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City of Austin

Austin's Municipally Owned Electric Utility

Town Lake Center 721 Barton Springs Road • Austin, Texas 78704-1194 • (512) 322-9600

August 8, 2007

The Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Attn: STB Ex Parte No. 670
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

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Public Record



Re: Ex Parte No. 670, Establishment of the Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee

Dear Secretary Williams:

I am pleased to nominate and recommend Dan Kuehn of the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) to serve as a member of the Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC) to be established by the Surface Transportation Board (STB).

I welcome the establishment of this committee to advise the STB. The committee, which is to consist of a broad cross-section of rail industry, including rail service providers, producers, and consumers of energy products, will provide a needed forum to recommend policies and practices to promote the efficient transport of energy products by rail.

I believe that Dan Kuehn would be an excellent addition to the committee. Dan serves as Executive Manager, Wholesale Power Services, for LCRA. LCRA is the managing partner for the Fayette Power Project (FPP), which the City of Austin (d/b/a Austin Energy) is a 50% co-owner. I have worked with Dan for many years to assure cost effective, reliable fuel for this large power station. FPP provides more of Austin Energy's and LCRA's energy than any other power plant. Austin Energy and LCRA are ranked among the Nation's largest public power producers.

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LCRA and Austin Energy have as their central missions to provide their customers with reliable and affordable electric power. Most of this electric power is generated from fossil fuels with a large part derived from domestic coal transported long distances by rail. Reliable electric service, of course, requires dependable rail service to meet the fuel requirements of the Nation's electric generating stations.

Dan has been intimately involved in the procurement of reliable and cost-effective energy transportation services for LCRA and Austin Energy for many years and, given his knowledge and expertise of the issues to be considered by RETAC, would be an invaluable member of the committee. Also, Texas remains one of the largest consumers (and producers) of energy in the Nation, much of which is moved by rail, and Dan would do an excellent job in representing the interests of the energy consumers of the state, the region, and all public and non-public power providers. Also, Dan is well known and regarded in the industry, and he would help foster an open dialogue among energy producers, railroads, and consumers of energy resources.

I highly recommend Dan to be nominated to RETAC, and commend him to your favorable consideration.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. McCluskey", written in a cursive style.

Michael McCluskey, Senior Vice President
Wholesale & Retail Markets

MLM/dkt

***INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILING RETAC NOMINATION/
RECOMMENDATION LETTERS TO THE STB***

- Suggestions of candidates for membership on RETAC are due by August 9, 2007

- Filing may be done by regular U.S. Mail or electronically
 - If paper filings are filed by mail, the STB has requested that an original and 10 copies be filed, to be received by August 9, 2007, and addressed as follows:

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- E-filings may be made by pursuant to the instruction sat the E-FILING link on the STB's website, at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>