

KENNY C. GUINN Governor

STATE OF NEVADA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

1263 S. Stewart Street Carson City, Nevada 89712

March 14, 2005

JEFFREY FONTAINE, P.E., Director

In Reply Refer to:

MS. SUSAN KLEKAR DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION 705 NORTH PLAZA STREET, SUITE 220 CARSON CITY, NV 89701

Project: SPI-215-1(004) E.A. 73224 Improvements to the I-215 Corridor from Las Vegas Boulevard to Windmill Lane

Dear Ms. Klekar:

The above project does not have any significant environmental impact and does not involve any unusual circumstances as described in 23 CFR 771.117(a) and (b). Consequently, this action is considered a Categorical Exclusion under 23 CFR 771,117(d) because it does not:

Induce significant impacts to planned growth or land use in the area; Require the relocation of significant numbers of people and/or businesses <u>X</u> (How many? __0_); Have a significant impact on any natural, cultural, recreational, historic or other <u>X</u> resources; Involve significant air, noise or water quality impacts; _X_ Have significant impacts on travel patterns; X Otherwise, either individually or cumulatively, have any significant environmental <u>X</u> impacts; Have substantial controversy on environmental grounds; <u>X</u> Have any inconsistency with Federal, state or local law, requirement or X administrative determination relating to the environmental aspects of this action. Sincerely,

Daryl N. James, P.E., Chief Environmental Services Division

DNJ/slp

COMMENTS

Concur:

Environmental Program/Manager

The Environmental Review concluded that the purchase of right-of-way for the proposed project has no significant impact on the environment.

- 1. Project activities are in conformance with the policies and procedures promulgated in the following:
 - A. 7 CFR 658 providing for the Farmland Protection Policy Act. There are no lands within the project area that qualify.
 - B. 16 USC 661-667(d) Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act. There are no Threatened or Endangered Species in the project area.
 - C. 23 CFR 650 providing for implementation of Part B of the National State water quality standards will not be violated as a result of this project. Best Management Practices will be implemented during construction.
 - D. 40 CFR 93 providing for implementation of the Clean Air Act of 1970 and the Clean Air Act Amendment of 1990. National and State ambient air quality standards will not be violated as a result of this project.
 - E. 23 CFR 771 providing for implementation of Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.
 - F. 23 CFR 772 providing for compliance with the traffic noise standard. This project has been evaluated in accordance with established criteria and it has been determined that a detailed noise analysis will not be required.
 - G. 33 CFR requiring a permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, 33 USC 1344, Pending
 - H. A cultural resource survey was conducted for this project and resulted in a finding of No Historic Properties Affected and the Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer and/or other appropriate regulatory agencies have accepted this determination (36 CFR 800.4(d)(1)).
 - I. Alternate Procedures Policy providing for implementation of Section 128, 23 USC which establishes requirements for public hearings. The project is exempt from the public hearing requirements.
 - J. The Intergovernmental Cooperation Act of 1968 providing for implementation of state and metropolitan area clearinghouse notification, review, and coordination procedures as issued in Circular No. A-95, "Evaluation, Review, and Coordination of Federal Assistance Programs and Projects".