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Chairperson Ann Begeman,

I, Brian Vain, request consideration as a candidate for the Railroad Shipper Transportation Advisory Council (RSTAC) representing Large Shippers. I am employed by Olin Corporation and serve as the Director for North American Logistics. I have over 28 years of experience in various roles in chemical manufacturing, and for most of the last 7 years, I have been responsible for all Olin North American rail, truck, and barge shipments.

Olin is a large rail shipper; we ship nearly 50,000 revenue loads of chlor alkali commodity chemicals each year with traffic on all Class I Railroads. Olin is an accomplished rail shipper and has attained recognition as an AAR Grand Slam Award winner for the last four consecutive years. In addition, I am responsible for procuring, maintaining, and assuring the regulatory compliance of the Olin railcar fleet which is currently over 7,600 railcars.

I have personal knowledge of the many issues currently before the STB. As the largest chlorine (a TIH chemical) shipper in the world, I am keenly aware of the rate challenges that all shippers are faced with as well as the liability challenges faced by railroads and shippers associated with transport of TIH products. I would welcome an opportunity to address these issues and others given the railroad common carrier obligation and the need for a competitive rate environment for shippers. Lastly, I have participated in activities to provide new STB Board members a better understanding of chemical shipper concerns by hosting visits to Olin manufacturing plants.

In addition to my Olin responsibilities, I represent Olin on the American Chemistry Council (ACC) Distribution Committee, the Chemical Industry Association of Canada (CIAC), and the National Industrial Transportation League (NITL).

If selected to serve as an RSTAC member, I am available to serve immediately upon appointment.

Yours truly,

Brian Vain