A Message from the President and CEO of the Northeast-Midwest Institute

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your interest in the Northeast-Midwest Institute’s work. I appreciate this opportunity to share some thoughts on the Institute’s mission, strengths, and objectives. The Northeast-Midwest Institute is a Washington, D.C.-based, nonprofit, nonpartisan public policy organization committed to economic vitality, environmental quality, and regional equity for the 18 states of the northeast and midwest. As a policy-focused institute with a 35-year track record of producing first-rate research, developing policy options, and building regional coalitions, the Institute has unique standing in that it was founded in response to calls by the Congressional Northeast-Midwest Coalition for a stable and trusted source of regional data and research as well as policy options and analysis. It is precisely these roots and relationships on Capitol Hill which now position the Northeast-Midwest Institute to chart a future that encompasses an expanded agenda of critical regional issues and to embark on a strategy to achieve increased impact.

There are three dimensions to the Northeast-Midwest Institute’s work:

- Conducting research to build knowledge that informs the policy-making process focused on the critical problems and issues confronting the northeast and midwest, especially relating to economic vitality, including trade, energy, workforce, transportation, and cities, as well as the environment, conservation, and sustainability, including the Great Lakes and riverways, water quality, invasive species, natural resources, and climate.

- Developing policy options, incubating new policy directions, and analyzing the implications of alternate policy directions, all in service to addressing the critical problems and issues confronting the northeast and midwest, with the ultimate objective of advancing a sound and effective policy agenda for the region.

- Developing and providing policy education to the coalition committed to the regional agenda of the northeast and midwest, including the coalition of policy-makers in government and extending to the larger network of other governmental entities, committed organizations, and informed and active individuals, creating the capacity for developing and enacting sound policy directions for the region and, when appropriate, for the nation as well.
As the Northeast-Midwest Institute looks to the future, there are three major priorities:

- Building on the current track record by strengthening and expanding its existing core programs built around economic vitality and environmental quality, in particular current programs focused on economic development and cities, the Great Lakes, the Mississippi River and other riverways, and water quality.

- Expanding the agenda to include significant new program directions that are critical to addressing increasingly significant regional issues, including: federal policy-monitoring, state and city policy-monitoring, economic development, manufacturing, transportation, municipal financial sustainability, and governmental reform.

- Achieving greater impact by broadening the current focus of its public policy and government relations program on the Great Lakes to an agenda-wide public policy and government relations program, and enhancing the organization’s overall reach and impact with a new communications program as well as an initiative convening key leaders, disseminating vital information, and developing a policy information network to inform and engage regional coalitions to address critical issues and policy options.

We are grateful for your interest in the Northeast-Midwest Institute, a nonprofit and nonpartisan public policy organization committed to enhancing the region’s environmental quality and economic vitality. If you would like to celebrate Giving Tuesday by making a contribution to the Institute through our website, please use the “Donate Here” link below. Thank you once again for your interest in our work.

With best wishes for a wonderful holiday season,

Michael J. Goff, President and CEO

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