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JEREMY R. FERGUSON
President

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August 9, 2023

VIA E-FILING

United States Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

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Office of Proceedings
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RE: Docket No. EP 526 (Sub-No.18); Nomination to Fill At Large Vacancy on the
Railroad Shipper Transportation Advisory Council

Dear Chairman Oberman and Members of the Surface Transportation Board:

I am submitting my self-nomination for consideration of the candidacy to fill the current vacancy on the RSTAC for "at large (public interest) representative."

I am currently the President of SMART-Transportation Division, the largest rail union in the U.S. This position has given me extensive firsthand knowledge of the unique and challenging issues of the rail industry. Given the critical importance our industry serves in not only our national economy, but the world economy, it is essential for railroads, shippers, rail labor, and the communities we serve to work together for the well-being and economy of the United States.

I have been a railroader for 29 years. Fifteen of those years have been spent operating as a conductor and locomotive engineer directly engaged in the various issues confronting the shipping industry. As a young union officer, I was active on quality labor-management committees where I enjoyed working together with management and shippers to solve customer related problems, along with ensuring the growth of new business. As President of my union, I have taken an active role to ensure that rail shippers and the public were fully aware of the many challenges we faced trying to get their goods delivered, both timely and safely. I have previously testified before this honorable Board, the Federal Railroad Administration, and the U.S. House of Representatives Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on these and numerous other issues that face the industry.

I feel I can bring valuable insight to issues such as crew availability, train movements, crew-related customer service issues, staffing levels, and technical challenges rail labor faces while keeping America's freight and passenger trains operating.

Please let me know if you need any further information or have any questions.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeremy R. Ferguson
President - Transportation Division