

January 9, 2009

Jesse Heier, Washington Director
444 North Capitol Street, NW
Suite 401
Washington, D.C. 20001-1512

Dear Mr. Heier,

We are writing to express our concern about the insufficient representation of the transportation industries on the Midwestern Greenhouse Gas Reduction Accord Advisory Group. The transportation industry, which includes auto manufacturers, freight shippers, national merchandisers, airlines and fuel refining and distribution represents billions of dollars of economic value and tens of thousands of jobs in the Midwest states. Yet there are only two representatives from one transportation industry (petroleum refining) in the advisory group. This compares unfavorably to the electricity generation industry, which has six representatives on the group.

While this limited representation from the transportation industries has been a source of concern to us from the beginning, it was somewhat understandable given the Advisory Group's focus on point source emitters. However, the Advisory Group, based on its draft design recommendations, is now contemplating applying a cap and trade program to the transportation sectors as well as recommending a low carbon fuel standard. If adopted, these recommendations would have significant consequences for transportation industries in the Midwest affecting millions of Americans who rely on gasoline, shipping of product and the manufacturing of cars and trucks for their livelihoods.

The value of the MGA process and what has set it apart from other regional efforts is its steadfast adherence to a bottom-up, stakeholder driven process. However, the current exclusion of transportation stakeholders threatens this distinctive quality jeopardizing the creditability of the process. Accordingly we suggest that the Midwestern Governors Association immediately add representatives from the transportation industries to the Advisory Group prior to any transportation-related decisions so their perspectives are heard

and the group benefits from the expertise and judgment of these critical stakeholders.

In sum, and respectfully, we have concluded that absent these accommodations, the Advisory Council – and by extension the Midwestern Governors Association -- will be in no position to make fully informed judgments on these critical matters.

Thank you for your time and attention to this concern.

Sincerely,

BNSF Railway, Brian Sweeney

Flint Hills Resources, Diane Schmidt

Iron Mining Association of Minnesota, Craig Pagel

Minnesota Auto Dealers Association, Scott Lambert

Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, David Olson

Minnesota Timber Producers Association, Wayne Brandt

Minnesota Trucking Association, John Hausladen

cc: Gov. Kathleen Sebelius -- Kansas
Gov. Mitch Daniels -- Indiana
Gov. Jennifer Granholm -- Michigan
Gov. Ted Strickland -- Ohio
Gov. Jim Doyle -- Wisconsin
Premier Dalton McGuinty - Ontario

Gov. Rod Blagojevich -- Illinois
Gov. Chet Culver -- Iowa
Gov. Tim Pawlenty -- Minnesota
Gov. Mike Rounds -- South Dakota
Premier Gary Doer -- Manitoba