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Surface Transportation Board  
Attn: Docket No. EP 670 (sub-No.2)  
395 E Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Honorable Board Members:

I am submitting my nomination as a candidate to fill the petroleum shipper vacancy on the Rail-Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC) of the Surface Transportation Board (STB). My background and 20 years of rail experience uniquely qualify me to fill this vacancy.

In my current role I act as Rail Operations Director managing shipments of a variety of petroleum products for subsidiaries of Marathon Petroleum Corporation (MPC), the largest petroleum refiner in the United States. Through its subsidiaries, MPC owns, leases and operates approximately 13,000 rail tank cars. These shipments travel across North America on every Class 1 railroad and dozens of short lines.

I have experience working for Class I railroads and as a shipper of a variety of petroleum products across the United States and North America. The shipments I manage travel across every Class 1 railroad and dozens of short lines. At Union Pacific and BNSF Railway, I was employed as a train dispatcher, where I learned how to operate a railroad. I also developed an understanding of the rail lines and networks shipments travel across every day. This experience enables me to understand the service issues and challenges the railroads face due to fluctuations in traffic and weather events.

In my current role as a significant shipper of petroleum products, I have experience running both unit train and manifest operations. I manage the relationships with the rail carriers and have a deep understanding of the issues that both shippers and carriers contend with. These include work on freight agreements, industrial track agreements, demurrage, service issues, railcar storage, and interchange agreements. This role requires me to have a close working relationship with railroads and my peers, and I would be honored to bring that broad industry perspective RETAC and the STB.

Over the past 10 years, I have actively participated in many of the conversations regarding rail transportation regulations. This has included meeting with STB board members, meeting with congressional staffers and providing commentary on high impact regulatory proceedings, such as HM-251, and EP 711 (reciprocal switching). For the last three years, I have served as chair of the American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturer's (AFPM) Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, where I have advised on rail policy decisions that impact our industry. In July 2016, I was selected to provide expert testimony on rail operations in front of Washington State's Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council. My testimony was provided in support of the Vancouver Energy project. I have also testified in other rail litigation matters and I was the primary representative for my company in our dispute over empty freight charges Docket No. NOR 42144.

Having worked as both a former and current representative of the rail carrier and shipper sector, respectively, I believe I am well equipped to provide a balanced outlook on matters important to the STB. If selected to fill this vacancy, I am willing to serve as a member of RETAC for the length of the term and I agree to serve in a representative capacity. As a veteran of the U.S. Navy, I understand what it means to serve, and I look forward to the potential opportunity to serve again and support the important work of the STB.

Sincerely,

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