



Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO

307131

September 15, 2023

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September 15, 2023
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Mai T. Dinh
Director
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board

RE: Notice of Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Council Vacancies Docket No. EP 670 (Sub-No. 2)

Ms. Dinh,

I write in response to the Surface Transportation Board's request for nominations to serve on the Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC). The Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO (TTD) formally endorses Mr. Mark Wallace who has been nominated by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen (BLET) to serve on the Committee.

TTD consists of 37 affiliate unions representing workers in all modes of transportation, including the totality of rail labor. TTD and our affiliates strongly support efforts to promote safe and timely delivery of critical energy supplies that are necessary to our economy.

RETAC brings together experts from energy and rail industry stakeholders to provide independent, candid policy advice to the Board and to foster open, effective communication among the affected interests on issues such as rail performance, capacity constraints, infrastructure planning and development, and effective coordination among suppliers, railroads, and users of energy resources. TTD is a strong advocate for including labor representatives in critical safety and operations conversations, and TTD affiliate unions have provided valuable guidance to the Committee from the perspective of the rail workforce since its inception. TTD respectfully urges STB to give due consideration to Mr. Wallace's nomination.

Mr. Mark Wallace serves as First Vice President and Alternate National President of the 51,500-member Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen (BLET), a Division of the Rail Conference, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, a position he has held since 2022. He previously served as National Vice President of BLET, a role to which he was elected in 2018. At the time of his election in 2018, Vice President Wallace was serving as a National Division Trustee and as General Chairman of the Norfolk Southern-Southern Lines General Committee of Adjustment (GCA), which at the time represented 43 Divisions with over 3,000 members. Mr. Wallace began his railroad career as a carman with Norfolk Southern in 1993 and transferred to the craft of conductor in 1996. In 1998, he completed his locomotive engineer training and attained seniority as a locomotive engineer. He has been elected to a number of leadership positions within

his Local Division and BLET's Executive Committee over the course of his career. Mr. Wallace's extensive experience in the railroad industry would undoubtedly benefit this Council.

Conclusion

Mr. Wallace is committed to ensuring safety in our rail system and his experience and labor perspective continue to be invaluable to RETAC as it develops its recommendations. TTD appreciates the opportunity to endorse Mr. Wallace and hopes that STB will consider our recommendation to provide the Council with the views of frontline workers who serve as irreplaceable stewards in maintaining the safe, effective, and efficient operation of our rail system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Greg Regan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Greg Regan
President