



NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Together We Make The Difference

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RESOLUTION 11-21

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION TO ALLOW REVIEW AND PRIORITIZATION OF CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY PROJECT APPLICATIONS BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT POLICY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission(NIRPC) is the designated Council of Governments and the Metropolitan Planning Organization for Lake, Porter and LaPorte Counties; and

WHEREAS, NIRPC is required under its enabling legislation to establish a comprehensive environmental planning process; and

WHEREAS, NIRPC established the Environmental Management Policy Committee to guide all regional environmental program and policy development; and

WHEREAS, members of the Environmental Management Policy Committee (EMPC) are selected based on their expertise and interest in advancing environmental improvements in the region including Air Quality; and

WHEREAS, the Air Quality Sub Committee (AQSC) of the EMPC was charged by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) to serve as the regional advisory group to address non-attainment of the 8 hour ozone and PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standards in Lake and Porter Counties and develop potential air quality control measures; and

WHEREAS, Lake, Porter, and LaPorte Counties continue to be in non-attainment and/or maintenance status with regards to these National Ambient Air Quality Standards; and

WHEREAS, the stated purpose of FHWA Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) Program Funds is to reduce emissions of air pollutants from surface transportation sources in non-attainment and maintenance areas; and

WHEREAS, the primary federal criteria established for evaluating projects include air emission reductions and cost-effectiveness of same; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Management Policy Committee and its Air Quality Subcommittee have the expertise, and have expressed a desire to have a role in programming CMAQ funding in Northwest Indiana; and

WHEREAS, several types of eligible CMAQ project types focus primarily on such as diesel retrofit, alternative fuels, and public education are based solely upon their potential for environmental and air quality improvements; and

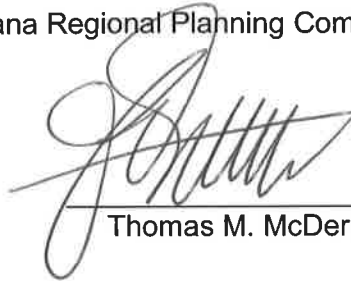
WHEREAS, other Committees, Stakeholders, and Working Groups within NIRPC have expertise regarding other eligible CMAQ project types.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission hereby:

Delegates the establishment of selection criteria, project review, scoring and prioritization of CMAQ project types with a primarily environmental function to the EMPC and its Air Quality Subcommittee, pursuant to guidelines, priorities, and restrictions by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Indiana Department of Transportation, and the most recent Regional Comprehensive Plan; and

Directs staff to revise, with the engagement of other affected committees, stakeholders, and working group, the CMAQ funding allocation procedures to reflect this for future solicitations after January 2012.

Duly adopted by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission the 15th day of September, 2011.



Thomas M. McDermott, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:



Ken Layton, Secretary