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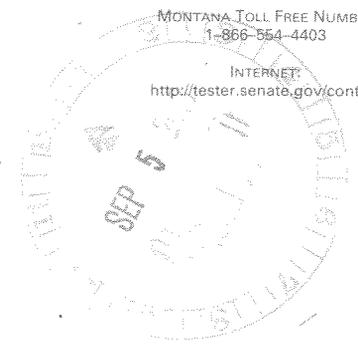
August 29, 2013

Surface Transportation Board  
Attn: Docket No. EP 526 (Sub-No. 5)  
395 E Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

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To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I write to you to recommend Lochiel Edwards to fill the current vacancy with the Surface Transportation Board Railroad Shipper Transportation Advisory Council (RSTAC). As the past President of the Montana Grain Growers Association, Lochiel has worked closely on rail issues that face the agricultural community in Montana and throughout the West. Through his leadership MGGGA partnered with major railways like BNSF in order to build strong relationships between shippers and Montana's grain producers.

He also led the Alternative Dispute Resolution agreement between MGGGA, Montana Farm Bureau Federation and BSNF Railway. This formal mediation and binding arbitration agreement, signed in January 2009, for the first time creates legal status for Montana producers as railroad customers. It is designed to solidify a long-term accountability and dialogue for all parties and has resulted in numerous benefits for Montana grain producers.

Lochiel also currently serves as chairman of the Ag Rail Business Council, which is a collaborative group that includes national organizations representing corn, soybeans, wheat and pulse crops and BNSF Railway. Through his leadership Lochiel has opened up important dialogue so that BNSF Railway can better serve all agricultural groups.

I believe Lochiel's experience will make him a tremendous asset to this important council. I hope you will consider in earnest his candidacy. Should you have further questions please feel free to reach out to me or Maia Aageson of my Great Falls Office at 406-452-5020.

Sincerely,



Jon Tester

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