

Appendix A: Official Actions and Compliance.

NIRPC Board Resolutions: 1) Adopting the Conformity Determination, 2) Adopting Amendment #2 to the Long Range Plan, and 3) Adopting the 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Planning Self-Certification.



NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Together We Make The Difference

6100 Southport Road, Portage, Indiana 46368

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On the Internet www.nirpc.org
E-mail Messages nirpc@nirpc.org

RESOLUTION 13-15

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION MAKING THE AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY DETERMINATION FOR THE AMENDED 2040 COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL PLAN AND FISCAL YEAR 2014 to 2017 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM WITH RESPECT TO OZONE AND FINE PARTICLES

August 29, 2013

WHEREAS, the citizens of Northwest Indiana require a safe, efficient and effective regional transportation system that maintains and enhances regional mobility and contributes to improving the quality of life in northwest Indiana; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 has established National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone and fine particles; and

WHEREAS, Lake and Porter Counties have been designated as a non-attainment area with respect to the "8-hour" standard for ozone and Lake and Porter Counties have been designated as a maintenance area of the 1997 annual standard for fine particles, and

WHEREAS, The Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 requires that the 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan and the FY 2014 to 2017 Transportation Improvement Program conform to the State Implementation Plan for Air Quality by causing the Summer day emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds and Nitrogen Oxides from highway mobile sources to be below the Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets in the State Implementation Plan for the ozone non-attainment area and by causing annual direct emissions of PM_{2.5} and annual PM_{2.5} precursor emissions of Nitrogen Oxides from highway mobile sources in Lake and Porter Counties to be at or below the Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets in the State Implementation Plans for the PM_{2.5} maintenance area; and

WHEREAS, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, hereafter referred to as "The Commission", being designated the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Lake, Porter and La Porte County Region, has established a regional, cooperative and comprehensive planning program to develop the unified planning work program, long-range transportation plan and transportation improvement program; to annually endorse the plans and programs; to facilitate federal transportation funding for the Indiana Department of Transportation, regional communities and transit operators, and to provide technical assistance and expertise to regional transportation interests; and

WHEREAS, the Commission performs the above mentioned activities to satisfy regional requirements under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act of 2012 (MAP-21), as well as other federal, state and local legislation mandating cooperative, comprehensive and continuing regional transportation planning activities; and

WHEREAS, the 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan and Fiscal Year 2014 to 2014 Transportation Improvement Program are the products of a multi-modal, continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of the projects in the 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan and Transportation Improvement Program will result in Summer day highway mobile source emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds and Nitrogen Oxides in 2015, 2020, 2025, 2030, and 2040 that will be below the motor vehicle emissions budgets in the State Implementation Plans for the ozone non-attainment area and will result in annual highway mobile source emissions of direct PM_{2.5} and Nitrogen Oxides in 2015, 2020, 2025, 2030, and 2040 that will be no greater than the motor vehicle emission budgets in the PM_{2.5} maintenance area; and


WHEREAS, the Commission has solicited public comment on the draft Air Quality Conformity Determination;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Commission officially makes the Air Quality Conformity Determination for the 2040 Comprehensive Regional Transportation Plan and Fiscal Year 2014 to 2017 Transportation Improvement Program with respect to ozone and fine particles, contingent upon the receipt of an opinion by the Commission's Attorney that the Commission is in substantial compliance with the notification requirements of the Consent Decree.

Duly adopted by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission this twenty-ninth day of August 2013.


David Uran
Chairman

ATTEST:


James G. Ton
Secretary



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RESOLUTION 13-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION ADOPTING THE AMENDED 2040 COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL PLAN FOR NORTHWESTERN INDIANA

August 29, 2013

WHEREAS, Northwest Indiana's citizens require a safe, efficient, effective, resource-conserving regional transportation system that maintains and enhances regional mobility and contributes to improving the quality of life in Northwest Indiana; and

WHEREAS, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, hereafter referred to as "the Commission", being designated the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Lake, Porter and LaPorte County area, has established a regional, comprehensive, cooperative and continuing (3-C) transportation planning process to develop the unified planning work program, a transportation plan, and a transportation improvement program to facilitate federal funding for communities, counties; and transit operators, and to provide technical assistance and expertise to regional transportation interests; and

