



U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

James L. Oberstar
Chairman

Washington, DC 20515

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John L. Mica
Ranking Republican Member

David Heymsfeld, Chief of Staff
Ward W. McCarragher, Chief Counsel

James W. Coon II, Republican Chief of Staff

Dear Republican Colleague,

As the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure begins its work on the Water Resources Development Act of 2008, I want to ensure that you also are aware of the new Republican Earmark Standards Guidance as it applies to the work of our Committee.

In addition to the project certification forms already required by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, the Republican Leadership also requires that Republican Members submit an additional certification form to the Committee that includes the following:

1. None of the funding requested for this project will be used for a new building, program, or project that has been named for a sitting Member of Congress;
2. None of the funding requested for this project will be used to secure funds for other entities unless the use of funding is consistent with the specified purpose of the earmark;
3. For projects distributed in the form of a grant, where the receiving entity is not a unit of federal, state or local government, OR where the entity receiving the funding will not be providing support to a federal, state, or local government, or will not be providing research, the requesting entity is to provide matching funds including in-kind contributions of 5% or more above statutory requirement. *(Although this point will remain on our standard form, it should be noted for clarification that Water Resources Development Act are not applicable to this matching requirement since projects in this Act are administered as Army Corps of Engineers Projects and not as grants to a non-government entity.)*

The content of this certification form was drafted by the House Republican Leadership and will be available on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Minority website (<http://republicans.transportation.house.gov/>).

Please submit original copies of both the Leadership certification form and the Committee's certification form concurrently.

Once a Republican Member learns that their respective earmark has been included in legislation, Republican guidelines also require Members to include earmark justification(s) in the Congressional Record. Attached is a sample template for such justifications.

My staff will notify you, to the earliest extent practicable, should your earmark request(s) be included in legislation. Once your office has been notified, it is the responsibility of the individual Member requesting the earmark(s) to file Congressional Record insertions as soon as possible.

Please feel free to contact Amy Steinmann on my Committee staff with any questions you may have about this policy at 225-9446. I look forward to working with you as our Committee continues its work to improve our Nation's infrastructure.

Sincerely,

John L. Mica
Ranking Republican Member
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure