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September 15, 2023

Kristen Nunnally
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

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Public Record

EP 670 Sub No. 2



1222 Research Park Drive, Davis, CA 95618
530.759.9827 | 530.759.9872 fax
SierraEnergy.com

Re: Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee Nomination

Dear Ms. Nunnally:

I hereby nominate Torgny Nilsson for the Surface Transportation Board's Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC).

Mr. Nilsson has 15 years' experience in the renewable energy industry. He is currently the Vice President and General Counsel of Sierra Energy (sierraenergy.com), a renewable energy company that uses gasification to turn trash into energy, including fuels suitable for use in the railroad industry such as hydrogen and biodiesel.

Mr. Nilsson also has extensive experience in the shortline railroad industry as General Counsel and VP of Corporate Affairs for the Sierra Railroad Company (sierrarailroad.com). Among other things, he has worked on green locomotive projects, including a hydrogen locomotive project currently underway by Sierra's subsidiary Sierra Northern Railway. He also works on locomotive emissions regulations with the California Air Resources Board.

Mr. Nilsson is willing to serve as a member of RETAC and agrees to serve in a capacity representative of the renewable energy industry.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Michael Hart
President

TORGNY R. NILSSON



WORK EXPERIENCE

SIERRA ENERGY – Davis, California

June 2004 – Present

General Counsel, Executive Vice President, and Secretary, December 2019 – Present

COO, General Counsel, and Secretary, May 2018 – December 2019

General Counsel, Executive Vice President, and Secretary, June 2009 – May 2018

General Counsel, and Secretary, June 2004 – June 2009

Responsible for corporate governance and legal matters. Developed patents and trademark strategy; drafted confidentiality policies and agreements, website terms of use and privacy policies, and license and sales agreements; negotiated and drafted vendor, engineering, manufacturing, and customer agreement; oversaw purchase of office buildings and other commercial facilities; assisted with facility design and funding; and negotiated construction and research agreements with public and private entities. Responsible, with President, CFO, and Board, for determining corporate strategy, conducting due diligence investigations, financial forecasting and planning, and operational planning. Asked to act as interim COO and day-to-day leadership and general management of the company, overseeing business operations during search for permanent COO.

SIERRA RAILROAD COMPANY – Davis, California

April 2003 – Present

General Counsel, Vice President of Corporate Affairs, and Secretary

Responsible for corporate governance and legal matters for parent company and its subsidiaries in the railroad, real estate, renewable energy, internet, and commercial and industrial construction industries. Oversaw merger of Sierra Railroad Company and Yolo Shortline Railway and the purchase of the Skunk Train; obtained vacation of AAA arbitration award on the ground of arbitrator misconduct; oversaw environmental clean-ups; negotiated purchase or sale of over \$12 million in real properties; oversaw litigation with Patriot Rail Corporation resulting in the award to Sierra Railroad Company of over \$52 million in compensatory and punitive damages; negotiated \$57.7 million equity investment in Sierra Railroad Company by SteelRiver Infrastructure Partners, L.P.

THELEN REID & PRIEST LLP – Los Angeles, California

May 2000 – March 2003

Senior Associate, Commercial Litigation and Intellectual Property Law Departments

Counseled and represented clients in commercial and intellectual property litigation, arbitration, mediation, and appeals. Assisted with client relations, attorney recruitment, and associate development.

GARTENBERG JAFFE GELFAND & STEIN LLP – Los Angeles, California

September 1993 – April 2000

Associate,

Counseled and represented clients in international, energy, commercial, securities, and intellectual property litigation, arbitration, mediation, and appeals.

WILSON, SONSINI, GOODRICH & ROSATI – Palo Alto, California
Contract Pro Bono Attorney

September 1992 - July 1993

Assisted with legal research, discovery, and trial preparation in *Madrid v. Gomez*, a *pro bono* class-action lawsuit filed in 1990 on behalf of inmates in Pelican Bay State Prison's "Security Housing Unit" asserting claims for widespread abuse, excessive force, inadequate medical and mental health care, improper segregation and housing, and inadequate protection from assault. The plaintiffs prevailed, obtaining the appointment of a special master to formulate a remedial plan. The case exposed widespread abuses, leading to prison reforms including the appointment of an independent inspector general in the state corrections department and the creation of an office to oversee investigations of prison employees.

ALAMEDA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY – Fremont, California
Certified Law Clerk

January 1992 - May 1992

Responsibilities included legal research, drafting of motions and briefs, witness preparation, and conducting preliminary hearings.

RICE, FOWLER, KINGSMILL, VANCE, FLINT & BOOTH – San Francisco, California
Summer Associate

Summer 1991

Responsibilities included conducting legal and legislative research, drafting motions and briefs, and attending numerous depositions.

NASA – Moffett Field, California

May 1988 – August 1989

Research Assistant, Aerospace Human Factors Research Division, via San Jose State University contract

Responsibilities included scientific research, the design and implementation of rotorcraft and aerospace human factors experiments and studies, review of scientific journals and articles, preparation of presentation materials and graphics, and compilation and analysis of research data using various computer systems in support of NASA's space shuttle program, aerospace safety programs, and Department of Defense programs.

EDUCATION



SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF LAW – Santa Clara, California
J.D. 1992; Admitted to the California Bar, 1992

- Technical Editor, Santa Clara Law Review
- Recipient, American Jurisprudence Award
- Selection as Pupil, American Inns of Court



OXFORD UNIVERSITY, MAGDALEN COLLEGE – Oxford, England
Certificate, Institute of Int'l & Comparative Law (via Santa Clara University program), 1990

- Senior Counsel in Senior Moot, Gray's Inn, London

 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS – Davis, California

B.A., 1988, Political Science

B.A., 1988, German Language

- Chancellor's Outstanding Senior, 1988
- Student Council Member, ASUCD Executive Council
- Chapter Founding Member, Sigma Chi Fraternity
- Commodore, UC Davis Intercollegiate Sailing Team

MEMBERSHIPS & ACHIEVEMENTS

2018 First Chair Award, Top General Counsel

2017 First Chair Award, Top General Counsel

Named "Best of the Bar" 2015 by the Sacramento Business Journal

California Bar Association

Association of Corporate Counsel

LANGUAGES

Swedish and German. Working knowledge of Danish and Norwegian.

INTERESTS

Reading, rock-climbing, sailing, SCUBA diving, ocean kayaking, and painting.