**Section 653.205 Approval/Disapproval of Applicant's Program of Proposed Expenditures**

a) Within 45 days after the Department's receipt of the application, the Department will notify the applicant in writing of its approval or disapproval of the Program of Proposed Expenditures (POPE). (See Section 2-11 of the Act.)

b) Disapproval of Applicant's Program of Proposed Expenditures. The Department will disapprove an applicant's POPE that contains:

1) a finding that expenditures are being proposed for projects or purposes that are not in compliance with Section 2-5 of the Act; i.e., proposed expenditures are not related to the actual operation, maintenance or improvement of the applicant's proposed public transportation service; or

2) a finding that expenditures are being proposed for projects or purposes that are in conflict with established comprehensive transportation plans, where applicable; or

3) proposed expenditures that are not, or other information that is not, in compliance with the Act and Section 653.111 of this Part.

c) The Department will notify the applicant, in writing, of deficiencies in the applicant's POPE that result in disapproval and will include the reasons for disapproval. The applicant may, within 45 days after receipt of the disapproval, submit an amended application for that part of the application that was disapproved. The Department will then review the amended application in the same manner as provided in subsections (a) and (b) and, within 45 days after the Department's receipt of the amended application, the Department will notify the applicant in writing of its approval or disapproval of the amended POPE. The Department's decision concerning the amended application is final. (See Sections 2-11 and 2-12 of the Act.)

(Source: Added at 34 Ill. Reg. 13142, effective August 24, 2010)