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OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN

Honorable Daniel R. Elliott III, Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423
January 4, 2017

Re: Docket No. EP 526 (Sub-No. 8), Notice of Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council

Dear Chairman Elliott:

The Mid America Food Processors Association would like to support the nomination of Kevin Murray, Vice President Supply Chain of Red Gold, Inc. Red Gold has three manufacturing facilities in Central Indiana each served by on-sight rail.

Red Gold is America's largest family owned canned tomato processor making canned tomatoes, ketchup, salsa, juices, sauces and other tomato-based products for retail, foodservice, private brand, and club channels of distribution within the United States and exports to 16 countries. Kevin's supply chain responsibilities include managing transportation logistics, rail, intermodal and over-the road. Efficient rail service is imperative for the food industry.

Kevin serves on the Logistics Council of Conexus Indiana where he chairs the Workforce Development Initiative to promote jobs and education throughout the State of Indiana. He has 25 years of operational and supply chain leadership experience within the United States food industry, as well as in Canada. Prior to Red Gold, Kevin held senior level positions at George Weston Limited

We believe Kevin's experience managing rail and logistics challenges for the food industry, especially regarding small shippers, qualifies him to provide valuable input as a member of the Surface Transportation Board and to Congress regarding rail transportation policy issues.

Thank you for your consideration of this nomination.

Sincerely,

Debra Gibson, Administrator
Mid America Food Processors Association