

UIC_MPC Comments

From: steveschlickman@gmail.com on behalf of Steve Schlickman
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Sent: Monday, January 30, 2012 11:39 AM
To: Holly Ostdick
Cc: Peter Skosey; Randy Blankenhorn
Subject: Comments for the CMAQ Process Review by the Coordinating
Committee

I hope this is not too late to consider. Sorry for missing the deadline but I was coordinating with Peter Skosey at MPC on a joint coment. Here it is:

Northeastern Illinois has the second highest backlog of CMAQ projects in the nation and faces the loss of millions in federal funding as a result. Clearly the process for allocating and spending CMAQ dollars is broken. CMAP staff has stated that the CMAQ committee has not been able to resolve this dilemma. Furthermore, the Transportation Committee has been unable to address the matter over the three years that it has been an issue. Our sense is the CMAQ Committee membership is primarily made up of CMAQ recipients who are hard pressed to make procedural changes that might take funding away from one of them and give it to another. Similarly, the Transportation Committee has a large number of CMAQ recipients as well and is too large to hash out the details of a process correction. We would encourage CMAP staff to put their own recommendation on the table. After the Coordinating Committee provides input, we strongly urge staff to return to the Transportation Committee with a specific recommendation for a change to the process. If the recommendation is not sufficiently specific the Transportation Committee should appoint a task force comprised of a majority of non-CMAQ recipients to develop a recommendation for fixing the process. Input from all CMAQ recipients who wish to express their opinion and concerns should be heard by that task force.

Sincerely,

Steve Schlickman UIC UTC
Peter Skosey MPC
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Steve

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