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KRAIG R. NAASZ
President & CEO

August 9, 2007

Mr. Scott M. Zimmerman
Acting Director
Office of Congressional & Public Services
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Attn: STB Ex Parte No. 670

Dear Mr. Zimmerman:

The National Mining Association (NMA) is writing to nominate three of our member company officials to serve on the Surface Transportation Board's (STB) Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee. NMA is a national trade association that includes the producers of most of the nation's coal, metals, industrial and agricultural minerals; the manufacturers of mining and mineral processing machinery, equipment and supplies; and engineering and consulting firms, financial institutions and others that serve the mining industry.

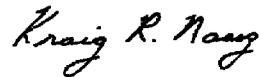
Rail transports 72 percent of the coal delivered to power plants. More than 1.1 billion tons of coal was produced last year, 80 percent of which was produced by NMA members with approximately 68 percent of that amount being transported for at least part of its journey by rail. In the Powder River Basin, 85 percent of all coal production is transported by rail. According to the Energy Information Administration at the U.S. Department of Energy, current projections estimate that by the year 2030 the United States will require 44 percent more electricity and 51 percent more coal. Coal already constitutes 44 percent of annual railroad revenue and 69 percent of their tonnage. Obviously coal is a critical element to America's energy transportation system and the mining industry welcomes the opportunity to provide advice to STB on this topic.

NMA offers three excellent nominees to serve the STB in this capacity. These nominees are John Eaves, president and Chief Operating Officer of Arch Coal, Inc.; Betsy Monseu, vice president of transportation for Foundation Energy Sales, Inc.; and Michael Rayphole, vice president of sales and transportation for Peabody COALSLES Company. Letters describing each of the nominees' qualifications and experience are attached for your consideration and review. Given coal's dominant role in the nation's energy production and rail transport, we hope that you will consider inviting all three of NMA's nominees to participate on the committee.

Mr. Scott Zimmerman
August 8, 2007
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Thank you in advance for consideration of our nominees. If you have any questions regarding these nominations, or if you need any additional information, please feel free to contact NMA Associate General Counsel Bradford V. Frisby at (202) 463-2643 or via e-mail at bfrisby@nma.org.

Sincerely yours,



Kraig R. Naasz
President & CEO

Other Submissions

In order to process your filing, please fill out the following information. If you do not know the docket number, please leave it blank and we will fill it out for you.

Please fill out the following information to help us complete your filing :

Docket #: EP -670 - -

Subject: * Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee Nominations
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Group/Affiliation: National Mining Association
Message: Please view the attachments for the nominations and cover letter. If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 246-2600