

ANDY BARR
SIXTH DISTRICT, KENTUCKY
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
NATIONAL SECURITY, INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT AND MONETARY POLICY:
RANKING MEMBER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION
AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ASIA, THE PACIFIC,
CENTRAL ASIA, AND NON PROLIFERATION



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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February 9, 2023

Surface Transportation Board
Attn: Martin J. Oberman
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

Dear Chairman Oberman and Members of the Surface Transportation Board:

I am writing in support of the nomination of Mr. Randy Atkins to serve on the Surface Transportation Board-Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC). Currently, Mr. Atkins serves as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Ramaco Resources, Inc. (Ramaco), a company which he co-founded in 2011. In addition to his role at Ramaco, Mr. Atkins also served as Chairman of the Department of Energy's National Coal Council from 2020-2021 where he worked cooperatively with a wide array of organizations and stakeholders related to the coal industry to achieve the mission of the Council. Having also testified before both the House Committee on Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Randy Atkins has become well-known and respected throughout the energy industry through his service and over 35 years of experience in energy-related investment and financing activities.

Ramaco Resources, Inc. is headquartered in Lexington, Kentucky, in my district and has quickly become one of the fastest growing metallurgical coal producers in the United States. The company has a footprint in both the East and West with operations in West Virginia, Virginia and Pennsylvania served by CSX Rail and Norfolk Southern and Wyoming served by BNSF. Currently, Ramaco has been involved in the development of critical minerals as well as technologies to use coal as a carbon feedstock to develop advanced carbon products and materials. In 2023, Ramaco expects its growth to continue and anticipates producing approximately 3.25 million tons of coal in the Central Appalachian region. Ninety five percent of the coal produced will be shipped via rail to the eastern United States export ports and various domestic and Canadian customers.

Ramaco's success and continued growth are directly tied to the performance of the railroads that serve our important coal producing regions. Due to the variety of customers, including those reliant on receiving coal via the Great Lakes and complexities of utilizing export terminals, Ramaco regularly collaborates

with those rail carriers regarding timely and efficient rail service with an emphasis on open dialogue and continuous improvement in order to serve their common customers better.

As a representative on the RETAC, Mr. Atkins has valuable experience that would serve him well if selected to serve on the Surface Transportation Board-Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee. This experience can be seen through the vital role Ramaco plays in our community and the industry.

I am asking for your full and fair consideration, within applicable laws and regulations, of this request. If I can provide you with any additional information, please contact McKinzie Todd, my Director of Economic Development, at (859)219-1366 or McKinzie.Todd@mail.house.gov. You may forward your reply to my district office located at 2709 Old Rosebud Rd, Suite 100, Lexington, Kentucky 40509. Thank you in advance for your kind assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy Barr". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Andy" and the last name "Barr" clearly distinguishable.

Andy Barr
Member of Congress