WHEREAS, the Commission performs the above activities to satisfy regional requirements under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act of 2012 (MAP-21), as well as other federal, state and local laws mandating 3-C transportation planning activities; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Regional Plan is a product of a multi-modal, 3-C transportation planning process that was developed in an open and participatory manner, including extensive participation involving numerous people, with specific efforts made to engage low-income and minority populations; and

WHEREAS, the 2040 Comprehensive regional Plan provides a framework for how the three-county region can develop in the next generation, and is a tool to guide our actions and to direct our resources to achieve our vision of a vibrant, revitalized, accessible, and united region; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has analyzed the benefits and burdens of the implementation of transportation expansion projects in the 2040 Comprehensive

Regional Plan and has found that there are no unfair burdens, nor unfair lack of benefits for low-income and minority populations; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has solicited public comment on the proposed amendment; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has found it necessary to make technical corrections to the Plan, as described on the attachment.

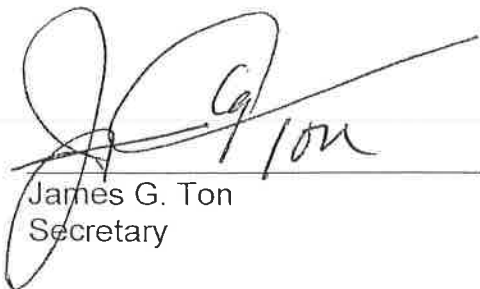
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission hereby adopts this Amendment #2 to the Comprehensive Regional Plan pending completion of the public comment period contingent upon the receipt of an opinion by the Commission's Attorney that the Commission is in substantial compliance with the notification requirements of the Consent Decree.

Duly adopted by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission this twenty-ninth day of August 2013.



David Uran
Chairman

ATTEST:



James G. Ton
Secretary

July 9, 2013

Beginning today, Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) is seeking public comments on Amendment #2 to its Comprehensive Regional Plan.

This amendment makes several changes, primarily technical in nature, to the listing of capacity-increasing projects published on page II-28 of the Plan. These changes are described in the following portion of this notice.

**1. Change in Transportation Network Horizon (Emissions Analysis) Years and
2. Changes in Implementation Schedules of Certain Projects**

The grouping of projects shown below consists of projects already listed in the transportation plan and Conformity Determination--but with a different horizon year. The new Conformity Determination and the July 2013 transportation plan amendment changes the horizon (emissions analysis) years from that represented in the 2011 transportation plan and 2011 Conformity Determination (2016, 2020, 2030, and 2040) and replaces them with 2015, new horizon years 2020, 2025, 2030, and 2040.

Additionally, we have asked the implementing project sponsors for updated construction time tables. That new information is also reflected here.

CD Project ID	LPA	Road	Location	Improvement Type	July 2013 Conformity Determination	Description of Change
241	Cedar Lake	133rd Ave	Industrial Drive to US 41	Added Center Turn Lane	2020 Network	Horizon Year Changed from 2016
38a	Gary	Buffington Harbor Access Rd (2A-3)	SR 912 to Casinos	Added Travel Lanes	2020 Network	Horizon Year Changed from 2016
226	Hobart	61st Ave	Colorado St to SR 51	Added Center Turn Lane	2020 Network	Horizon Year Changed from 2016
121	INDOT	SR 2	0.5 miles east of I-65 to 0.5 miles west of I-65	Added Travel Lanes	2015 Network	Horizon Year Changed from 2016
29	INDOT	SR 49	0.5 miles S of Porter CR 400N to 0.5 miles N of Porter CR 400N	New Principal Arterial Highway Interchange	2015 Network	Horizon Year Changed from 2016
235	Lake County	45th Ave	Colfax St to Cleveland St	Added Center Turn Lane	2020 Network	Horizon Year Changed from 2016
105	Merrillville	Mississippi St	US 30 to 101st Ave	Added Travel Lanes	2020 Network	Horizon Year Changed from 2016
86	Munster	Main St	Burnham Ave (IL) to Columbia Ave	New Minor Arterial St (4 lanes)	2025 Network	Horizon Year Changed from 2016
217	Munster	45th Ave	at Calumet Ave	Intersection Realignment	2020 Network	Horizon Year Changed from 2016
214	Valparaiso	Vale Park Rd East	Calumet Ave to Silhavy Rd	Added Travel Lanes	2020 Network	Horizon Year Changed from 2016

