MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY
and its Railroad Subsidiaries
AND
Its Maintenance of Way Employees
Represented by
BROTHERHOOD OF MAINTENANCE OF WAY EMPLOYEES

WHEREAS, the parties desire to provide for employees in the Maintenance of Way Department to accept positions with the Carrier in other crafts while retaining and continuing to accumulate seniority previously established within the BMWE craft;

THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED that:

ARTICLE I
Except as provided in Rule 19 of the current NW-Wabash Agreement and Rule 43 of the current Southern Agreement, as amended, an active employee accepting, and subsequently establishing seniority on, a position coming within the scope of an agreement between the Carrier and a craft other than BMWE may elect to continue to accumulate seniority within the BMWE craft by continuing to pay, while performing service in the other craft, a retention fee equal to the applicable BMWE membership dues as if such service was on the employee’s last held position represented by the respective Systems signatory to this agreement. Carrier will advise BMWE of employees continuing to accumulate BMWE seniority under this provision.

In the event such employee under these circumstances fails to pay the retention fee equal to the applicable BMWE membership dues to continue to retain and accumulate previously established BMWE seniority, the duly authorized representative of the Organization shall notify the Carrier’s highest officer designated to handle claims and grievances with a copy to the employee involved. If within thirty (30) days after receipt of such notification the employee has not become current in the retention fee equal to the applicable BMWE membership dues, the employee shall forfeit all BMWE seniority previously established under the NW-Wabash and Southern Agreements and the involved General Chairman shall so notify the Carrier and the affected employee.

ARTICLE II
An employee accepting a position in a craft other than BMWE who arranges for the retention and accumulation of his seniority in the BMWE craft as provided above, may not return to any position on the Carrier in the BMWE craft as long as such employee is able to retain a position in the other craft with the Carrier. In the event, due to circumstances beyond his or her control, such employee is unable to retain a position with the Carrier in the other craft, such employee must, within ten days of last service in the other craft, displace any junior employee in the BMWE craft in
accordance with the respective agreement applicable to the position held by the employee to be displaced, or forfeit all BMWE seniority previously established under the NW-Wabash or Southern Agreements. Employees exercising seniority under this provision will not be required to displace onto a position having a fixed headquarters.

ARTICLE III

Nothing contained herein shall be construed to expand or diminish an employee's obligations to exercise seniority to obtain or retain benefits under any employee protective agreement or conditions imposed by law.

This agreement to be effective on March 1, 2000.

FOR BROTHERHOOD OF MAINTENANCE OF WAY EMPLOYEES

General Chairman, BMWE

FOR NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY
And its Railroad Subsidiaries

Assistant Vice President Labor Relations

Vice President, BMWE

Vice President, BMWE