September 14, 2017

Via email carpenter.thomas@epa.gov
Thomas Carpenter
Designated Federal Officer
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Letter of Support for the Nomination of Dr. Michael Honeycutt to EPA’s Chartered Science Advisory Board

Dear Mr. Carpenter:

This letter is an expression of joint support by the Texas Pipeline Association (“TPA”) and the GPA Midstream Association (“GPA Midstream”) for the nomination of Dr. Michael Honeycutt to be a member of the EPA’s Chartered Science Advisory Board (“SAB”).

TPA is the largest and only state trade association in the country representing solely the interests of the intrastate pipeline network. Its approximately 50 member companies gather, process, treat, and transport natural gas and hazardous liquids materials through intrastate pipelines in Texas. GPA Midstream is composed of close to 100 corporate members of all sizes operating all over the United States that are engaged in the gathering and processing of natural gas into merchantable pipeline gas, commonly referred to in the industry as “midstream activities.”

As the Chief Toxicologist of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (“TCEQ”), our member companies have first-hand experience in working with Dr. Honeycutt. Over the years our member companies have gained an admiration and respect for the breadth of his knowledge of ambient air monitoring and health effects impacts both in terms of long-term and short-term exposure levels. We have worked with him on regional air quality issues, such as challenges presented by the impacts from emissions due to the production of oil and gas in the Barnett Shale Region (a heavily populated area) and the potential health benefit of a lower ozone NAAQS. In addition, many of our member companies have worked with Dr. Honeycutt and his office to determine the health impacts from individual air quality permits.
Currently, he is playing a critical role in advising the public, the state of Texas decision-makers and working with EPA to determine the impacts of air emissions in the Houston area due to Hurricane Harvey. As with all matters, Dr. Honeycutt continues to demonstrate that he is a highly qualified scientist who exercises sound judgment.

In addition, Dr. Honeycutt’s years of service as chief toxicologist for the TCEQ have provided him with broad experience with the scientific and regulatory issues affecting the energy industry. Such experience would allow Dr. Honeycutt to provide a valuable voice on the SAB, particularly in light of the President’s emphasis on enhancing domestic energy production. Dr. Honeycutt’s extensive experience in Texas gives him great insight on environmental issues generally, and in particular, on environmental issues that arise in the energy industry.

We are confident that Dr. Honeycutt’s demonstrated expertise and balanced judgment, combined with his commitment to applying a rigorous scientific approach to environmental issues, make him a uniquely qualified candidate for service on the SAB. We enthusiastically support his nomination.

Yours truly,

\[Signature\]

Thure Cannon
President
Texas Pipeline Association

\[Signature\]

Mark Sutton
President
GPA Midstream Association