Continued from Page 1

CD Project ID	LPA	Road	Location	Improvement Type	July 2013 Conformity Determination	Description of Change
96a	Schererville	Kennedy Ave	Junction St to US 30	Added Travel Lanes	2020 Network	Horizon Year Changed from 2016
96b	Schererville	Kennedy Ave	Oak St to Junction St	Added Travel Lanes	2025 Network	Horizon Year Changed from 2020

3. LaPorte County Projects Removed from the Conformity Determination

The following projects are located in LaPorte County. LaPorte County was found to be in attainment of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) in 2012. For this reason all LaPorte County projects have been removed from the Conformity Determination but remain in the plan.

CD Project ID	LPA	Road	Location	Improvement Type	July 2013 Conformity Determination	Description of Change
85	INDOT	US 421	N JCT SR 2 to S JCT SR 2	Added Travel Lanes	DELETED	LaPorte County Project Deleted
233	INDOT	US 20	Woodland Ave to Johnson Rd	Added Center Turn Lane	DELETED	LaPorte County Project Deleted
88	Michigan City	Springland Ave	Karwick Rd to Royal Rd	New Collector Rd (2 lanes)	DELETED	LaPorte County Project Deleted
238	LaPorte (City)	Economic Development Corridor (NE)	SR 39 to SR 2	New Collector St (2 lanes)	DELETED	LaPorte County Project Deleted
115	LaPorte (City)	Boyd Blvd	US 35 to SR 2	Added Travel Lanes	DELETED	LaPorte County Project Deleted

4. Projects Removed from the Plan and Conformity Determination--Other Reasons

As noted on page 2 of the draft Conformity Determination, in the Conformity Consultation call of April 29, 2013, INDOT EPA, IDEM, FHWA, and NIRPC reached consensus that the Cline Avenue (SR 912) Bridge replacement project would be eliminated from the Conformity Determination because there had been no information received regarding an open to traffic date, design scope, and/or tolling information. The replacement project will need to be reconsidered for inclusion when this information is available.

CD Project ID	LPA	Road	Location	Improvement Type	July 2013 Conformity Determination	Description of Change
234	INDOT	SR 912	Dickey Rd to Riley Rd	One of Two Identified Options	DELETED	Removed per 04/29/13 consultation.

5. New Projects Added to the Plan and Conformity Determination

The transportation plan amendment adds the following project to both the transportation plan and the Conformity Determination.						
CD Project ID	LPA	Road	Location	Improvement Type	July 2013 Conformity Determination	Description of Change
243	Porter (Town)	SR 49	Oak Hill Rd to NICTD Bridge	Travel Lane Elimination	2015 Network	New Project Added

6. No Changes

The following projects remain unchanged in both the amended transportation plan and conformity determination.						
CD Project ID	LPA	Road	Location	Improvement Type	July 2013 Conformity Determination	Description of Change
38b	Gary	Buffington Harbor Access Rd 3	SR 912 to Casinos	Added Travel Lanes	2020 Network	No Change
214	Merrillville	101st Ave	SR 53 to Mississippi St	Added Travel Lanes	2025 Network	No Change
240	Hammond	Gostlin/Sheffield/Chicago Ave	IL Line to US 41	Added Travel Lanes	2020 Network	No Change
237	Porter County	Willowcreek Rd	Porter CR 700 N to US 30	New Minor Arterial St (4 lanes)	2030 Network	No Change
239	Valparaiso	Division Rd	US 30 to SR 2	Added Travel Lanes	2040 Network	No Change



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RESOLUTION 13-17

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014-2017 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

August 29, 2013

WHEREAS, Northwest Indiana's citizens require a safe, efficient, effective, resource-conserving regional transportation system that maintains and enhances regional mobility and contributes to improving to the quality of life in Northwest Indiana; and

WHEREAS, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, hereafter referred to as "the Commission", being designated the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Lake, Porter and LaPorte County area, has established a regional, comprehensive, cooperative and continuing (3-C) transportation planning process to develop the unified planning work program, a transportation plan, and a transportation improvement program to facilitate federal funding for communities, counties, and transit operators, and to provide technical assistance and expertise to regional transportation interests; and

