



2017 JAN 31 AM 11:19

OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN

242580

January 13, 2017

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
January 31, 2017
Part of
Public Record

Honorable Daniel R. Elliott III, Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

Re: Docket No. EP 526 (Sub-No. 8), Notice of Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council

Dear Chairman Elliott:

The Shelf-Stable Food Processors Association¹ would like to support the nomination of Kevin Murray, Vice President Supply Chain of Red Gold, Inc. Red Gold has three manufacturing facilities in Central Indiana each served by on-site rail.

Red Gold is America's largest family owned canned tomato processor making canned tomatoes, ketchup, salsa, juices, sauces and other tomato-based products for retail, foodservice, private brand, and club channels of distribution within the United States and exports to 16 countries. Kevin's supply chain responsibilities include managing transportation logistics, rail, intermodal and over-the road. Efficient rail service is imperative for the food industry.

Kevin serves on the Logistics Council of Conexus Indiana where he chairs the Workforce Development Initiative to promote jobs and education throughout the State of Indiana. He has 25 years of operational and supply chain leadership experience within the United States food industry, as well as in Canada. Prior to Red Gold, Kevin held senior level positions at George Weston Limited.

We believe Kevin's experience managing rail and logistics challenges for the food industry, especially regarding small shippers, qualifies him to provide valuable input as a member of the Surface Transportation Board and to Congress regarding rail transportation policy issues.

Thank you for your consideration of this nomination.

Sincerely,

Susan L. Backus
Executive Secretary

¹ The Shelf-Stable Food Processors Association (SFPA) is the trade association serving the shelf-stable prepared food industry. SFPA represents the interests of shelf-stable food processors and their suppliers on issues affecting the industry. Members include companies of all sizes, from regional processors to large multi-plant operations. Originally founded as the National Meat Canners Association in 1923, the new name was adopted to more accurately reflect the wide variety of shelf-stable food products produced by its members and the international scope of their businesses.