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

Re: Docket No. EP 774 (Sub-No. 1), *Notice of Passenger Rail Advisory Committee Vacancies*

Dear Chairman Oberman:

Please accept my nomination for the rail shipper/customer representative position on the Passenger Rail Advisory Committee (PRAC) in response to the Surface Transportation Board's (STB) notice of January 4, 2024 inviting nominations to staff the committee. My extensive experience working for multiple rail shippers and a railroad will enable me to meaningfully contribute to the work of PRAC.

I currently serve as Director Rail Services for Holcim US, a position I have held for 14 years. Holcim is a leader in developing innovative and sustainable building solutions with 350 sites in 43 states. In my current role, I am responsible for managing all aspects of Holcim's relationship with the rail carriers we rely on to get our products to market, including operations, procurement, contract negotiations, budgeting, best practices, and safety. Prior to joining Holcim, I served for three years as Manager Rail Fleet for NRG Energy and for four years as Logistics Supervisor-Rail for Vector SCM/General Motors.

Before transitioning to work for rail shippers, I spent 21 years working for Consolidated Rail Corporation, or Conrail. I held a variety of operations and traffic control positions including Train Dispatcher, Trainmaster, and Manager Train Operations. At Conrail, I was responsible for handling multiple passenger train movements over Conrail's Chicago to Boston and Chicago to Pittsburgh mainlines. I also served a two-year stint at the Academy of Industrial Training, where I performed classroom and field training for new hire railroad conductors and brakemen on topics such as air brakes, operating rules, hazardous materials, safety rules, and other federal regulations.

The experience outlined above will allow me to contribute meaningfully to the work and goals of PRAC. As a former dispatcher, I understand the value of affording passenger trains the

proper priority when operating on freight rail lines. As a current shipper, I recognize the importance of reliable freight rail service. I will therefore be able to bring a unique perspective to topics such as passenger on-time performance and reducing disputes between passenger rail carriers and freight rail hosts regarding the use of freight rail carrier-owned facilities and infrastructure for passenger service. Indeed, I testified on some of these topics during the public hearing in February 2022 concerning Gulf Coast passenger service at Docket No. FD 36496. In sum, I have the qualifications and experience to engage productively with other PRAC members and the STB on how to balance the needs of the traveling public with shipper needs for quality freight rail service.

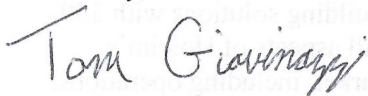
Finally, I have experience advising the STB on a stakeholder committee. I was appointed by then-STB Chairman Daniel Elliott to serve on the Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council (RSTAC) from 2011 to 2017, during which time I held the positions of Vice-Chairman (2013) and Chairman (2014). If selected to fill the shipper/customer representative position, I would happily accept the nomination to serve on PRAC for the required duration. I understand that I would serve in a representative capacity and be responsible for my own expenses related to my service on PRAC.

My contact information is as follows:

Thomas Giovinazzi
440-463-4748
tom.giovinazzi@holcim.com

I respectfully request the Surface Transportation Board formally appoint me to the shipper/customer representative position on PRAC. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,



Thomas Giovinazzi
Director Rail Services, Holcim US