Mr. Angel Correa  
Division Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration  
700 West Capitol, Room 3130  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-3298

Re: Job Number CA0201  
FAP Number ACNHPP-0002(32)  
Bridge Numbers M0775 and M0776  
LA. State Line-Hwy. 82 (Widening)(S)  
Ashley County  
Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion

Dear Mr. Correa:

The Environmental Division has reviewed the referenced project and it falls within the definition of the Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion as defined by the AHTD/FHWA Memorandum of Agreement on the processing of Categorical Exclusions. The following information is included for your review and, if acceptable, approval as the environmental documentation for this project.

The purpose of this project is to widen Highway 425 to four lanes along with a painted median. The project length is 9.34 miles. It extends from the Louisiana State Line to Highway 82 in Ashley County. A project location map is enclosed.

Existing Highway 425 consists of two 11-foot paved travel lanes and 4-foot paved shoulders. The existing right of way width is approximately 120 feet.
Proposed improvements include four 12-foot wide paved travel lanes with 8-foot wide shoulders and an 11-foot painted median. The average additional right of way will be 160 feet.

Two existing bridges (Bridge #’s M0775 & M0776) will be replaced with box culverts as shown in the following table. Approximately 57 acres of additional right of way will be required.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bridge Number</th>
<th>Stream</th>
<th>Sufficiency Rating</th>
<th>Existing Structure</th>
<th>Proposed Structure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M0775</td>
<td>Hanks Creek</td>
<td>72.7</td>
<td>26’ x 88’ Composite integral W-beam w/concrete deck</td>
<td>Sextuple 12’x 10’x 124’ R.C. Box Culvert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M0776</td>
<td>West Creek</td>
<td>72.7</td>
<td>26’ x 88’ Composite integral W-beam w/concrete deck</td>
<td>Sextuple 12’x 9’x 130’ R.C. Box Culvert</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Design data for this project is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Design Year</th>
<th>Average Daily Traffic</th>
<th>Percent Trucks</th>
<th>Design Speed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>60 mph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2037</td>
<td>1,800</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>60 mph</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The traffic noise estimates for the project resulted in a noise abatement distance of 77 feet from the centerline of Highway 425 in the project area. No sensitive receptors will be affected by future noise levels greater than 66 dB(A). A noise analysis is enclosed.

There are no relocations, endangered species, or Executive Order 12898 Environmental Justice issues associated with the project. Field inspections found no evidence of existing underground storage tanks or hazardous waste deposits. No impacts to cultural resources will occur; SHPO concurrence is enclosed. Approximately 46.5 acres of Prime Farmland will be converted to highway right of way. Form NRCS-CPA-106 is enclosed.

A public meeting was held for the proposed project on Tuesday, August 2, 2016. A public involvement synopsis is enclosed.
Construction of the proposed project will result in impacts to less than 0.5 acre of wetlands, nine ephemeral streams and seven intermittent streams. Construction activities include the replacement of bridges crossing West Creek and Hanks Creek with reinforced concrete box culverts. Impacts to the stream channels at each crossing are estimated to be less than 0.2 acre. Construction of this project should be allowed under terms of a Nationwide Permit Number 14 for Linear Transportation Projects as defined in the Federal Register 77(34):10183-10290.

Ashley County participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. All of the floodplain encroachments within this highway construction project will be designed to comply with the county's local flood damage prevention ordinance. The project lies within the Zone A, Special Flood Hazard Area. The final project design will be reviewed to confirm that the design is adequate and that the potential risk to life and property are minimized. Adjacent properties should not be impacted nor have a greater flood risk than existed before construction of the project.

If you have any questions, please contact the Environmental Division at 569-2281.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
John Fleming
Division Head
Environmental Division

Enclosures

JF:SL:fc

c: Program Management
    Right of Way
    Roadway Design
    CAP Administrator
    District 2
    Master File
December 2, 2016

Mr. John Fleming
Division Head
Environmental Division
Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department
P.O. Box 2261
Little Rock, AR 72203-2261

RE: Ashley County – General
Section 106 Review – FHWA
Report Titled: A Cultural Resources Survey of AHTD Job Number CA0201, L.A. State Line – Hwy. 82 (Widening)(S), Ashley County, Arkansas
AHTD Job Number CA0201
AHPP Tracking Number 93845.01

Dear Mr. Fleming:

This letter is written in response to your inquiry regarding properties of architectural or historical significance in the area of the proposed referenced project. The staff of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has reviewed the documents included with your letter of November 18, 2016.

