

Surface Transportation Board, DOT

§ 1312.2

Carrier means a motor carrier, water carrier or freight forwarder subject to the Board's jurisdiction under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 135.

Carrier's tariff means a tariff filed in the name of a carrier.

Collectively established tariff matter means a rate, charge, rule or other tariff provision established pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 13703.

Independently established tariff matter means any rate, charge, rule or other tariff provision not established pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 13703.

Item means a tariff provision of any kind bearing an item number designation.

Joint rate means a rate that applies over the lines or routes of two or more carriers made by an agreement between the carriers and effected by a concurrence or power of attorney.

Joint tariff means a tariff that contains joint rates or provisions affecting joint rates.

Local rate means a rate that applies only to one carrier.

Local tariff means a tariff that contains local rates or provisions affecting local rates.

Looseleaf page means a single page published as part of a new or reissued looseleaf tariff or as an amendment to such a tariff.

Looseleaf tariff means a tariff consisting of looseleaf pages.

Noncontiguous domestic trade means transportation subject to jurisdiction under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 135 involving traffic originating in or destined to Alaska, Hawaii, or a territory or possession of the United States.

Original tariff means a bound or looseleaf tariff as originally filed excluding amendments.

Page means that portion of a tariff or supplement printed on one side of a sheet.

Post refers to making filed tariffs available to the public.

Publication means a bound tariff, a tariff supplement, or a looseleaf tariff page.

Rate means a rate or charge.

Service terms mean all classifications, rules and practices that affect the rates or level of service.

Supplement means a single sheet, or two or more sheets bound at the left

edge in pamphlet or book form, identified as a supplement and published to amend or cancel a bound or looseleaf tariff.

Tariff means an issuance (in whole or in part) bearing designations required by this part and containing rates, rules, regulations, classifications or other provisions published and filed with the Board for compliance with 49 U.S.C. 13702.

[62 FR 19058, Apr. 18, 1997, as amended at 64 FR 5195, Feb. 3, 1999]

§ 1312.2 Requirement to publish and file a tariff.

(a) *Requirement for tariff.* Except when providing transportation for charitable purposes without charge, or when providing transportation or service described in § 1312.1(b), carriers subject to the Board's jurisdiction under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 135 may provide transportation or service described in § 1312.1(a) only if the rates, and related rules and practices, for such transportation or service are contained in a published tariff that is on file with the Board and in effect under this part.

(b) *Adherence to tariff.* The carrier may not charge or receive a different compensation for the transportation or service than the rate specified in the tariff, whether by returning a part of that rate to a person, giving a person a privilege, allowing the use of a facility that affects the value of that transportation or service, or another device. The carrier shall keep such tariffs available for public inspection and shall make such tariffs available to subscribers as required in this part.

(c) *Other information.* Provisions for information purposes only may be included in a tariff, provided they are clearly identified as such. Such provisions may include rates and service terms covering transportation not subject to regulation by the Board, and advertising and promotional material.

(d) *Effect of filing.* The tender of a tariff and its receipt and acceptance by the Board do not relieve a carrier of liability for violations of the Act, other laws, the Board's regulations, or any decision of the Board or a court, or have any effect on the rights of persons

§ 1312.3

to file complaints for substantive violations of the Act or the Board's regulations.

(e) *Tariff relief.* Relief from the provisions of this part may be sought. Requests for such relief shall be submitted in duplicate and accompanied by the appropriate fee (see 49 CFR part 1002). Packages containing applications for relief shall be prominently marked "SPECIAL TARIFF AUTHORITY APPLICATION." The application shall cite all pertinent tariff matter and shall provide complete information regarding applicant's justification, purpose and manner of relief sought.

(f) *Invalidation of tariffs.* Tariffs that violate section 13702 of the Act, or a regulation of the Board carrying out that section, may be invalidated by the Board. When a tariff is invalidated, the party that filed it will be furnished a written explanation of the reasons for such action. Tariffs issued in lieu of invalidated tariffs shall so state.

§ 1312.3 Tariff contents and standards; Essential criteria.

(a) *Contents.* Tariffs filed with the Board must include an accurate description of the services offered to the public; must provide the specific applicable rates (or the basis for calculating the specific applicable rates) and service terms; and must be arranged in a way that allows for the determination of the exact rate(s) and service terms applicable to any given shipment (or to any given group of shipments).

(b) *Use of multiple tariffs.* All information necessary to determine applicable rates and service terms for a given shipment need not be contained in a single tariff, but if multiple tariffs are used to convey that information, the tariff containing the rates must make specific reference (by STB tariff designation) to all other tariffs required to determine applicable rates and service terms, and the carrier(s) party to the rates must participate in all of the tariffs so linked.

(c) *Clarity.* Tariff information must be presented in a way that facilitates the determination of the prices and services offered, and the related service terms. Ambiguous terms and complex methods of presentation shall not be used.

49 CFR Ch. X (10-1-01 Edition)

(d) *Explanations.* Reference marks and abbreviations, other than commonly used abbreviations, shall be explained either in the item in which they are used or in a separate item.

§ 1312.4 Filing of tariffs.

(a) *Filing requirements.* (1) Tariffs shall be filed in English with rates explicitly stated in U.S. dollars and cents. Two copies of each tariff publication shall be filed with the Board. Packages containing tariff filings should be prominently marked "TARIFF FILING" and addressed to: Section of Tariffs, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001.

(2) A tariff filing must be accompanied by an authorized document of transmittal identifying each publication filed, and by the appropriate filing fee (see 49 CFR part 1002). Acknowledgment of Board receipt of a tariff filing can be obtained by enclosing a duplicate transmittal letter and a postage-paid, self-addressed return envelope. Each transmittal letter shall clearly indicate in the upper left-hand corner thereof:

- (i) The assigned alpha code of the issuing carrier or agent;
- (ii) The number of pages transmitted;
- (iii) The filing fee enclosed, the account number to be billed, or the credit card to be charged;
- (iv) The transmittal number if the filer utilizes transmittal numbers; and
- (v) If the filing fee is charged to a credit card, the credit card number and expiration date, and an authorized signature.

(b) *Paper size.* Tariffs shall be printed on paper not larger than 8½ x 11 inches.

§ 1312.5 Amendments to tariffs.

(a) *Manner of making changes.* An amendment is a change in, addition to, or cancellation of part of a tariff. Supplements are the tariff publications used to amend bound tariffs, and new or revised pages are the tariff publications normally used to amend looseleaf tariffs, although looseleaf tariffs can also be amended by supplements. Tariffs can also be canceled by new or reissued tariffs (see § 1312.7).