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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

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Surface Transportation Board
Attn: Docket No. EP 670 (Sub-No.2)
395 E. Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Chairman Oberman and Members of the Surface Transportation Board,

Please accept this letter in support of the nomination of Randall W. Atkins to the Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee as a representative of coal producers. RETAC was established to provide guidance to the Surface Transportation Board on issues regarding the transportation by rail of energy resources, including coal, but does not currently have a representative from the coal industry. As the current Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Ramaco Resources, I believe Mr. Atkins is in the best position to represent coal producers and will be a valuable addition to the committee.

Before co-founding Ramaco Resources in 2011, Mr. Atkins had spent 35 years involved in the energy industry. His experience is evident in the success of his company, which is set to produce approximately 3.25 million tons of coal in central Appalachia this year, 95% of which will be transported by CSX Rail and the Norfolk Southern to export ports in the United States in addition to Canadian customers. As the head of one of the fastest growing metallurgical coal producing companies in the United States, Mr. Atkins has proved himself to be more than capable of handling the responsibilities of this position on the Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee and I am in complete support of his nomination.

It is my hope that you will give Randall W. Atkins' nomination your utmost consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Carol D. Miller
Member of Congress