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American
Fuel & Petrochemical
Manufacturers

October 31, 2019

Surface Transportation Board
Attn: Docket No. EP 526 (Sub-No. 13)
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

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Re: AFPM Response to the Surface Transportation Board Decision Document, “Notice of Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council Vacancy” (October 1, 2019, 84 FR 52156)

Dear Chairman Begeman:

In the October 1, 2019, *Federal Register*, the Surface Transportation Board (“STB” or the “Board”) solicited suggestions from the public for a candidate to fill two vacancies on the Railroad-Shippers Transportation Advisory Committee (“RSTAC”). The American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers (“AFPM”) is pleased to submit the name of John Hack, Director, Rail Operations, Marathon Petroleum Corporation (“Marathon”) as an eminently qualified candidate for the RSTAC.

AFPM’s Interest in STB’s RSTAC

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 feedstocks and products such as 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 are both users and customers of our nation’s great rail system and therefore are keenly interested in safe and efficient rail transportation. Further, AFPM member companies employ leading experts in the fields of petrochemical manufacturing, refining, and rail transportation and logistics.

AFPM recognizes the integral role the STB plays in ensuring the efficient and free flow of products by rail. STB’s RSTAC provides essential, independent, and candid policy advice to the Board. Further, RSTAC fosters open, effective communication on issues such as rail performance, capacity constraints, infrastructure planning and development, and effective coordination among suppliers, railroads, and shippers. The RSTAC’s advisory role is a critical tool at the Board’s disposal.

AFPM Endorsed Candidate for STB’s RSTAC Vacancy

AFPM strongly supports the nomination of John Hack. As Chairman of AFPM’s Rail Working Group, John frequently represents our industry on rail issues. John would serve as an outstanding resource for RSTAC and significantly advance the goals of the committee. His distinguished qualifications are discussed below and in the attached resume.

John Hack is currently Marathon’s Director of Rail Operations. With a crude oil refining capacity of more than 3 million barrels per calendar day in a 16-refinery system, Marathon is the nation’s largest refiner. In his capacity as Director of Rail Operations, he manages complex 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 RSTAC. 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 understands 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 developed an expert understanding of complex rail networks. This experience enabled John to understand the service issues and challenges the railroads face daily. John also oversaw the rail transportation of coal to power plants when he was employed at Ameren Corporation. This experience provided John with valuable knowledge about unit train operations and the important role rail transportation plays in addressing our nation's energy needs.

In his current position, John is responsible for managing the shipment of petroleum products and renewables. This role requires John to have a close working relationship with railroads, members of the supply chain, and downstream customers. Furthermore, John serves as a regulatory lead and the primary advocate for Marathon'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 regulatory actions affecting the entire fleet of flammable liquid tank cars in North America. As regulatory lead, John ensures compliance and has positioned his current company to be a leader in the deployment of best-in-class tank car technology. In July 2016, John was selected to provide expert testimony on rail operations in front of Washington State's Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council in support of the Vancouver Energy project.

AFPM strenuously supports John Hack's nomination to the STB's RSTAC. John's background and experience make him an ideal candidate to fill this vacancy. Having worked for both rail carriers and shippers, John will provide a balanced perspective on matters important to the RSTAC. As a member of the RSTAC, John would represent all shipper interests.

Conclusion

AFPM supports a safe, reliable, and efficient rail system, and the role STB's RSTAC plays in ensuring high quality rail service for all commerce, including energy products. AFPM energetically supports the nomination of John Hack for STB's RSTAC. John has expressed a strong desire to serve as a member of the RSTAC for the length of the term and to do so in a representative capacity. AFPM is confident that John would greatly benefit RSTAC 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 fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rob" and last name "Benedict" clearly legible.

Rob Benedict

Director, Transportation and Infrastructure

John Hack

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WORK EXPERIENCE

MARATHON PETROLEUM CORPORATION, San Antonio, TX (Formerly Andeavor)

Director, 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 Marathon value chain
- Develop company strategy for rail advocacy efforts at local, state and federal levels.
- 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

University of Illinois, Champaign, IL

MBA (expected July 2020)

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.