



For Sustainable Industrial Development

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Office of Proceedings

September 6, 2023

Part of

Public Record

RETAC Nomination

August 30, 2023

Nominee Contact Information

Michael Sussman

Chairman, Strategic Rail Finance & Marketing, Inc.

(dba Strategic Rail Finance)

msussman@strategicrail.com

215-564-3122

Interest nominee represents

At-large

Summary of nominee's experience and qualifications

Michael Sussman serves as Chairman and CEO of Strategic Rail Finance where he has coordinated financings of rail-related projects across the United States and Canada. He leads a team of experienced staff and advisors on diverse projects developing the capacity and sustainability of North American railroads.

Michael also serves as President and Founder of OnTrackNorthAmerica. He advocates for progressive freight transportation and land use policy before Congressional committees, industry groups, and conferences, creating robust public-private collaborations to grow the North American rail industry.

Strategic Rail Finance- 1994 – Present

Chairman & CEO, Founder

- Business development and financial advisor for short line, transload, and rail-served industrial development projects
- Collateral and financial structuring to provide businesses access to growth capital
- SRF practice leader for mergers, acquisitions, and divestitures
- Advised on railroad projects in 43 US states and Canadian provinces, including closing the largest RRIF loan to a Class III railroad in program history
- Guided transportation projects related to every important energy development in the last thirty years, including coal, ethanol, fracking/frac sand, and oil.

OnTrackNorthAmerica — 501(c)3 -2007 – Present

President and Founder

- Established OTNA to promote a new era of thought and collaboration in rail transportation, seeking triple-bottom-line returns for economic, community, and environmental benefit through freight transportation land-use strategies

I am willing to serve as a member of RETAC, and I agree to serve in a representative capacity.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Sussman".





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September 5, 2023

The Honorable Martin J. Oberman, Chairman
United States Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington D.C. 20423

Re: STB EP 670 (Sub-No. 2)

Dear Chairman Oberman:

In response to the notice of Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC) vacancies, it is my pleasure to submit this letter of support for the nomination of Michael Sussman to fill the at large vacancy on the RETAC committee. I have known Mr. Sussman for five years and admire his determination and commitment to improve rail service and the environment in the US.

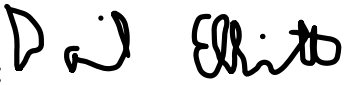
Mr. Sussman serves as Chairman and CEO of Strategic Rail Finance where he has coordinated financings of rail-related projects across the United States and Canada. He leads a team of experienced staff and advisors on diverse projects developing the capacity and sustainability of North American railroads. He also serves as President and Founder of OnTrackNorthAmerica. He advocates for progressive freight transportation and land use policy before Congressional committees, industry groups, and conferences, creating robust public-private collaborations to grow the North American rail industry.

I have worked with Mr. Sussman on various rail-related matters over the last five years. It is rare to meet an individual who desires to improve the rail industry and the environmental condition of our country in such a selfless manner. I believe his passion to improve rail service

and the environment will provide a fresh perspective on these issues that are so crucial at this time. This is exactly what is needed on such an important committee as RETAC right now.

Sincerely,

GKG Law, P.C.

By: 
Daniel R. Elliott

September 5, 2023

It is my honor to nominate Michael Sussman of Strategic Rail Finance and OnTrackNorthAmerica as member at large for the Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee.

I have worked with Mr. Sussman as a board member of the North American Freight Forum. He has been a trusted advisor to the freight rail industry and public sector for thirty years. I find that his extraordinary interest and expertise in both energy and transportation areas is both unusual and very valuable during this transformative period in both industries. Having worked in both areas myself – most recently as Counsel to the Rail Electrification Council – I recognize that Mr. Sussman's work has positively influenced the direction and success of important transportation, energy, and supply chain initiatives across the United States. I am confident that Michael will be a valuable resource for RETAC.

Sincerely,

James Hoecker

Former Commissioner and Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Co-Founder and Counsel, Rail Electrification Council