WHEREAS, the Commission performs the above activities to satisfy regional requirements under the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1962 as amended, the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1978 as amended, the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964 as amended, the Rail Reorganization Act of 1973, the 1970 Clean Air Act as amended, the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (1998), and the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), and the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act of 2012 (MAP-21), as well as other federal, state and local laws mandating 3-C transportation planning activities; and

WHEREAS, the FYI 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program is a product of a multi-modal, 3-C transportation planning process, compatible with regional goals and objectives and socio-economic and demographic factors used to form the 2040 Comprehensive regional Plan (CRP), as amended; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program is an implementation of the 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan, is fiscally constrained and has been determined to conform to the State Implementation Plan for Air Quality; and

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Year 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program is developed by the commission in coordination and cooperation with local elected and appointed highway and transit officials, special interest and service organizations, including users of public transit, the Indiana Department of Transportation, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has solicited public comment on the draft Transportation Improvement Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission hereby adopts the Fiscal Year 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program, contingent upon the receipt of an opinion by the Commission's Attorney that the Commission is in substantial compliance with the notification requirements of the Consent Decree.

Duly adopted by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission this twenty-ninth day of August 2013.



David Uran
Chairman

ATTEST:


James G. Ton
Secretary

METROPOLITAN PLANNING PROCESS CERTIFICATION

In accordance with 23 CFR 450.334, the Indiana Department of Transportation and the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Indiana portions of the Chicago, IL/IN and Michigan City/LaPorte, IN/MI Urbanized Areas, hereby certify that the transportation planning process is addressing the major issues in the metropolitan planning area and is being conducted in accordance with all applicable requirements of:

1. 23 U.S.C. 134, 49 U.S.C. 5303; and 23 CFR Part 450.300;
2. Section 174 and 176 c and d of the Clean Air Act, as amended [42 U.S.C. 7504, 7506 c and d] of 40 CFR Part 93;
3. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000d-I) and CFR Part 21;
4. 49 U.S.C. 5332, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity;
5. Section 1101(b) of the SAFETEA-LU (P.L. 109-59) and 49 CFR Part 26 regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in U.S. DOT-funded projects;
6. 23 CFR Part 230, regarding the implementation of an equal employment opportunity program on Federal and Federal-aid highway construction contracts;
7. The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101, *et seq.*) and 49 CFR Parts 27, 37, and 38;
8. The Older Americans Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;
9. Section 324 of Title 23 U.S.C. regarding the prohibition of discrimination based on gender; and
10. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and 49 CFR Part 27 regarding discrimination against individuals with disabilities.

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission
Metropolitan Planning Organization

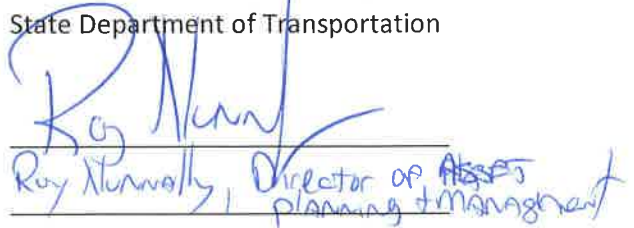


Tyson Warner, Executive Director
Certifying Official

9/11/13

Date

Indiana Department of Transportation
State Department of Transportation



Roy Nunally, Director of Assets
Planning & Management

Certifying Official

9/12/13

Date



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Driving Indiana's Economic Growth

100 North Senate Avenue
Room N955
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

PHONE: (317) 232-5476
FAX: (317) 233-0958

Michael R. Pence, Governor
Karl B. Browning, Commissioner

September 12, 2013

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission
Ty Warner, Executive Director
6100 Southport Road
Portage, IN 46368-6409

Dear Mr. Warner:

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has completed its review of the FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program for The Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC MPO). State and locally initiated transportation projects were reviewed for accuracy and compliance under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21)

It is my pleasure to inform you that on behalf of Governor Michael R. Pence, I approve your FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program. This document will serve as support for the local and INDOT projects in your area that fall within the FY 2014-2017 timeline and will be included by reference in the FY 2014-2017 Indiana Statewide Improvement Program (STIP). However, projects not shown by reference will be amended into the STIP upon request.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact Roy Nunnally at 317-234-1692.

