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VIA E-FILING

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Surface Transportation Board
Attn: Docket No. EP 526 (Sub-No. 10)
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
January 30, 2018
Part of
Public Record

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

Dear Ms. Brown:

I am writing to endorse the application of James L. Thompson, II, of Whirlpool Corporation for membership as a large shipper representative on the Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council (RSTAC).

I have known Jim for a number of years. I first met Jim in my role as Vice President and General Manager at Schneider National, a transportation provider to Ford Motor Company, while Jim was in the Purchasing, Materials, Planning and Logistics unit at Ford. In dealing with Jim while he was at Ford, I found him to be a strong and astute advocate for his company's positions in our negotiations. Later, in my role as Vice President Global Supply Chain for Whirlpool Corporation, we hired Jim, recognizing that he would be a great asset to the team at Whirlpool.

I believe that the Surface Transportation Board would be well-served by selecting Jim as a large shipper representative on RSTAC. His breadth of experience, his astute intellect and his strong advocacy would contribute greatly to RSTAC's discussions and to the quality of the advice RSTAC provides to the agency.

Sincerely,

Brian D. Hancock

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