

December 10, 2018

President Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As the leaders of American manufacturing, agriculture and energy industries and some of the nation's largest freight rail customers, we are writing to follow-up on our January 2018 letter regarding the urgent need to fully staff the Surface Transportation Board (STB). Thank you for your attention to our concerns and your subsequent nominations of Patrick Fuchs, Michelle Schultz, and Martin Oberman to serve on the STB.

As you know, a fully staffed STB is essential to achieving freight rail policy reforms that will streamline overly burdensome regulatory procedures and promote greater competition in the rail sector.

The STB has been without a functioning complement for almost two years and subsequently American workers and businesses—manufacturers, small businesses, farmers, and energy producers—continue to face increasing rail costs and a lack of competitive options as the STB is unable to act.

Unfortunately, due to unrelated issues, your well-qualified nominees have stalled in the United States Senate and are at risk of remaining unconfirmed at the end of the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress. To make matters worse, Vice Chairman Deb Miller's term and holdover year expires at the end of this year, which would leave the STB with only one of five Board Members.

Our primary concern is a functioning STB, which cannot happen without confirmation of your three pending nominees. Getting the STB on track will help your Administration maintain the current economic successes and continue to create jobs and grow the economy for all Americans.

Therefore, we write to respectfully request that you reach out to Senate leadership to underscore the importance of a functioning STB and encourage the confirmation of your STB nominees, which have already won bi-partisan approval, in the remaining weeks of the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress. We also request that you re-nominate, as soon as possible, Vice Chairman Miller to serve a second term on the board.

Thank you for your prompt and immediate attention to this matter. We look forward to continuing to work with your Administration on policies that support growth across the entire U.S. economy.

Sincerely,

Erin N. Kane  
President and CEO  
Advansix

Daren Coppock  
President & CEO  
Agricultural Retailers Association

Spencer Vance  
President, North America  
Albaugh LLC

Mitch Bainwol  
President & CEO  
Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers

Cal Dooley  
President and CEO  
American Chemistry Council

Donna Harman  
President and CEO  
American Forest & Paper Association

Chet Thompson  
President and CEO  
American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers

Michael P. Davis  
President  
American Malting Barley Association

Mike Sommers  
President and CEO  
American Petroleum Institute

Richard Rowe  
President and CEO  
Arkema

Mark Nikolich  
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Braskem Americas

Sean Keohane  
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Cabot Corporation

Stevan R. Schott  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Calgon Carbon Corporation

Yves Willems  
Chief Executive Officer  
Carmeuse Lime & Stone

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Chemical Industry Council of Delaware

Dennis Hart  
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Chemistry Council of New Jersey

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President and CEO  
Chemours

Mark E. Lashier  
President and CEO  
Chevron Phillips Chemical Company

Frank Reiner  
President  
The Chlorine Institute

Kirk Milling  
President & CEO  
Ciner Resources

John W. Bode  
President and CEO  
Corn Refiners Association

Herman J. Haksteen  
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Cryo-Trans, Inc.

Jim Fitterling  
Chief Executive Officer  
The Dow Chemical Company

Gregg Jones  
President  
EP Minerals

John Rolando  
President  
Evonik Corporation

Chris Jahn  
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The Fertilizer Institute

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Robert Collette  
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International Paper

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Senior Vice President, Operations  
Kuehne Company

W. Paul Delp  
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Lansdale Warehouse Company

Antonis Papdourakis  
President and CEO  
LANXESS Corporation

Ron Thompson  
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North American Millers' Association

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Chuck Conner  
President and CEO  
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives

Randy Gordon  
President and CEO  
National Grain and Feed Association

Mark Ellis  
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National Industrial Sand Association

Jennifer Hedrick  
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National Industrial Transportation League

Tom Hammer  
President and CEO  
National Oilseed Processors Association

Carol Freysinger  
Executive Director  
National Pasta Association

Margaret Gorman  
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North Carolina Manufacturers Alliance

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