Based on the survey work conducted on portions of the two historic sites (3AS461 and 3AS462) that cross into the right of way (ROW), we concur that these portions are non-contributing. However, the portion outside the ROW will be considered unevaluated until further research can be conducted. We recommend a barrier be constructed to prevent work on this undertaking encroaching on the unevaluated area.

With that condition, we concur that this undertaking will have no adverse effect on historic properties.

Tribes that have expressed an interest in the area include: the Caddo Nation (Ms. Tamara Francis-Fourkiller), the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma (Mr. Everett Bandy) and the Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma (Ms. Kim Jumper). We recommend that they be consulted in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.2 (c)(2).

Thank you for the opportunity to review this undertaking. Please refer to the AHPP Tracking Number listed above in all correspondence. If you have any questions, please call Tim Dodson of my staff at 501-324-9784.

Sincerely,

Frances McSwain
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
cc: Mr. Randall Looney, FHWA
    Dr. Andrea Hunter, Osage Nation
    Dr. Ann Early, Arkansas Archeological Survey
Fundamentals of Sound and Noise

“Noise” is defined as an unwanted sound. Sounds are described as noise if they interfere with an activity or disturb the person hearing them. Sound is measured in a logarithmic unit called a decibel (dB). The human ear is more sensitive to middle and high frequency sounds than it is to low frequency sounds, so sound levels are weighted to more closely reflect human perceptions. These “A-weighted” sounds are measured using the decibel unit dB(A). Because the dB(A) is based on a logarithmic scale, a 10 dB(A) increase in sound level is generally perceived as twice as loud while a 3 dB(A) increase is just barely perceptible to the human ear.

Sound levels fluctuate with time depending on the sources of the sound audible at a specific location. In addition, the degree of annoyance associated with certain sounds varies by time of day, depending on other ambient sounds affecting the listener and the activities of the listener. The time-varying fluctuations in sound levels at a fixed location can be quite complex, so they are typically reported using statistical or mathematical descriptors that are a function of sound intensity and time. A commonly used descriptor of the equivalent sound level is Leq, which represents the equivalent of a steady, unvarying level over a defined period of time containing the same level of sound energy as the time varying noise environment. Leq(h) is a sound level averaged over one hour. For highway projects, the Leq(h) is commonly used to describe traffic-generated sound levels at locations of outdoor human use and activity (such as residences).

Noise Impact Criteria

Traffic noise impacts take place when the predicted traffic noise levels approach or exceed the noise abatement standard, or when the predicted traffic noise levels exceed the existing noise level by ten dB(A) (decibels on the A-scale). The noise abatement standard of 67 dB(A) is used for sensitive noise receptors such as residences, schools, churches, cemeteries and parks. The term “approach” is considered to be one dB(A) less than the noise abatement standard.

The number of noise receptors was estimated for this project utilizing the Federal Highway Administration’s Traffic Noise Model 2.5, existing and proposed roadway information, existing traffic information, and projected traffic levels for 2038.

Traffic noise analyses

Traffic noise analyses were performed for the project utilizing a roadway cross-section for Highway 425 consisting of four 12-foot paved travel lanes, one 11-foot turn lane, and paved shoulder widths of 8 feet.
Effects of Project

The traffic noise estimates for the project resulted in a noise abatement distance of 77 feet from the centerline of Highway 425 in the project area. No sensitive receptors will be affected by future noise levels greater than 66 dB(A).

Traffic Noise Abatement

Since noise impacts are predicted within 500 feet of the proposed project, the feasibility and reasonableness of potential noise abatement measures must be evaluated. Based upon AHTD’s “Policy on Highway Traffic Noise Abatement”, any noise abatement effort using barrier walls or berms is not warranted for this project. In order to provide direct access to the highway from adjacent properties, breaks in the barrier walls or berms would be required. These necessary breaks for highway access would render any noise barrier ineffective.

To avoid noise levels in excess of design levels, any future receptors should be located a minimum of 10 feet beyond the distance that the noise abatement standard is projected to occur. This distance should be used as a general guide and not a specific rule since the noise will vary depending upon the roadway grades and other noise contributions.

