your letter of June 11, 2001, in which you request a 60-day extension to the public comment period for three Notices of Proposed Rulemaking that the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration issued to address the application process for Mexican-domiciled motor carriers and the appropriate monitoring of such new entrant carriers. I appreciate the substantial amount of resources that you must dedicate to a most important convention, and your interest in submitting timely and well-crafted comments to the docket. However, I am not able to grant your request for an extension.

On February 6, 2001, the Arbitral Panel established under Chapter 20 of the North American Free Trade Agreement concluded that the United States has breached its obligations under Annex I to the Agreement and unanimously recommended that the United States bring its practices into compliance with its obligations under the Agreement. The decision of the Panel grants Mexico the option to impose significant trade sanctions on the United States at any time.

The President has expressed the commitment of the United States to honor the cross-border access provisions of the Agreement and to implement the findings of the Arbitral Panel. The three Notices of Proposed Rulemaking are critical components in the effort to implement the President's commitment. With the potential implementation of trade sanctions, we must move quickly to implement the findings of the Panel decision.

FMCSA believes the 60-day comment period provides adequate time to review the two proposed application forms and the safety monitoring system. The issues addressed in the three proposals are well known to parties with an interest in cross-border access and the Agreement.

I encourage you and your members to participate in these rulemakings by submitting comments to the public docket. The process of preparing a Final Rule takes some time during which comments can still be submitted to and posted on the public docket. It is our agency practice, as stated in the Notices of Proposed Rulemaking, to consider such late-filled comments to the extent feasible. Therefore, I suggest that even if you are unable to complete your comments by the July 2 deadline published in the Federal Register, you should submit them as soon as possible to maximize our ability to take account of your review of our proposals.

Thank you for your letter and interest in this issue.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Anna Cirillo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "A".

Julie Anna Cirillo
Acting Deputy Administrator