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Honorable Ann D. Begeman
Acting Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
Attn: Docket No. EP 526 (Sub-No. 10)
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Docket No. 526 (Sub-No. 10)
Notice of Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council Vacancies

Dear Ms. Begeman:

We are writing to support the nomination of James L. Thompson, II, Senior Manager North America Logistics of Whirlpool Corporation for membership as a large shipper representative on the Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council (RSTAC).

Whirlpool is one of the largest beneficial cargo owners moving products on CSX's intermodal network today. Under Jim's leadership, Whirlpool has increased utilization of intermodal overall, exceeding 50% of its total miles shipped. We have been working with Jim for the past four years to ensure shipments of Whirlpool products by box car and intermodal rail move safely, efficiently and align with their goals for reducing overall carbon footprint.

Jim has a complete understanding of the transportation landscape and stays on the leading edge of supply chain best practices. He has been fair, balanced and very engaged as we work together to creatively find solutions that enable growth.

The Surface Transportation Board would realize tremendous value by selecting Jim as a large shipper representative on RSTAC.

Sincerely,

Dean Piacente
Vice President-Intermodal

Tim McNulty
Vice President-Agricultural & Mineral Products