



U.S. Department
Of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

Headquarters

1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington DC 20590

To: Office of Management and Budget

March 4, 2009

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) established the Transit Investments for Greenhouse Gas and Energy Reduction (TIGGER) Grant Program in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). This program is a new \$100,000,000 discretionary grant program to support public transit agencies to make capital investments that will assist in reducing the energy consumption or greenhouse gas emissions of their public transportation systems. In order to ensure these grants are awarded in an expeditious manner and in the timeframes established by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requests approval to use OMB's emergency processing system to meet Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) requirements.

FTA is required to undertake PRA for TIGGER as this is a new program not currently covered by any of FTA's existing programs. FTA intends to collect information from this program consistent with FTA and government-wide practices for grant applications and reporting requirements, including such elements as collected in Standard Form 424, project descriptions, budgets, Financial Status Reports and Progress Reports. In addition, in order to meet the selection criteria established by Congress for this program, FTA also needs to collect information in the application and reporting stage on energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions of public transit agencies.

OMB has established a March 16, 2009 deadline for all discretionary programs in the ARRA to post full announcements requesting applications in grants.gov. Concurrent with posting the announcement in grants.gov, FTA will also publish in the Federal Register (FR) a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for this program. For publishing to take place on March 16, FTA needs to submit the NOFA to the FR on March 11. FTA therefore requests an approval date before March 10. Without a waiver of OMB's normal approving process, FTA will not meet the requirements set by OMB for announcing grant applications and funds will not be awarded before the end of the fiscal year, delaying their impact as part of America's recovery.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Robinson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bruce Robinson
Deputy Associate Administrator for
Research, Demonstration and Innovation