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NE Illinois Regional Water Supply Planning Pilot

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Subject: Scope for the Northeastern Illinois Pilot
Prepared for: Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)

UNDERSTANDING OF THE ASSIGNMENT

This preliminary, draft scope is for the regional planning component of the first year of the initial three years for the coordination, educational/informational outreach and scientific and engineering support to implement the requirements of Executive Order 2006-01 to develop a comprehensive regional water-supply plan for the northeastern Illinois region. The goal is to build consensus as to a plan of action for providing adequate supplies of clean water at reasonable cost to meet the needs of a growing population and economy and to protect the environment. The end result will be a regional surface and groundwater resource plan that incorporates local needs, planning for growth and development, and the use of scientific studies being undertaken by the Illinois State Water and Geological Surveys. This regional planning process will be a grass-roots effort through which local representatives will develop strategies to meet water supply needs over a 30 year period. Shaping management strategies and potentially changes in policy through public participation will be the emphasis of this planning process.

We understand that opportunities for modifying the plan will be the focus of future efforts as additional research needs are identified or new information becomes available. Several municipalities and counties in the region have already made considerable progress towards developing a solid scientific basis for water supply planning. Their local efforts can be incorporated into a regional focus and their leadership can help jumpstart the larger regional effort.

It is understood that the IDNR Office of Water Resources (OWR) will provide project management and coordination between IDNR, the Surveys and other State Agencies and interest groups, and assistance to local interests in the formation and management of the Northeastern Illinois Regional Water Supply Planning Group (RWSPG). We understand that the RWSPG will not have regulatory authority.

The overall planning process will include the following seven major components with different entities responsible:

- 1). Local Public Participation & Consensus Building (CMAP & RWSPG)
- 2). Education/Communication (CMAP & RWSPG)
- 3). Water Demand Projections (CMAP)

- 4). Analysis of Currently Available Supplies (State Water Survey)
- 5). Comparison of Current Supplies to Projected Demand (State Water Survey)
- 6). Modeling and Analysis of Economic and Social Impacts (CMAP)
- 7). Evaluation and Selection of Water Management Strategies (CMAP & RWSPG)

In the short and long term, we understand that the state will be:

- Developing a framework for the state plan and standards for the regional plans.
- Analyzing the base data that identify water resources, estimating statewide water withdrawal rates, mapping aquifer recharge areas, continuing to make water quality observations, developing and distributing geological maps, estimating stream low flows, collecting climate data, and conducting on-going studies as necessary.
- Gathering the results of studies of the water resources, both surface and ground water, and ensuring the data are compatible and available to end users.
- Providing project management to oversee the work done at the regional and local level.
- Estimating, for streams used for potable water, the minimum in-stream flows necessary to maintain water quality and avoid permanent damage to aquatic life.
- Taking the lead on determining water availability, then comparing predicted water demands prepared by CMAP and the region and analyzing where predicted surplus or shortages will be.
- Making data available to the public on a web page.
- The final approving authority for the plan, although the RWSPG will be charged with forming consensus on the regional plan as well as proposing recommendations for management strategies at the county and local levels.

SCOPE OF SERVICES:

Task 1 – Leading, Convening, Facilitating, and Supporting the Regional Water Supply Planning Group: CMAP will be responsible for leading, convening, facilitating and supporting a Northeastern Illinois Regional Water Supply Planning Group (RWSPG) to begin with a public launch forum in late September or early October, 2006 and a first meeting of the RWSPG in mid-October, 2006. The RWSPG will be an independent body responsible for water resource policy recommendations within the 11 county planning region of the northeastern Illinois Deep Bedrock Aquifer. The 11 counties within the scope of the project include: Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, Will, Boone, DeKalb, Kendall, Grundy, and Kankakee. CMAP staff will also provide technical expertise to the RWSPG. Representation on the RWSPG will also include public, private, conservation, civic and business interests. Additionally, CMAP will assist the RWSPG with setting up its governance, structure and other support in the form of resources and technical assistance as needed and in consultation with the Agencies including facilitation of RWSPG first phase water resource management plan.

Task 2 – Estimate Projected Water Demand: CMAP, in cooperation with local government and agencies will be responsible for estimating water demand for the 30 year planning horizon based on a needs assessment to be prepared by CMAP. This task will be phased over the three year scope of the project. The needs assessment will include a summary description of the region with exhibits including current water uses, surface and groundwater sources, water supplies, agricultural and natural resources, recreational water use and other pertinent local water information will be completed. Data for this summary description will be compiled from existing sources. In Years 2 and 3 this task may include modeling growth scenarios with potential policy driven conservation levels to determine future demand. CMAP’s interactive decision support tools will be used to test the effectiveness and efficiency of management strategies once they are developed. This will include analyzing the economic and social impacts of not meeting water needs for the region. The format for the demand analysis may vary across the region and will be determined by IDNR in consultation with CMAP. Consultants will be used for this task.

Task 3 – Communication, Visualization and Educational Outreach:

CMAP will direct, coordinate and carryout communication and educational outreach activities including public meetings and materials describing the initiative to the public to garner a broad base of support for the plan. This task includes visualization materials for the September 2006 launch and may include presenters on Best Examples from a national perspective. This task includes preparation and maintenance of a web presence at CMAP for the process communication component with links to SWS data support web pages. This task also includes, in Year 3, submittal of a written document to IDNR describing the planning process to be incorporated in the final plan.

Task 4 – Fiscal Agent and Project Management: CMAP will act as the fiscal agent and the project manager. CMAP expects to have a memorandum of understanding between CMAP, IDNR and the RWSPG that CMAP will be the fiscal agent for the water supply planning initiative in the region. The costs for this task are incorporated into Tasks 1-3.

<u>ESTIMATE OF COSTS:</u>	<u>YR. 1</u>	<u>YR.2</u>	<u>YR.3</u>
<u>Task 1</u>			
<u>Leading, Convening, Facilitating & Supporting the RWSPG:</u>	\$ 100,000	\$ 110,000	\$ 110,000
<u>Task 2</u>			
<u>Estimate Projected Water Demand:</u>	\$ 165,000	\$ 285,000	\$ 245,000
<u>Task 3</u>			
<u>Communication, Visualization & Educational Outreach:</u>	\$ 35,000	\$ 45,000	\$ 45,000
Total Amount Requested	\$ 300,000	\$ 440,000	\$ 400,000