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August 21, 2024

Chairman Robert Primus
Attn: Docket No. EP 670 (Sub-No. 2)
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

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RE: Nomination of Brent Hoops to the Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC)

Dear Chairman Primus,

I'm writing to express my interest and willingness to serve on the Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC). My intention is to fill the current vacancy to represent biofuel refiners, processors, and distributors. I would enjoy the opportunity to serve the biorefining industry in a representative capacity.

In my current role as Commodities Director for Chief Ethanol Fuels, I coordinate shipping of ethanol and co-products via the BNSF and Union Pacific rail systems from each of our two ethanol plants. We are keenly aware of the prominent role that rail transport plays in the efficient movement of our products to market. I also lead a team responsible for the safe loading of products that will enter the railways, helping to ensure that shipping lanes stay open and effective.

Prior to my role in the ethanol industry, I worked for 14 years as a biofuel feedstock grower for ethanol and biodiesel. Much of this feedstock was ultimately shipped via rail to the appropriate biofuel refiner. This experience would help represent the feedstock producers and co-product consumers that rely on rail transportation to get their products to market.

My educational background includes a bachelor's degree in engineering management from the United States Military Academy at West Point. Relevant trade memberships include the Renewable Fuels Association, the American Coalition for Ethanol, Renewable Fuels Nebraska, the United States Grains Council, and Veterans for Renewable Fuels. I've also served on the Board of Directors for the Little Blue Natural Resources District in South Central Nebraska for six years.

Thank you for considering this nomination and I look forward to serving with you on the Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brent Hoops".

Brent Hoops
Commodities Director, Chief Ethanol Fuels
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