Any excessive project noise, due to construction operations, should be of short duration and have a minimum adverse effect on land uses or activities associated with this project area.

In compliance with Federal guidelines, a copy of this analysis will be transmitted to the Southeast Arkansas Economic Development District for possible use in present and future land use planning.
FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING
FOR CORRIDOR TYPE PROJECTS

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)

1. Name of Project: LA. State Line – Hwy. 82 (Widening) (S)
2. Type of Project: Highway Widening

3. Date of Land Evaluation Request: 9/13/16

4. Sheet 1 of ___

5. Federal Agency Involved: FHWA

6. County and State: Ashley AR.

PART II (To be completed by NRCS)

1. Date Request Received by NRCS

2. Person Completing Form

3. Does the corridor contain prime, unique statewide or local important farmland?
   YES □ NO □
   (If no, the FPPA does not apply - Do not complete additional parts of this form).

4. Acres Irrigated
   Average Farm Size

5. Major Crop(s)

6. Farmable Land in Government Jurisdiction
   Acres: %

7. Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA
   Acres: %

8. Name Of Land Evaluation System Used

9. Name Of Local Site Assessment System

10. Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS

PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternative Corridor For Segment</th>
<th>Corridor A</th>
<th>Corridor B</th>
<th>Corridor C</th>
<th>Corridor D</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information

A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly, Or To Receive Services
C. Total Acres In Corridor

PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information Criterion Relative value of Farmland to Be Serviced or Converted (Scale of 0 - 100 Points)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maximum Points</th>
<th>1. Area in Nonurban Use</th>
<th>15</th>
<th>15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Perimeter in Nonurban Use</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Percent Of Corridor Being Farmed</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. Size of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7. Availability Of Farm Support Services</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8. On-Farm Investments</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL CORRIDOR ASSESSMENT POINTS: 160

PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)

Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V) 100

Total Corridor Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment): 160

TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines): 260

1. Corridor Selected: New Location Adjacent to existing

2. Total Acres of Farmlands to be Converted by Project: 46.5 acres of Prime Farmland

3. Date Of Selection: 9/13/16

4. Was A Local Site Assessment Used?
   YES □ NO □

5. Reason For Selection:

Signature of Person Completing this Part: [Signature]

DATE: 12/15/16

NOTE: Complete a form for each segment with more than one Alternate Corridor
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SYNOPSIS

Job Number CA0201
Louisiana State Line – Highway 82 (Widening)(Hwy. 425)
Ashley County
Tuesday, August 2, 2016

An open forum public meeting for the proposed widening of Highway 425 was held at the Church of the Redeemer (Fellowship Hall) from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 2, 2016. Efforts to involve minorities and the public in the meeting included the following:

- Display advertisement placed in the Ashley County Ledger Wednesday, July 20, 2016 and Wednesday, July 27, 2016.
- Public Service Announcement to Q-Lite KHMB 99.5 which aired on Thursday, July 28, 2016 through Tuesday, August 2, 2016.
- Outreach to Public Officials Letters.
- Distribution of flyers in the project area.

The following information was available for inspection and comment. Small-scale copies of the displays are attached.

- Aerial photograph illustrating the proposed project at a scale of 1 inch = 1,500 feet.
- Preliminary design of the proposed project at a scale of 1 inch = 100 feet.

Handouts for the public included a comment sheet and a small-scale map of the project location. Copies of these are attached.

Table 1 describes the results of the public participation at the meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance at meeting (including AHTD staff)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comment forms received</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AHTD staff reviewed all comments received and evaluated their contents. The summary of comments listed below reflects the personal perception or opinion of the person or organization making the statement. The sequencing of the comments is random and is not intended to reflect importance or numerical values. Some of the comments were combined and/or paraphrased to simplify the synopsis process.

An analysis of the responses received as a result of the public survey is shown in Table 2.
TABLE 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternative Preferred</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supports widening Highway 425</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does not support widening Highway 425</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge of historical, archeological or cemetery sites</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge of area environmental constraints</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A listing of general comments concerning the proposed project follows:

- Most comments received were individual concerns such as loss of property and the depreciation of property value.
- Several property owners commented that it would be beneficial to widen to the side of the road where there are no houses rather than widen equally to both sides.
- Some respondents questioned the need for a four-lane highway and suggested that Highway 425 be repaired and more passing lanes be added.
- Several comments raised concerns about the use of culverts instead of bridges on this project due to the severe amount of flooding during heavy rain events.
- One individual reported a cemetery near the project.
- One individual reported the presence of an alligator in the pond south of the West Creek Bridge.

