

an instrumentality of the State of New Jersey. NJT Bus holds operating authority in No. MC-3647 and subnumbers thereunder. It operates a fleet of about 2,025 buses and conducts interstate operations over approximately 238 bus routes, including commuter operations to and from the PABT in New York City. NJT Bus currently operates approximately 123 daily weekday peak period trips in the Route 9 Corridor to and from midtown Manhattan, NY. NJT Bus will provide some service on Saturdays and Sundays, but on a substantially reduced basis compared with weekday schedules.

Academy is a privately held New Jersey limited liability company, holding operating authority in No. MC-414016 and subnumbers thereunder. Applicant operates a fleet of over 600 buses rendering scheduled, regular-route intercity operations primarily in commuter services from specified origins in New Jersey to various points in New York City, including the PABT. Academy presently is a competitor in the Route 9 Corridor, serving the Wall Street area of lower Manhattan, rather than the PABT in midtown Manhattan. Under the negotiated pooling agreement, Academy anticipates operating approximately 74 daily weekday peak period trips between New Jersey points and the PABT. Academy will operate from the gates in the PABT that are used by NJT Bus, and passengers will board and alight from buses at the same locations both in New York City and in the communities along the Route 9 Corridor.

Applicants assert that there is substantial competition on the pooled route to protect the public and that the pooling agreement does not threaten to produce an unreasonable restraint on competition. According to applicants, private automobiles provide ample competition for the pooled operations on the Route 9 Corridor. Moreover, the New Jersey Coast Line and the Northeast Corridor Line are not too distant from the Route 9 Corridor, and the frequent weekday rail service which the rail arm of NJ Transit and the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) offer is another alternative available to applicants' passengers.

Applicants state that the proposed pooling of the bus lines' schedules will result in better service to the public, will render operations more economical and efficient, and will not unreasonably restrain competition. In addition, they assert that approval of the transaction will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

Copies of the pooling application may be obtained free of charge by contacting applicants' representatives.

Alternatively, the application may be inspected at the offices of the Surface Transportation Board, Room 755, during normal business hours, or a copy of the application may be obtained from the Board's Web site at "<http://www.stb.dot.gov>."

A copy of this notice will be served on the U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, 10th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20530; the New York Department of Transportation, Truck and Bus Safety Section, Room 501-A, Building 7A, 1220 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12232; and the New Jersey Department of Transportation/Office of Regulatory Affairs (Commercial Bus Inspection), 225 E. State Street, P.O. Box 611, Trenton, NJ 08666-0611.

Decided: February 25, 2003.

By the Board, Chairman Nober, Vice Chairman Burkes, and Commissioner Morgan.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

President's Commission on the United States Postal Service; Request for Comments

AGENCY: Department of the Treasury, Departmental Offices.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: At its January 8th public meeting, the Commission established its public-comment process. This process is designed to ensure that every affected and interested party has an opportunity to share its views and concerns with us. Pursuant to the procedures established at the January 8th public meeting, the Commission has received numerous written comments from a wide variety of sources. Most of these comments are now posted on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.treas.gov/offices/domestic-finance/usps>.

To ensure that all views are properly considered and tested, the Commission will give interested parties an opportunity to respond to the assertions and recommendations made by other parties during the public-comment process. Rebuttal comments should clearly indicate the specific assertion or recommendation that is being challenged as well as the party that had

advanced this assertion or recommendation in its public comment.

The Commission has established three methods by which rebuttal comments can be submitted for consideration and review:

1. Transmission by Email to the following address:
pcusps_rebuttal@do.treas.gov. Statements can be embedded in the Email as ASCII text or sent as a MS Word or ASCII text attachment. Do not include artwork or other graphic elements.

2. Stored on 3½ inch high density computer disk as a MS word or ASCII text document (Windows format only) and mailed or hand-delivered to: President's Commission on the United States Postal Service, 1120 Vermont Avenue, NW., Suite 971, Washington, DC 20005.

3. Typewritten statements may be mailed or hand-delivered to: President's Commission on the United States Postal Service, 1120 Vermont Avenue, NW., Suite 971, Washington, DC 20005.

DATES: E-mail transmissions of all rebuttal comments must be received by the Commission no later than 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on Thursday, March 13. Mailed submissions must be postmarked no later than 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on Thursday, March 13.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have any questions about this rebuttal process, please contact Randall Lewis or Jana Sinclair White of the Commission staff at (202) 622-5930.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: To be accepted by the Commission, rebuttal comments must not exceed a maximum length of 10 pages of double-spaced written text. Please be aware that the Commission may, at its discretion, post any rebuttal comments it receives on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.treas.gov/offices/domestic-finance/usps>.

Roger Kodat,

Designated Federal Official.

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