

United States Senate

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Mr. Martin J. Oberman
Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

Dear Chairman Oberman,

I write to formally nominate Peter Leishman of Peterborough, New Hampshire to fill a vacancy for a small railroad representative on the Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council. Peter's experience as the owner and general manager of the Milford-Bennington Railroad Co., Inc. (MBRX) as well as his long tenure as a legislator in the New Hampshire House of Representatives make him well-suited to serve in this advisory role.

As the longtime owner of MBRX, Peter is familiar with the intricacies of operating a Class III railroad and would bring a well versed perspective to the Council. After forming MBRX in 1987, he worked alongside a number of stakeholders to revive a neglected corridor into a viable railroad. His train hauls a significant volume of crushed gravel from two quarries in Wilton, NH to a processing facility in Milford, NH. Peter was also instrumental in launching the Wilton Scenic Railroad, which required the rehabilitation of ten miles of out-of-service rail line.

Peter's senior position in his operation requires deep engagement with issues that impact short-line railroads, such as upgrading existing rail line, securing public and private funding for projects and entering into contracts with larger shippers. In addition, Peter is conversant in a variety of regulatory, policy and legislative matters through his experience as an eleven-term state legislator in the New Hampshire House of Representatives

Peter has a breadth and depth of knowledge and experience that make him especially qualified for a position on the Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council. I appreciate your consideration of this nomination. If I can provide additional information concerning Mr. Leishman and his qualifications for this position, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator