



Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

Memorandum

To: Board Members

From: Kara Wenzel, Acting General Counsel *KW*

Cc: Thomas Zoeller, Senior Advisor

Subject: Board Action Report – Notation Item 2018-51a

Date: June 12, 2018

On June 11, 2018, the Board approved Notation Item 2018-51a, thereby voting to select Member Kristen Kulinowski as the Board Member delegated interim executive and administrative authorities, which will come into effect immediately upon the departure from office of Chairperson Sutherland, and shall remain in effect until such time as a Chairperson is nominated by the President, confirmed by the Senate, and commissioned by the President, or until a majority of the Board votes to amend this delegation.

Voting Summary – Notation Item 2018-51a

Disposition: APPROVED

Disposition date: June 11, 2018

	Approve	Disapprove	Calendar	Not Participating	Date
M. Ehrlich				X	6/11/2018
R. Engler	X				6/05/2018
K. Kulinowski	X				6/05/2018
V. Sutherland	X				6/11/2018

Statement of Chairperson Vanessa Allen Sutherland:

“Attached is my vote for the notation item to select an interim executive for the Chemical Safety Board. Based on my conversations with each board member and based on the memo provided by one board member to the others prior to the vote closing regarding the future of the agency, I cast this vote with the best interest of the agency at heart. Given that all board members were nominated by a president of the United States and confirmed by the Senate, following years of various professional experiences, the agency has leadership capable of overseeing the successful activities of the CSB. While there has been some external doomsday speculation about the future of the agency in the absence of a Chairperson, the agency has weathered such a fate more than once in the past.

I have the utmost faith that my fellow board members believe that they also have the best interest of the agency at heart, and therefore that they will act in ways to improve the agency's operations and reputation. In the absence of a newly confirmed Chairperson, the agency will progress as it always has. The remaining board members will decide what the agency needs going forward, and they each have complementary attributes to support the agency. Member Ehrlich brings many years of technical and supervisory experience to bear and is currently the longest serving member. Member Engler brings several ideas about how to enhance the scope and purview of the CSB in driving chemical safety change, and Member Kulinowski brings years of academic, research and cross-functional team perspective to bear, with the longest remaining board term.”