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December 31, 2014

Honorable Thomas P. DiNapoli
New York State Comptroller
Office of the State Comptroller
110 State Street, 11th Floor
Albany, NY 12236

Re: 90 Day Response to Report 2012-S-152

Dear Honorable Thomas DiNapoli:

In compliance with Section 170 of the Executive Law this is the Authority's 90 day update on the recommendations provided in your Report 2012-S-152.

1. *Examine written policies and procedures to determine if they adequately address potentially questionable discretionary spending, including definitions of such costs and the necessary justifications, dollar thresholds, formal approvals and supporting documentation.*

The Authority has appropriate policies and procedures in place to ensure compliance with expending public funds for the mission and public purpose for which the Authority was established.

2. *Require employees to obtain the government rate for lodging or provide justification and prior approval for lodging costs over the government rate.*

This has been a standard practice of the Authority and was formally adopted as part of a revised Travel Policy and Procedure effective February 1, 2013.

3. *Assess the impact of using the GSA per diem rates for meals rather than the \$60 flat rate currently used to reimburse employees for meals.*

The Authority's Chief Financial Officer original response to the audit identified that no such \$60 flat rate existed in the recent past at the Authority. In addition, the Authority adopted on February 1, 2013 a Travel Policy and Procedure which includes a meals and incidental expenses section allowing for reimbursement at the federal government's per diem rate by location.

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EXECUTIVE CORRESPONDENCE

JAN 02 2015

OFFICE OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER
THOMAS P. DINAPOLI
COMPTROLLER

In conclusion, The Authority as always, will continue to be a responsible financial steward and drive forward to achieve the vision of becoming The Preferred Transportation Choice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James H. Redmond". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

James H. Redmond
Commissioner and Chairman

Cc:

Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor
Honorable Sheldon Silver, Speaker of the New York State Assembly
Honorable Dean G. Skelos, President of the New York State Senate
Honorable Jeffrey D. Klein, President Pro Tem of the New York State Senate
Honorable Joseph Morelle, Majority Leader of the New York State Assembly
Honorable Brian M. Kolb, Minority Leader of the New York State Assembly
Honorable Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Democratic Conference Leader of the New York State Senate
Honorable John A. DeFrancisco, Chair of the Senate Finance Committee
Honorable Liz Krueger, Ranking Democratic Member of the Senate Finance Committee
Honorable Herman Farrell, Chair of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee
Honorable Bob Oaks, Ranking Republican Member of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee
Mike Jankowski, Audit Committee Chairman
Bill Carpenter, Chief Executive Officer
Scott Adair, Chief Financial Officer