

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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March 1, 2023

Surface Transportation Board
ATTN: Docket No EP670
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

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Dear Chairman Oberman and Members of the Surface Transportation Board,

Thank you for your response to a letter from me and my colleagues to fill vacancies on the Surface Transportation Board's Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC) with representatives from the coal production industry. I appreciate your commitment to filling those vacancies as soon as possible.

I am writing to express support for the nominations of Paul Lang, Chief Executive Officer and President at Arch Resources, and Jim Grech, President and Chief Executive Officer at Peabody, to serve on the RETAC. I encourage adding these two accomplished members of the U.S. coal industry to RETAC as part of your continued oversight of the freight rail marketplace to ensure the railroads meet their obligations and commitments for all commodities.

Mr. Lang's career spans over four decades, with time spent mining in the Eastern and Western parts of the country. His experience in multiple roles, including engineering, operations, logistics, and industry advocacy through his participation on the National Mining Association board of directors, would make him a valued member of RETAC.

Mr. Grech has over thirty years of experience in operating, financing, and various other roles in the mining industry. He currently serves as CEO of the largest U.S. coal-producing company. Mr. Grech served in a variety of roles in four mining companies and leadership positions in national and international mining associations. He has a lot to offer RETAC with his experience and perspective.

Mr. Lang and Mr. Grech's experience cooperating with multiple companies in the rail industry and leading two major coal companies will allow them to be proficient advisors and successful committee members.

In closing, I would like to thank you again for your commitment to fill these coal producer vacancies, and I appreciate your consideration of these two distinguished individuals.

Sincerely,



Kevin Cramer
U.S. Senator