

ALLIANCE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## **Executive Committee**

Paul Jones, Wisconsin Chairman A.O. Smith

Michael Mullen, Illinois Chairman Founder, CenterPoint Properties

Jim Stanley, Indiana Chairman Executive Vice President and Group CEO, Northern Indiana Public Service Company February 25, 2014

Dear Alliance Supporters:

Significant change is underway at the Alliance for Regional Development. In December, we incorporated as a not-for-profit. This change in our organizational status was made in consultation with the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration and will afford us the level of independence necessary to develop an implementation plan for the OECD recommendations.

As part of this transition, Bryan Cave LLC is providing space for staff to manage the Alliance at their offices in downtown Chicago. Please note our new mailing address: 161 North Clark Street, Suite 4300, Chicago, IL 60601.

The Alliance continues to be committed to regional economic development. We will be advancing the work started in 2013 and will be organizing the four working teams in the areas of green growth, human capital, innovation and transportation and logistics so that we may move forward with the development of strategic action plans in these areas. We are also in the process of organizing a high-level event at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago for the fourth quarter of 2014 as an opportunity to brief stakeholders about our progress.

We are honored to serve as a pilot effort to promote cross-jurisdictional cooperation within the Tri-State region and, once completed, our work will serve as a national model for other regions facing similar challenges. We are confident that we will be successful in our efforts, and thank you for your continued support and dedication to the betterment of the region we all share.

Sincerely,

Paul Jones Wisconsin Chairman

Michael Mullen Illinois Chairman

Jim Stanley Indiana Chairman