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August 7, 2007

The Honorable Charles D. "Chip" Nottingham
Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Attn: SIB Ex Parte 670

Dear Chairman Nottingham:

On behalf of the more than 32,000 individual members in 48 states, 45 affiliated state organizations and hundreds of thousands of growers who contribute to state checkoff programs, it is my pleasure to nominate Daryl Haack for membership on the newly created Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC).

The National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) is a federation of state organizations, corn boards, councils and commissions that develop and implement policies and programs on a state and national level to create and increase opportunities for corn growers. NCGA is a producer-directed trade association headquartered in St. Louis, with a second office in Washington, D.C.

Daryl and his wife farm corn and soybeans in Primghar, Iowa. He serves on NCGA's Corn Board and he is the Corn Board liaison to the Ethanol Committee. He also served as the Ethanol Committee chairman in 2004-2005. On the state level, Daryl has eight years of experience on the Iowa Corn Promotion Board, serving as secretary, treasurer and chair. He has been actively involved in ethanol development, including working on growing markets for distillers dried grains. He has farmed for 40 years.

Daryl knows firsthand that agricultural products, particularly with respect to biofuels, have opportunities for expansion in new and growing markets. However, his experiences on the farm and during his tenure in a leadership role within NCGA have made him acutely aware that transportation constraints threaten the growth of the renewable fuels industry.

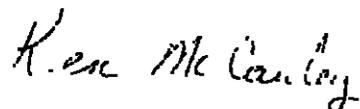
In 2007, production will surpass 7 billion gallons. Current production is nearly 6.5 billion gallons at 124 ethanol refineries with 76 plants under construction and 7 expansions underway, bringing an additional 6.5 billion gallons online within the next 18 to 24 months. The current infrastructure appears ill-equipped to handle the potential volume increases expected to be generated by the ethanol and biofuels sectors.

The strains on transportation may not be limited to only corn-based ethanol production. If in the next few years technology develops to make cellulose a viable feedstock for ethanol production, the logistical capacity required to gather and deliver cellulose to feed such plants could be massive.

NCGA appreciates the Surface Transportation Board's focus on emerging issues with regards to rail transportation of energy resources, including biofuels, and we fully support the creation of RETAC. Daryl would be an excellent resource on RETAC because he brings both the perspective of a biofuels feedstock producer as well as an advocate for improved rail performance, capacity and infrastructure development.

Corn gets from farm to fuel via this nation's railways. We must have a reliable infrastructure in place to move our products nationwide. Without adequate transportation, ethanol growth and alternative fuel expansion will be stunted. It is in our best interest to be actively engaged on these important issues and appreciate your consideration of Daryl Haack as a candidate to RETAC. Should you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Lisa Kelley in our Washington, DC office at 202-628-7001.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ken McCauley".

Ken McCauley
President