ISSUE PAPER

Prepared for: Rocky Mountain Coordinating Group

Submitted: October 13**, 2008**

Title: Unequal IC representation during issue discussions which affect all RMA teams

Issue: Unequal persuasion privileges provided to one IC (who is a part of the Executive Group, RMCG and the Operations Committee) when the other RMA ICs are absent from issue discussions.

Background/Status: During 2008 several decisions were made by RMCG and the Executive Group which affected all RMA teams. Unfortunately, only one of the ICs was present during the decision process and the other ICs were not consulted on their view of the issues before the decisions were made.   Even though the IC apparently recused himself from voting on the issues, he was present during the discussions and the resulting decision(s) were, therefore, viewed to be unfair to the teams that were not represented

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Recommendation: To ensure fair representation for all RMA teams, all ICs should all be allowed to enter into discussions and/or present their perspective on issues that affect their teams.

Contact: (Includes name, phone number, electronic address)

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ACTION TAKEN
(Circle One)

APPROVED / APPROVED AS MODIFIED BELOW / REJECTED / DEFERRED UNTIL:_____

David Carter

   10/24/08
     Date

Explanation: (if needed)

RMCG understands the concerns of conflict-of-interest regarding discussions/voting on matters which affect multiple teams. In 2008, RMCG did follow existing conflict-of-interest policy which exists in curent draft RMCG charter (draft will be finalized in 2009 and posted on website). The policy requires recusion from voting on topics which personally involve members. However, the policy does not address equal representation during discussions, which is the issue here.

RMCG pledges to make a good-faith effort to include other ICs in the discussion of pertinent topics before decisions are made. We will also diiscuss our current conflict-of-interest policy before the draft Charter is finalized to determine if changes are necessary.