Attachments:

Public handouts, including blank comment form  
Small-scale display copies

RJ:  
DN:  
SL:fc:cb
ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT (AHTD)

CITIZEN COMMENT FORM

AHTD JOB NUMBER CA0201
La. State Line-Highway 82 Widening (Hwy. 425)
ASHLEY COUNTY

LOCATION:
CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
2220 HIGHWAY 425 S.
TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2016
4:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

Make your comments on this form and leave it with AHTD personnel at the meeting or mail it within 15 days to: Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department, Environmental Division, Post Office Box 2261, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261. Email: environmentalpimeetings@ahtd.ar.gov.

☐ Yes ☐ No  Do you feel there is a need to widen Highway 425 between the Louisiana State Line and Highway 82? Comment (optional) __________

........................................................................................................................................................................................................

☐ Yes ☐ No  Do you know of any historical sites, family cemeteries, or archaeological sites in the project area? Please note and discuss with staff. __________

........................................................................................................................................................................................................

☐ Yes ☐ No  Do you know of any environmental constraints, such as endangered species, hazardous waste sites, existing or former landfills, or parks and public lands in the vicinity of the project? Please note and discuss with AHTD staff. __________

........................................................................................................................................................................................................

☐ Yes ☐ No  Does your home or property offer any limitations to the project, such as septic systems, that the Department needs to consider in its design? __________

........................................................................................................................................................................................................

(Continue on Back)
Yes No

☐  ☐ Do you have a suggestion that would make this proposed project better serve the needs of the community? ____________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Do you feel that the proposed widening will have any impacts (☐ Beneficial or ☐ Adverse) on your property and/or community (economic, social, or environmental etc.)? Please explain. ____________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

It is often necessary for the AHTD to contact property owners along potential routes. If you are a property owner along or adjacent to the route under consideration, please provide information below. Thank you.

Name: ____________________________________________ (Please Print)

Address: __________________________ Phone: (_____) _________--________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

E-mail: __________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Please make additional comments here. __________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

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________________________________________________________________________

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________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

For additional information, please visit our website at www.arkansashighways.com
# AHTD ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSESSMENT FORM

**AHTD Job Number**  CA0201  
**FAP Number**  ACNHPP-0002(32)  
**Job Title**  LA. State Line-Hwy. 82 (Widening)(S)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environmental Impacts</th>
<th>None</th>
<th>Minor</th>
<th>Significant</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Air Quality</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction Impacts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Restraining Condition SP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Resources</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endangered Species</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Resources</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Justice/Title VI</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish and Wildlife</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floodplains</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Service Property</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous Materials/Landfills</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Use Impacts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migratory Birds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Bird SP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navigation/Coast Guard</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noise Levels</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prime Farmland</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protected Waters</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Recreation Lands</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Water Supply/WHPA</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>SP required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relocatees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 4(f)/6(f)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Underground Storage Tanks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Impacts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stream Impacts</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>Replacing 2 bridges w/box culverts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Quality</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Minor turbidity during construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetlands</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>&lt; 0.1 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife Refuges</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Section 401 Water Quality Certification Required?**  N  
**Short-term Activity Authorization Required?**  Y  
**Section 404 Permit Required?**  Y  
**Type**  NW14  

Remarks:  

Signature of Evaluator  

Date  12-15-2011
ROADWAY DESIGN REQUEST

Job Number   CA0201               FAP Number       9991                      County  Ashley
Job Name   LA State Line – HWY. 82 (WIDENING) (S)
Design Engineer  Crafton Tull and Associates Environmental Staff

Brief Project Description:
Widen to four lanes with center turn lane on Hwy. 425

A. Existing Conditions:
   1. Roadway Width: 22’
   2. Shoulder Width: 4’
   3. Number of Lanes and Width: 2 lanes @ 11’
   4. Existing Right-of-Way: Approx. 120’

B. Proposed Conditions:
   1. Roadway Width: 59’
   2. Shoulder Width: 8’ paved
   3. Number of Lanes and Width: 4 lanes @ 12’, 1 center turn lane @ 11’
   4. Average Right-of-Way: Approx. 160’

