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5 August 2024

Elizabeth McGrath
Attorney Advisor
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

Dear Ms. McGrath:

I would like to nominate Philip Obie for the Surface Transportation Board's Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC), as a representative from the utility sector.

I have served on RETAC with my term expiring in September this year, and I have worked with Philip on this committee for a few years. Philip has worked at Santee Cooper for over 20 years and has extensive experience in the fossil fuel utility industry. I have witnessed his attention to detail in presenting on behalf of the utility sector at the meetings, and he is an active listener and engaging conversationalist. He has been a pleasure to work with on this committee, and I highly recommend him for this position.

Philip is willing to serve as a member of the RETAC and agrees to serve in the capacity of representative of utilities.

Sincerely,

Bette Whalen

Bette Whalen
Fuel Specialist Principal
Lower Colorado River Authority
(512)578-2789