



Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / Region 3 / District 5
13473 IL Highway 133 / P.O. Box 610 / Paris, Illinois / 61944
Telephone 217/465-4181

January 25, 2013

Mr. Aaron Lawson, P.E.
Edgar County Highway Engineer
12637 East 950th Road
Paris, Illinois 61944

Dear Mr. Lawson:

RE: Motor Fuel Tax Funds Agreements

We are in receipt of the following agreements for the use of Motor Fuel Tax Funds executed by the County on January 9th, 2013.

1. Preliminary Engineering Services – Knight and Associates Surveying
2. Preliminary Engineering and Construction Guidance – Hillard's Bookkeeping Services

The District has determined that these agreements are unacceptable due to a conflict of interest by the Edgar County Board Chairman. In the Chairman's recusal letter dated January 8, 2013 he indicated that he would recuse himself from any award or execution of contracts that are or will be financed with state or federal funds. His signature providing for the execution of the above mentioned agreements is in violation of his recusal declaration. We are enclosing the agreements and will await your re-submittal with appropriate execution of the agreements.

The District is aware that Mr. Patrick has attended the County's Road and Bridge Committee meeting since he has submitted his recusal letter. As outlined in the letter from this office dated January 4, 2013 to the Edgar County Board it is a conflict of interest for Mr. Patrick to participate in any discussion of any federal and/or state funded County or Township highway improvement in which he would have a direct or indirect financial or other personal interest in the improvement. Mr. Patrick's attendance at these meetings is in violation of his recusal declaration.

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Should the Chairman continue to execute agreements or other documents and/or attend meetings that include discussions of projects using state and/or federal funds for County or Township improvements it may result in the County losing its ability to use state or federal funds in the future. Should you have any questions please contact Scott A. Lackey, P.E., Acting Local Roads and Street Engineer, at 217-466-7252.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Crowe (HAG)

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.
Deputy Director of Highways,
Region Three Engineer

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Enclosures

cc: Edgar County Board

Mr. Chris Patrick, Chairman, Edgar County Board

Mr. Scott McGuire, FHWA Illinois Division, Springfield, IL

Mr. Bruce Harmening, IDOT Office of Chief Council, Springfield, IL

Mr. Mark Isaf, Edgar County State's Attorney

Mr. August Griffin, Edgar County Clerk

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