

February 24, 2016

To the Board of Directors
Onondaga Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation:

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and the major governmental fund of Onondaga Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation (the Corporation), a blended component unit of the County of Onondaga, New York, for the year ended December 31, 2015. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated February 2, 2016. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

SIGNIFICANT AUDIT FINDINGS

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Corporation are described in Note 2 to the financial statements. As described in Note 8, the Corporation changed accounting policies related to financial reporting guidance and reporting format by adopting the following Statements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board during 2015:

- GASB Statement No. 68 – *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*. Adoption of this guidance did not have a significant effect on the Corporation’s financial statements.
- GASB Statement No. 71 – *Pension Transitions for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Transition Date*. Adoption of this guidance did not have a significant effect on the Corporation’s financial statements.

We noted no transactions entered into by the Corporation during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management’s knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimate affecting the financial statements is the valuation of accounts receivable. Management’s estimate of the receivable is based on a preliminary calculation of the payment due to the Corporation in connection with the New York State Non-Participating Manufacturers Settlement Agreement reached in October 2015. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions involved in this valuation in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

SIGNIFICANT AUDIT FINDINGS (Continued)

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices (Continued)

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. During the course of the audit we did not note any known or likely misstatements.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated February 24, 2016.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Corporation's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to Management's Discussion and Analysis, which is required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

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This information is intended solely for the use of the Board of Directors and management of Onondaga Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.