



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Vincennes District
3650 South US Highway 41
Vincennes, IN 47591

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Mike Braun, Governor
Lyndsay Quist, Commissioner

FILED

IC 4-2-6-11

Post-employment waiver

SEP 24 2026

INDIANA STATE
ETHICS COMMISSION

As the Appointing Authority of the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), I am filing this waiver of the application of the Code of Ethics' post-employment restriction as it applies to Ryan Falls in his post-employment with Lochmueller Group.

I understand that I must file and present this waiver to the State Ethics Commission at their next available meeting. I further understand that this waiver is not final until approved by the State Ethics Commission.

A. This waiver is provided pursuant to IC 4-2-6-11(g) and specifically waives the application of
(Please indicate the specific restriction in 42 IAC 1-5-14 (IC 4-2-6-11) you are waiving):

- ☐ IC 4-2-6-11(b)(1): 365 day required "cooling off" period before serving as a lobbyist.
- ☒ IC 4-2-6-11(b)(2): 365 day required "cooling off" period before receiving compensation from an employer for whom the state employee or special state appointee was engaged in the negotiation or administration of a contract and was in a position to make a discretionary decision affecting the outcome of such negotiation or administration.
- ☐ IC 4-2-6-11(b)(3): 365 day required "cooling off" period before receiving compensation from an employer for which the former state employee or special state appointee made a directly applicable regulatory or licensing decision.
- ☐ IC 4-2-6-11(c): Particular matter restriction prohibiting the former state employee or special state appointee from representing or assisting a person in a particular matter involving the state if the former state officer, employee, or special state appointee personally and substantially participated in the matter as a state worker. (Please provide a brief description of the specific particular matter(s) to which this waiver applies below):

- B. IC 4-2-6-11(g)(2) requires that an agency's appointing authority, when authorizing a waiver of the application of the post-employment restrictions in IC 4-2-6-11(b)-(c), also include specific information supporting such authorization. Please provide the requested information in the following five (5) sections to fulfill this requirement.

1. Please explain whether the employee's prior job duties involved substantial decision-making authority over policies, rules, or contracts:

Mr. Falls's primary roles and responsibilities have included final approval of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Documentation for the Capital Program that falls under a Programmatic Categorical Exclusion (CE), CE-1 and CE-2 level of documentation.

2. Please describe the nature of the duties to be performed by the employee for the prospective employer:

Mr. Falls will serve as an Environmental Project Manager at Lochmueller Group. In that role, Mr. Falls will be responsible for **Project Management** (manage project tasks, budgets, schedules, and resources; provide leadership in the planning and execution of major projects; and oversee multiple project teams while supporting alignment with organizational goals), **Technical Leadership & Staff Development** (serve as a subject matter expert in one or more environmental fields, supervise the collection and analysis of environmental data and the related recording and reporting of information, mentor and coach junior staff, supervise work groups as assigned, and support the development of junior environmental professionals), **Client, Agency & Stakeholder Coordination** (coordinate with clients, customers, officials, contractors, and others to understand project requirements and expectations and perform environmental resource coordination with clients, agencies, and the public; conduct public involvement and other meetings as needed; lead project meetings and presentations; and represent the organization while maintaining liaison with individuals and related organizations), **Environmental Planning, Documentation & Regulatory Services** (prepare NEPA documents, environmental impact assessments [EIAs], environmental overviews, and planning reports; oversee and, at times, participate in environmental field studies and documentation development; perform mitigation, monitoring, and permitting activities; and perform interview and database analysis for environmental and public projects), **Quality Assurance, Quality Control & Safety** (review and approve project deliverables, perform quality assurance and quality control activities, and ensure adherence to safety protocols and procedures), and **Business Development Support** (collaborate with senior management on strategic planning initiatives, assist with business development activities, and prepare proposals and funding applications).

3. Please explain whether the prospective employment is likely to involve substantial contact with the employee's former agency and the extent to which any such contact is likely to involve matters where the agency has the discretion to make decisions based on the work product of the employee:

Mr. Falls will be managing both INDOT and non-INDOT projects. Contact with INDOT shall include analyzing project scopes, determining the level of NEPA documentation, preparing NEPA documentation, developing project budgets, monitoring project schedules, and attending project meetings. All INDOT capital projects require a NEPA document to receive funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Construction of a project cannot begin until a NEPA document is approved and the requirements of these documents are met. Mr. Falls will be managing and/or developing these documents for future INDOT projects, where Lochmueller Group is the responsible party for the delivery of these documents, that he has not been involved with during his employment with INDOT. Mr. Falls will screen himself off Lochmueller Group's projects with INDOT in which he

was assigned or had oversight while he worked at INDOT and must abide by all post-employment restrictions except those waived herein.

4. Please explain whether the prospective employment may be beneficial to the state or the public, specifically stating how the intended employment is consistent with the public interest:

Mr. Falls's expertise in NEPA document preparation and INDOT project development will be taken with him to the prospective employer. Knowing the intricacies of these processes will allow him to produce documents very efficiently, since he is well aware of what each INDOT environmental department requires for each specific environmental document type. In addition, his knowledge of how the different INDOT departments including Technical Services, Capital Program Management, and Construction will allow him to manage projects in the most efficient manner. Knowing how a project develops over time, what potential cause and effect outcomes may present themselves whenever there is a scope change, and when time critical benchmarks must be met to meet the project schedule's requirements will aid in this efficiency. This will cut down on waste that could be derived from a less experienced consultant employee that may not know the details of what it takes to bring a project from cradle to conclusion.

5. Please explain the extent of economic hardship to the employee if the request for a waiver is denied:

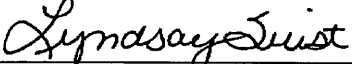
Mr. Falls approves these document types for all qualifying projects that are administered by the INDOT Vincennes District. He approves both internally-prepared and externally-prepared documents. All preliminary engineering firms that work with the INDOT Vincennes District must have an approved environmental document, which would be approved by Mr. Falls. Mr. Falls has a career path defined by 10 years of experience with the INDOT Vincennes District environmental team that has led him to a niche in the environmental world. If this waiver is denied, he has no true options to be employed at any preliminary engineering firm in an environmental role, which is his defining career path. His options would be to remain at INDOT or enter an entirely new field.

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C. Signatures

1. Appointing authority/state officer of agency

By signing below I authorize the waiver of the above-specified post-employment restrictions pursuant to IC 4-2-6-11(g)(1)(A). In addition, I acknowledge that this waiver is limited to an employee or special state appointee who obtains the waiver before engaging in the conduct that would give rise to a violation.

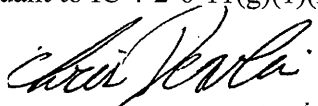

Lyndsay Quist, Commissioner

09/01/2026

DATE

2. Ethics Officer of agency

By signing below I attest to the form of this waiver of the above-specified post-employment restrictions pursuant to IC 4-2-6-11(g)(1)(B).


Chris Devlin

8/27/2026

DATE

D. Approval by State Ethics Commission

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Approved by State Ethics Commission


Katherine Noel, Chair, State Ethics Commission

9-24-26
Date

Mail to:

Office of Inspector General
315 West Ohio Street, Room 104
Indianapolis, IN 46202

OR

Email scanned copy to: info@ig.in.gov

*Upon receipt you will be contacted with
details regarding the presentation of this
waiver to the State Ethics Commission.*