

NAWIC

National Association of Women In Construction
Quad City Chapter #50
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March 1, 2019

Bi-State Regional Commission
Denise Bulat
1504 3rd Avenue
Rock Island, IL 61201

RE: Federal Aid Swap Program

Denise,

On behalf of the National Association of Women in Construction, Quad City Chapter No. 50, I request Bi-State Regional Commission to reconsider acting on the Federal Aid Swap program recently adopted by the State of Iowa. Based on the impact it would have in this area and negative draw backs we ask that you opt-out of this program.

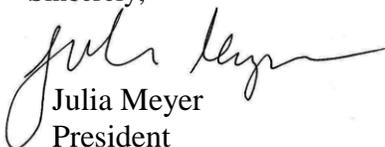
The State of Iowa recently adopted the Federal Aid Swap program and applied it statewide. Every jurisdiction in Iowa is included in this program unless the local Metropolitan Planning Organization MPO opts out. As MPO for the QC region, Bi-State Regional Commission has the responsibility for determining whether they would like to participate in the program.

The Federal Aid Swap program allows state dollars to replace federal dollars on projects, and as a result federal guidelines and protections would no longer be applicable. We understand that some of these guidelines can be burdensome, and if eliminated, could expedite project completion. However, there are certain protections that we believe are critical to advancing the QC economy. Many local contractors follow these federal guidelines to ensure their workers are paid a competitive wage and are protected against discriminatory practices. By participating in the Federal Aid Swap program, Bi-State Regional Commission may allow for more businesses from outside the QC region that don't follow these guidelines to bring in work, which would have a direct negative economic impact on our region. Our elected officials have increased federal funding for QC projects in recent years, and it's important that we retain as much of this funding in the region as possible to maximize the economic impact.

Our region's businesses are vital to the growth of the QC economy and we ask you to ensure they have the best opportunity possible to acquire local projects. Taking no action is the same as voting to implement the program. Therefore, we respectfully request the Bi-State Regional Commission to opt-out of the Federal Aid Swap Program.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Michelle DeCap, Board of Director. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Julia Meyer
President