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

Re: AFPM Response to the Surface Transportation Board Decision Document, “Notice of Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee Vacancy” (August 4, 2017, 82 FR 37283)

Dear Mr. Wolfe:

In the August 9, 2017, *Federal Register*, the Surface Transportation Board (“STB” or the “Board”) solicited suggestions from the public for a candidate to fill a vacancy on the Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (“RETAC”). The American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers (“AFPM”) is pleased to submit the name of John Hack, Senior Manager, Rail Operations, Andeavor as a highly qualified candidate for the RETAC.

AFPM’s Interest in STB’s RETAC

AFPM is a national trade association representing approximately 400 companies that encompass virtually all U.S. refining and petrochemical manufacturing capacity. AFPM member companies rely on a safe, reliable, and efficient rail system to move gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, and the chemical building blocks that are used to make millions of products to and from refineries and petrochemical facilities. AFPM members have a keen interest in the transportation by rail of both refined and petrochemical products. AFPM members are both users and customers of our nation’s great rail system and therefore are keenly interested safe and efficient rail transportation. Further, AFPM member companies employ leading experts in the fields of petrochemical manufacturing, refining, and rail transportation.

AFPM recognizes the integral role the STB plays in ensuring the efficient and free flow of energy products by rail. STB’s RETAC provides essential, independent, and candid policy advice to the Board. Further, RETAC fosters open, effective communication on issues such as rail performance, capacity constraints, infrastructure planning and development, and effective coordination among suppliers, railroads, and users of energy resources.

AFPM Endorsed Candidate for STB’s RETAC Vacancy

AFPM strongly supports the nomination of John Hack. John would serve as a great resource for RETAC and significantly support the goals of the committee. His distinguished qualifications are discussed below and in the attached resume.

John Hack is currently the Senior Manager, Rail Operations at Andeavor, and in this capacity, he manages rail operations and regulatory compliance related to the transport of energy products. John possesses extensive experience working for both rail carriers and rail customers.

He holds an expert understanding of the complexities of transporting a wide variety of energy products by rail. Having worked for both rail carriers and shippers, John would bring a fair and balanced perspective on matters important to the STB's RETAC. His qualifications are discussed in further detail below and in the attached resume. As a veteran of the U.S. Navy with five and a half years of service, John understand what it means to serve and looks forward to the opportunity to serve this country in a new capacity.

John has experience working for Class I railroads and as a shipper of both coal and petroleum products. At Union Pacific ("UP") and BNSF Railway, John was employed as a train dispatcher. In these positions, John gained valuable experience in the rail operational environment and an expert understanding of complex rail networks. This experience enabled John to understand the service issues and challenges the railroads face on a daily basis. John also oversaw the rail transportation of coal to coal-fired power plants when he was employed at Ameren Corporation. This experience provided John with valuable knowledge about unit train operations and the important role that rail transportation plays in addressing our nation's energy needs.

In his current position as Senior Manager, Rail Transportation at Andeavor, John is responsible for managing the shipment of petroleum products and renewables. This role requires John to have a close working relationship with railroads and members of the supply chain. Furthermore, John serves as a regulatory lead and the primary advocate for Andeavor's regulatory interests, actively participating in regulatory proceedings and advising on rail policy decisions that impact our industry. For example, John guided his company through recent regulatory actions affecting the entire fleet of flammable liquid tank cars in North America. As regulatory lead, John ensures compliance and has positioned his company to be a leader in the deployment of best-in-class tank car technology. In July of 2016, John was selected to provide expert testimony on rail operations in front of Washington State's Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council. His testimony was provided in support of the Vancouver Energy project.

AFPM strongly supports John Hack's nomination to the STB's RETAC. John's background and experience make him an ideal candidate to fill the at-large vacancy. Having worked for both rail carriers and shippers, John will provide a balanced perspective on matters important to the RETAC. As a member of the RETAC, John would represent all rail interests with a focus in midstream and downstream petroleum refining interests.

Conclusion

AFPM supports a safe, reliable, and efficient rail system, and the role STB's RETAC plays in ensuring high quality rail service for all commerce, including energy products. With this in mind, AFPM strongly supports the nomination of John Hack for STB's RETAC. John has expressed a strong willingness to serve as a member of the RETAC for the length of the term and to do so in a representative capacity. AFPM is confident that John would greatly benefit RETAC due to his experience in the rail and energy industries, as well as his collaborative nature. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rob Benedict". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "R" and "B".

Rob Benedict
Director, Transportation and Infrastructure

John Hack

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WORK EXPERIENCE

ANDEAVOR, San Antonio, TX

Senior Manager, Rail Operations, Feb 2013 – Present

- Manage a team of rail professionals responsible for safe, compliant, and efficient movement of hazardous materials and petroleum products by rail
- Serve as rail operations subject matter expert for all new business development and M&A activity
- Manage relationships with rail carriers to include negotiating freight and track agreements
- Strategize and develop routes and shipping lanes that optimize the Andeavor value chain
- Analyze expenditures and other financial information to develop rail operations budget

AMEREN MISSOURI, St. Louis, MO

General Executive Coal Delivery, Feb 2008 – Feb 2013

- Manage unit train fleet to deliver coal by rail to utilities in Illinois and Missouri
- Forecast railcar and train set needs based on cycle time and fuel plan information
- Communicate with railroads to overcome service issues and develop plans to recover from outages and shutdowns

BNSF RAILWAY, Fort Worth, TX

Train Dispatcher, May 2006 – Feb 2008

- Responsible for the safe and orderly control of rail traffic across an assigned territory
- Qualified to work six desks in the Powder River Basin that handled all rail traffic loading coal in Eastern Wyoming

UNION PACIFIC, Omaha, NE

Train Dispatcher, Jan 2017 – Present

- Responsible for the safe and orderly control of rail traffic across an assigned territory

UNITED STATES NAVY, Norfolk, VA

Air Traffic Control Specialist, Feb 1999 – Aug 2004

- Control tower operator responsible for safe and efficient air operations at Navy's largest and busiest airport
- Radar specialist responsible for safe and efficient departure and landing procedures for at-sea flight operations on aircraft carrier

EDUCATION

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach, FL

BS Aeronautics

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

- **Rail Operations** - Deep understanding of rail operations for both manifest and unit train service. Experience working with railroad service design to maximize unit train efficiency. Experience developing green field rail operations projects and providing due diligence on rail operations for M&A activities.
- **Subject Matter Expert (Rail)** - Provided subject matter expert testimony in front of Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council in July of 2013. Serve as Andeavor representative on AFPM's rail policy committee. Developed and implemented corporate strategy for complying with new US DOT regulations for general purpose tank cars.
- **Lean Six Sigma Green Belt** - Awarded Green Belt for applying Lean Six Sigma principles to a rail operations project in 2014 that resulted in ongoing net savings of 2-4 million dollars per year.
- **Leadership** - Recognized leader with documented progression of increasingly challenging leadership in both military and corporate environments. Selected as one of twenty-four company representatives to handle incident command duty responsibilities for Andeavor corporation.