Sincerely,


Karl B. Browning
Commissioner
Indiana Department of Transportation

MBC/IAH/jh

cc: Jay Wasson
Roy Nunnally
Jay Dumontelle
Joyce Newland
Jeanette Wilson
Todd Johnson
Robert Alderman
File

September 24, 2013
 Federal Highway Administration
 Attention: Ms. Joyce Newland
 575 N. Pennsylvania Street, Room 254
 Indianapolis, IN 46204

SUBJECT: 2014-2017 Amendment 14-06
 Dear Mr. Marquis:
 INDOT is requesting the projects listed be amended into the FY 2014-FY 2017 STIP.
 If you have any questions, please contact me.

TOTAL

Sincerely,

 April Schermer, Manager
 SPMS/STIP

Sponsor	DES	Route	Work Type	Location	County	District	Miles	Federal Category	Asset Program - (State Projects Only)	Phase	Federal	Match	2014	2015	2016	2017	Estimated Cost Left to Complete Project	Remarks	MPO
Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC)				NIRPC MPO	Lake, LaPorte and Porter	LaPorte												Incorporate 2014-2017 NIRPC TIP into the 2014-2017 STIP	NIRPC



U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Highway
Administration

Indiana Division

September 25, 2013

575 N. Pennsylvania St, Room 254
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-226-7475
317-226-7341

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-IN

Mr. Troy Woodruff
Deputy Commissioner
Planning and Project Management
100 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Mr. Woodruff:

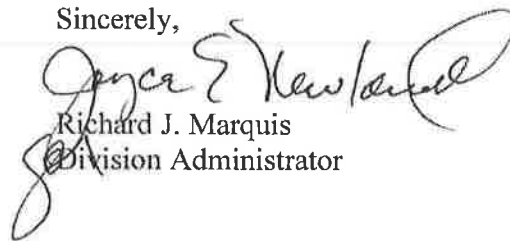
We have completed our review of Amendment #14-06 to the FY 2014-2017 Indiana Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) as transmitted by INDOT in a letter dated via e-mail September 24, 2013. The amendment is for:

- Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program.

We have received the Governor's approval letter and approve FY 2014- FY 2017 TIP for inclusion into the STIP.

Should you have any questions regarding this approval please contact Joyce Newland, Planning Program Manager, at (317) 226-5353 or e-mail at joyce.newland@dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Marquis
Division Administrator

Attachment
cc: transmitted by e-mail
Jeanette Wilson, INDOT



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Indiana Division
September 25, 2013

575 N. Pennsylvania Street, Room 254
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-226-7344

In Reply Refer To:
HAD-IN

Mr. Troy Woodruff
Deputy Commissioner
Planning and Project Management
Indiana Department of Transportation
100 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

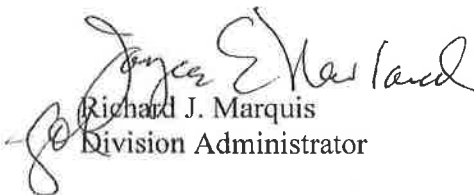
Dear Mr. Woodruff:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed our review of the documents necessary to make an air quality conformity finding on the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission's (NIRPC's) 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan (CRP) and FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management and the US Environmental Protection Agency have completed their reviews and recommend that we find the 2040 CRP and the FY 2014-2017 TIP for the Northwestern Indiana metropolitan planning area conform to the applicable air quality conformity requirements. Appropriate consultation and public involvement on the conformity analyses were completed.

Therefore, FHWA and FTA find the NIRPC's 2040 CRP and the FY 2014-2017 TIP conform as required by the conformity rule. If you have any questions, please contact Joyce Newland, Planning & Environmental Specialist, at 317-226-5353 or at joyce.newland@dot.gov.

Sincerely,


Richard J. Marquis
Division Administrator

cc: transmitted by email
Ty Warner, NIRPC
Kathy Eaton-McKalip, INDOT
Roy Nunnally, INDOT
Angie Fegaras, INDOT
Jerry Halperin, INDOT
Frank Baukert, INDOT

Reggie Arkell, FTA
JEN, JDD, LMH, MBA
L:\Program\Planning\MPOs (Metropolitan Planning Organizations)\Northwest Indiana
(NIRPC)\Air Quality Conformity\2014\2013-7-2_Conformity_Finding_NIRPC 2040 CRP &
FY2014-2017_TIP.DOC