C. Construction Information:
   If detour: Where:

D. Design Data:
   2017 ADT: 1,500  2037 ADT: 1,800  Trucks 33%
   Design Speed: 60 m.p.h.

E. Approximate total length of project: 9.34 mile(s)

F. Justification for proposed improvements: Increase Capacity

G. Total Relocatees: 0  Residences: 0  Businesses: 0

H. Have you coordinated with any of the following: (Provide name and date)
   City and or County Officials: _________________________________
   State Agency: _________________________________
   Federal Agency: _________________________________
Environmental Document

AHTD JOB NUMBER CA0202

Highway 425 – Hamburg (Widening) (S)
Ashley County, Arkansas

Submitted Pursuant to Issue No. 1, An Amendment to Provide Additional Funding for Highways, County Roads, City Streets, Bridges, and Surface Transportation By the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department

Prepared By
PARSONS

March 9, 2016

3/11/2016
Date of Approval

John Fleming
Environmental Division Head
Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department
The Connecting Arkansas Program Manager (CAPM) has reviewed the referenced project as a Non-NEPA project.

The purpose of this project is to improve capacity and safety on Highway 82, a major rural arterial. The total length of the project is 5.4 miles. It extends from the intersection of Highway 82 and Highway 425 to near Lion Drive in Hamburg, Ashley County. Figure 1 illustrates the project location.

The existing roadway consists of a two-lane rural arterial with intermediate auxiliary passing lanes. The existing roadway has two 12-foot traffic lanes and shoulder widths varying from 3-6 feet. Existing right of way width is 120 feet.

Proposed improvements include a rural section of four 12-foot wide paved travel lanes with an 11-foot paved median, and 8-foot wide shoulders. The proposed right of way width will range from 160 feet to 225 feet. Approximately 30 acres of additional right of way will be required for this project.

A Design Information sheet is attached, and design data for this project is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Design Year</th>
<th>Average Daily Traffic</th>
<th>Percent Trucks</th>
<th>Design Speed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>4,200</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>60 mph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2036</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>60 mph</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Early correspondence with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and a review of the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission data identified two federally-endangered species potentially occurring in or near the proposed project area in Ashley County. These include the federally-listed endangered red-cockaded woodpecker (Picoides borealis) and pondberry (Lindera melissifolia). Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission data identified historic records for the red-cockaded woodpecker from within the Wilcoxon Forest near the southern terminus of the project. Additional coordination revealed that the colony had been previously translocated and the Wilcoxon Forest is no longer considered suitable habitat due to its distance to other colonies within the state. A review of the Natural Heritage database indicated that there are no known records of pondberry within the project area. Based on the prior translocation of historic red-cockaded woodpecker colonies and the distance to known pondberry populations, the project is not likely to adversely affect any listed species within the affected area. The USFWS concurred with the determination in a letter dated January 11, 2016.

One historic site within the proposed ROW, the Levi Wilcoxon Demonstration Forest (AS0034), was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The cultural resources survey report was approved by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in a letter dated September 16, 2015. A Memorandum of Agreement and Treatment Plan to mitigate for potential impacts will be prepared between the AHTD and the SHPO for the Levi Wilcoxon Demonstration Forest. The SHPO concurrence letters for the project are attached.
Should any cultural resources sites be found that are eligible or potentially eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places and avoidance is not possible, then site specific treatment plans will be developed and submitted to the SHPO and the appropriate tribes for review and comment. A corresponding MOA between SHPO, the AHTD, and the appropriate tribes will then be implemented and the appropriate treatment plan will be carried out at the earliest practicable time.

A Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination Report for Waters of the U.S. was prepared for the project. That report defined the streams and wetlands identified during field investigations conducted in March 2015 and discussed the anticipated impacts associated with the project. A total of 17 streams and 11 wetlands were identified in the project corridor. Three perennial streams and 14 ephemeral streams were identified. Estimated permanent impacts are 396 linear feet of perennial streams and 1.23 acres of wetlands. Some impacts may be reduced during final design of the project. Compensatory mitigation for unavoidable impacts will be provided at an approved Arkansas Highway Transportation Department mitigation bank. The final compensatory wetland mitigation will be determined during the Section 404 permitting process. Construction of the proposed project should be allowed under a Section 404 Nationwide Permit 14 from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Ashley County participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. All of the floodplain encroachments within the highway construction project will be designed to comply with the county’s local flood damage prevention ordinance. The project lies within the Zone A, Special Flood Hazard Area. The final project design will be reviewed to confirm that the design is adequate and that the potential risk to life and property are minimized. The project will not support incompatible use and development of the floodplain. Adjacent properties should not be impacted nor have a greater flood risk than existed before construction of the project. None of the encroachments will constitute a significant floodplain encroachment or significant risk to property or life.

