

January 19, 2018

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United States Surface Transportation Board
Attn: Docket No. EP 526 (Sub-No. 10)
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

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Dear Acting Chairman Begeman and Commissioner Miller:

The National Association of Chemical Distributors (NACD) nominates, Mathew Brainerd for the Surface Transportation Board's Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council (RSTAC).

Mr. Brainerd is a second-generation CEO of Brainerd Chemical and owner of Oklahoma's largest independent chemical distributor, having become CEO of Brainerd Chemical upon his father's retirement in 1979. Under Mat Brainerd's leadership, Brainerd Chemical has grown from a true mom-and-pop company to a large regional distributor and manufacturer of both commodity and specialty chemicals used in 40 states and several foreign countries. The family business has always been headquartered in Tulsa.

NACD believes Mat Brainerd is the perfect candidate for filling a role on the RSTAC due to his knowledge of rail's unique and challenging issues as well as its critical influence on business. Brainerd Chemical operates three rail terminals with throughput of 1,000 rail cars per year. The traffic handled by Brainerd Chemical is almost exclusively hazardous material. Mat has personal experience using the services of more than half of the Class I railroads as well as some Class II services. Mat understands the need for railroads and industry to work together for the common cause of U.S. GDP. He is an acknowledged expert on both domestic and international chemical issues. And as past chairman of NACD, he understands not only the role of the industry-sponsored Responsible Distribution program but also the need for safely transporting hazardous goods across the U.S.

In addition to his volunteer work in the chemical industry, Mat is committed to a number of other organizations, including The Founders Club, Boy Scouts of America, and Tulsa County Local Emergency Planning Committee, and is one of eighteen owners of the Chemical Distribution Network. Mat and his wife, Kathy, are active members of the Church of St. Mary in Tulsa and have two grown children and two children still at home who attend schools in Tulsa. His commitment to his family, business, and his community is a great representation of his will to serve. Mat Brainerd is willing to serve as a member effective immediately upon appointment.

Sincerely,



Eric R. Byer
President
NACD