



October 17, 2018

The President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As the leaders of American manufacturing, agriculture and energy industries and some of the nation's largest freight rail customers, we thank you for the nominations of Patrick Fuchs, Michelle Shultz, and Martin Oberman to the Surface Transportation Board (STB).

We are writing to encourage you to re-nominate, as soon as possible, current STB Vice-Chair Deb Miller to serve a second term on the board. As we have previously communicated to you, a fully staffed STB is critical to both the continued growth of the economy as well as furthering your regulatory reform agenda.

Our organizations are members of the Rail Customer Coalition, which represents a broad cross section of industries. Collectively these industries generate trillions of dollars in economic output each year and provide more than 7 million direct jobs that support millions more throughout the United States. We depend on railroads to deliver reliable and affordable service in order to remain competitive in a global market.

The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation has acted swiftly to unanimously approve all three of your STB nominees and we are hopeful the full Senate will follow suit.

Vice-Chair Miller has served the STB admirably during her first term and has brought thoughtful, commonsense leadership to the Board as they consider a wide variety of pro-growth reform measures. She has worked tirelessly to modernize freight rail policy and streamline overly burdensome regulatory procedures.

Freight rail customers have been patiently waiting for a fully staffed STB to tackle critical issues such as skyrocketing rates, rail service outages, and the lack of competition in freight rail service. America's manufacturers, small businesses, farmers, and energy producers continue to face increasing rail costs and lack of competitive options as the STB is unable to act without a full complement, which is why it is imperative that Vice-Chair Miller be re-nominated.

We look forward to Vice-Chair Miller's swift nomination and confirmation and look forward to working with your Administration on policies that support growth across the entire U.S. economy.

Sincerely,

Agricultural Retailers Association  
American Chemistry Council  
American Farm Bureau Federation  
American Forest & Paper Association  
American Malting Barley Association  
American Petroleum Institute  
Auto Alliance  
Beer Institute  
Corn Refiners Association  
Freight Rail Customer Alliance  
Glass Packaging Institute  
Industrial Minerals Association – North America  
Institute for Scrap Recycling Industries  
International Warehouse Logistics Association  
Louisiana Chemical Association  
National Association of Chemical Distributors  
National Coal Transportation Association  
National Farmers Union  
National Industrial Sand Association  
National Industrial Transportation League  
National Mining Association  
Ohio Manufacturers Association  
Plastic Pipe and Fittings Association  
Plastics Industry Association  
Private Railcar Food and Beverage Association  
Resilient Floor Covering Institute  
Steel Manufacturers Association  
The Chlorine Institute  
The Fertilizer Institute  
The Sulphur Institute  
Vinyl Institute