No relocations are anticipated with this project. Should any relocations be needed based on the final design, Public Law 91-646, Uniform Relocation Assistance Act of 1970 (URAA), as amended, will apply. There are no Executive Order 12898 Environmental Justice issues with this project.

No hazardous materials sites or areas of concern were identified within, or adjacent to, the environmental boundary for the proposed project. Should any hazardous or potentially hazardous materials be encountered during construction, the hazardous materials will be handled and disposed in accordance with applicable state, local, and federal laws and regulations.

An open-forum public involvement meeting for the proposed project was held at Hamburg Middle School in Hamburg, Arkansas from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. on November 10, 2015. A public officials meeting was held at 3:00 p.m. on the same day. A synopsis of the meetings is attached.
Listing of Commitments:

- Nesting Sites for Migratory Birds SP
- An approved wetland mitigation bank will be used for wetland and stream mitigation
- Short Term Activity Authorization
- NPDES Permit
- Floodplain Development Permit
- MOA for the Levi Wilcoxon Demonstration Forest (AS0034)
- URAA will be followed if needed
- Section 404 Nationwide Permit 14
From: Lewis, Lindsey [mailto:lindsey_lewis@fws.gov]
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 2:40 PM
To: Seagraves, Josh
Subject: Re: CA0202 ESA concurrence

Josh,

The Service has reviewed the information you provided along with our records. We concur with your determination that this project is not likely to adversely affect any of the listed species identified within the affected area "based on the prior translocation of the historic red-cockaded woodpecker colony and the distance to known pondberry populations."

No further coordination is necessary at this time.

Thanks,

Lindsey Lewis
Biologist
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Arkansas Field Office
110 South Amity Rd., Suite 300
Conway, Arkansas  72032

(501) 513-4489 - voice
(501) 513-4480 - fax
Lindsey_Lewis@fws.gov
http://www.fws.gov/arkansas-es/[fws.gov]

On Tue, Jan 5, 2016 at 3:09 PM, Seagraves, Josh <Josh.Seagraves@ahtd.ar.gov> wrote:
Lindsey,
AHTD project CA0202 Hwy. 425 – Hamburg will widen a 5.32 mile section of Hwy 82 between the intersection of Hwy. 425 east of Crossett and the city of Hamburg in Ashley County. The roadway will be widened to accommodate four 12-foot travel lanes with an 11-foot painted median. Previous correspondence with your office identified the red-cockaded woodpecker and pondberry occurring within Ashley County. Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission data identifies historic records for the red-cockaded woodpecker from within the Wilcoxin Forest near the southern terminus of the project. Through personal communication with Erin Leone it was determined that this colony had been previously translocated and was not considered suitable habitat due to its distance to other colonies within the state. There are no known records of pondberry within the project area. Therefore, based on the prior translocation of the historic red-cockaded woodpecker colony and the distance to known pondberry populations it is determined that the project is not likely to adversely affect these species. We request your concurrence in this determination.

Thank you.
Josh Seagraves
Section Head – Special Studies
Arkansas Highway and Transportation Dept.
PO Box 2261, Little Rock, AR 72203
Josh.Seagraves@ahtd.ar.gov
June 10, 2015

Mr. Bill McAbee
CAP Environmental Program Manager
Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department
Connecting Arkansas Program
P.O. Box 2261
Little Rock, AR 72203-2261

RE: Ashley County - Hamburg
   Section 106 Review – FHWA
   Request for Technical Assistance
   AHTD Job Number CA0202
   Hwy. 425 – Hamburg (Widening) (S)
   AHPP Tracking Number 93222

Dear Mr. McAbee:

This letter is written in response to your inquiry regarding properties of architectural or historical significance in the area of the proposed referenced project. The staff of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has reviewed the documents contained in your June 8, 2015 letter and has determined that of the twenty-one (21) structures surveyed, nineteen (19) structures (Structures A-AS0108, B-R, and T) are ineligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places while two (2) structures (AS0034-Levi Wilcoxon Demonstration Forest and Structure S) are eligible.

