



**L I N C O L N   E L E C T R I C   S Y S T E M**

August 9, 2007

The Honorable Vernon A Williams, Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
Attn. STB Docket Ex Parte No 670  
395 E St , SW  
Washington, DC 2043-0001

220008

RE EP-670, Establishment of a Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Council

Dear Secretary Williams

On behalf of Lincoln Electric System (LES), I would like to nominate Shelley Sahling-Zart to serve as a member representative of a municipally-owned electric utility on the Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Council (RETAC) to be established by the Surface Transportation Board

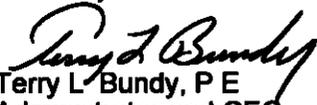
LES is a municipal electric utility serving the city of Lincoln, Nebraska, and the surrounding area. We have a diverse generation mix, including ownership or long-term participation interests in four coal-fired power plants. There is a direct connection between rail transportation of coal and electric reliability and, therefore, we commend your initiative to establish this advisory council

Ms Sahling-Zart currently serves as Vice President and Assistant Counsel at LES and has been employed with our utility at the executive level for the past 18 years. She has handled our federal legislative and regulatory activities throughout her career and has been very active in representing LES' interests on federal rail transportation issues

She has a broad knowledge of the utility industry and has been a strong advocate for electric utility interests. Ms Sahling-Zart has significant experience serving on national boards and committees. She currently serves on the Executive Committee of Consumers United for Rail Equity and recently served six years on the Board of Directors of the American Public Power Association (APPA), including one year on the APPA Executive Committee. She also previously served for several years on the Research Advisory Committee of the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI). She would be an excellent representative of municipally-owned electric utilities in helping to advise the Board regarding effective policies that ensure the efficient and reliable rail transportation of energy resources

I urge your favorable consideration of the nomination of Shelley Sahling-Zart

Sincerely,

  
Terry L Bundy, P E  
Administrator and CEO

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