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January 26, 2023

Surface Transportation Board

Attn: Docket No. EP 670 (Sub-No. 2)

395 E Street, S.W.

Washington, DC 20423-0001

Attention: Mr. Martin J. Oberman and Members of the Surface Transportation Board

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Mr. Chairman and Members of the Surface Transportation Board:

I am writing to express my interest in serving on the Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC), pursuant to your Notice of Vacancy in the Federal Register dated January 12, 2023. This nomination is to represent one of the vacant biofuel producer positions on the RETAC.

I have almost two decades of experience in the biomass based diesel industry. I currently serve as the Chief Technologist of Chevron Renewable Energy Group, where I focus on technical topics throughout the company's biofuel production and distribution network. Chevron Renewable Energy Group is one of the largest biodiesel and renewable diesel producers in North America and operates 11 biorefineries across the U.S. and Europe and delivers fuels and other products to terminals and other customers, including the freight rail industry. Renewable Energy Group was purchased by Chevron in 2022. Prior to the acquisition, I served in this capacity with Renewable Energy Group since 2007.

The freight rail industry is an important asset to our nation's economy. Chevron Renewable Energy Group is supplying biomass-based diesel to the industry in an effort to reduce emissions in this hard to electrify sector. The freight rail industry is also important to the biomass-based diesel industry by moving the dozens of feedstock types including agricultural wastes like fats, oils and greases while also moving our low carbon finished fuels and other products to their end users. Throughout my career, I have held executive leadership positions in Renewable Energy Group, most recently as Chief Technologist. I have also participated in many advisory roles to federal and state agencies and trade associations. **Those include 16 years of service to multiple ASTM committees ("Award of Excellence" recipient in 2019), five years of service as a Commissioner on the BQ-9000 Biodiesel Accreditation Commission, service on an expert reviewer panel for the Co-Processing aspect of Canada's federal Clean Fuel Standard, engagement in a wide range of heating oil industry projects and initiatives under**

the Northeast Oilheat Research Alliance (NORA), the New England Fuel Institute (NEFI), and the Petroleum Marketers Association of America (PMAA), along with other numerous presentations and other informative interactions with multiple departments of the California Air Resources Board (CARB). On the commercial side of the topic of rail transport, my team and I have acquired a great deal of experience with rail transportation through our 16 years of support of Chevron Renewable Energy Group's feedstock procurement and finished product distribution logistics departments. We also have been working closely with the three largest U.S. locomotive engine manufacturers and with multiple Class 1 and smaller railroads as they have begun increasing their inclusion of renewable fuel in their operations.

With respect to formal education, I hold a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Kansas and a Master's degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of California, Davis.

I am willing to serve as a member of RETAC and provide unique insights into the biofuels industry from a leading producer and rail shipper of biodiesel and renewable diesel fuels and a receiver by rail of millions of tons of the associated raw materials, including both fats, oils, and greases and methanol.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dave Slade", is positioned above the printed name.

Dave Slade, PhD