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Date: 1/5/2024

Surface Transportation Board
Attn: Docket No. EP 774 (Sub-No. 1)
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

Subject: Re: **Docket Number: EP 774 (Sub-No 1)**

Dear Chairman Oberman,

I am writing to convey self-nomination for membership on the Passenger Railroad Advisory Committee (PRAC). My name is Kevin Sweat, and I believe that my extensive experience in the freight, commuter, and passenger rail sectors, coupled with my regulatory compliance and safety expertise, would contribute significantly to the objectives of the PRAC.

Currently serving as the Director of Safety & Compliance at FMW Solutions LLC, I am an integral part of the rail operations team. My role involves overseeing safety protocols and ensuring compliance with regulatory standards, emphasizing my commitment to fostering safe and efficient rail transportation. As noted, I currently possess engineer and conductor certifications, and our organization provides numerous consulting services to passenger, freight, and commuter railroads.

With nearly 20 years in the railroad industry, I have garnered diverse experience on various railroads nationwide, including tourist railroads, short lines, Class I railroads, and commuter railroads. My hands-on involvement in different capacities has provided me with a comprehensive understanding of the challenges and opportunities inherent in freight, commuter, and passenger rail operations.

During my tenure as a Railroad Safety Inspector of Operating Practices at the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), I played a crucial role in inspecting railroads across Florida, verifying compliance with Federal Regulations, and conducting safety audits. This experience allowed me to gain insights into the unique safety considerations and operational intricacies of passenger rail. It's worth noting that during this time, Brightline passenger service was under construction and starting up, providing me with valuable experience in the

complexities of initiating passenger rail service as well as integrating passenger and freight rail operations.

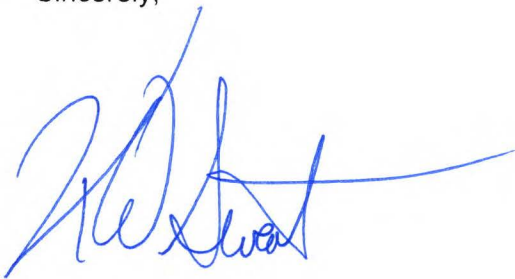
In my previous role as the Designated Supervisor of Locomotive Engineers with Bombardier Transportation, I was actively present and involved in the start-up process of the SunRail commuter operation, further enhancing my understanding of commuter rail dynamics. I contributed to the development and implementation of the scheduling and training programs for this commuter line. This firsthand involvement in commuter rail operations has equipped me with a nuanced understanding of the specific challenges faced in this sector.

Furthermore, my experience in various roles with short line railroads in Florida and Colorado, including train service and superintendent positions, has afforded me a holistic view of the rail industry, from frontline operations to managerial oversight.

I am confident that my background and expertise uniquely position me to contribute effectively to the PRAC's mission. If appointed, I am committed to leveraging my knowledge and skills to enhance the safety, efficiency, and sustainability of passenger rail services.

Thank you for considering my self-nomination. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the important work of the Passenger Railroad Advisory Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Sweat', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kevin Sweat

Director of Safety & Compliance

FMW Solutions LLC