Once the undertaking is further along in the planning stages, we look forward to reviewing the cultural resources survey report of the proposed project. Please refer to the AHPP Tracking Number listed above in all correspondence. If you have any questions, please call Theresa Russell of my staff at (501)-324-9357.

Sincerely,

Frances McSwain
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

cc: Mr. John Fleming, Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department
    Ms. Tamara Francis-Fourkiller, Caddo Nation
    Mr. Everett Bandy, Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma
    Ms. Kim Juniper, Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
    Dr. Ann Early, Arkansas Archeological Survey
September 16, 2015

Mr. Bill McAbee
CAP Environmental Project Manager
Arkansas State Highway & Transportation Department
Connecting Arkansas Program
P.O. Box 2261
Little Rock, AR 72203-2261

RE: Ashley County – General
Section 106 Review – FHWA
Report Titled Cultural Resources Survey for the Route 82 Section 8
 Widening Project (AHTD Job No. CA0202) from Hamburg to Highway
 425 Ashley County, Arkansas
AHPP Tracking Number 93222.1

Dear Mr. McAbee:

The Staff of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has review the above-referenced cultural resources survey report. The report documents fieldwork for a road widening project and is acceptable.

We concur that site AS0034, the Levi Wilcoxon Demonstration Forest (LWDF), is eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. Based on this, we find that the proposed clearing/grubbing and construction work to be conducted within the proposed new right of way, located inside the boundaries of the LWDF, will constitute an adverse effect. We recommend that impacts to the LWDF be avoided or a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) be developed to mitigate the adverse effect.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this undertaking. We look forward to reviewing the draft Section 4(f) and MOA produced for the project. Please refer to the AHPP Tracking Number listed above in all correspondence. If you have any questions, please call Bob Scoggin of my staff at 501-324-9270

Sincerely,

Frances McSwain
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

cc: Mr. Randall Looney, Federal Highway Administration
Ms. Tamara Francis-Fourkiller, Caddo Nation
Dr. Andrea Hunter, Osage Nation
Ms. Kim Jumper, Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
Mr. C. Andrew Buchner, Panamerican Consultants, Inc.
Dr. Ann Early, Arkansas Archeological Survey
Job CA0202

Hwy 425—Hamburg (Widening) (Hwy 82)

Ashley County

November 10, 2015

An open-forum public involvement meeting for the proposed Hwy 425—Hamburg widening (Hwy 82) was held at Hamburg Middle School (Gym) in Hamburg, Arkansas from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. on November 10, 2015. A public officials meeting was held at 3:00 p.m. on the same day. Efforts to involve minorities and local property owners in the meeting included:

- Display advertisements were placed in the Ashley County Ledger on November 4, 2015.
- Display advertisements were placed in Hola Arkansas on October 23, 2015.
- Radio Public Service Announcements (PSA) were run twice a day from November 7 through November 10, 2015 on KMLK 101.5.
- Letters to public officials were mailed and emailed on October 20, 2015 and fliers were mailed on October 23, 2015.
- Letters to ministers were mailed on October 27, 2015 and emailed October 27, 2015.
- Fliers to adjacent property owners were mailed October 26, 2015.
- Fliers to stakeholders and people interested in the project were mailed and emailed October 27, 2015.
- Meeting notice fliers were delivered door-to-door along project route November 4, 2015.
- A news release was distributed to the media on November 5, 2015.
- A meeting announcement was listed on ConnectingArkansasProgram.com on October 23, 2015 and ArkansasHighways.com on October 23, 2015.
The following information was available for inspection and comment:

- Two aerial photograph roll plots at a scale of 1” = 200’, illustrating the entire length of the proposed project.
- Two 24” x 36” aerial photographs on mounted boards at a scale of 1” = 1000’, illustrating the entire length of the proposed project.
- Two 24” x 36” boards showing the proposed typical section of improvements for Highway 82.
- Three CAP informational boards.

Handouts for the public included a comment sheet and a small-scale map illustrating the project location, which was identical to the aerial photography display. Copies of these are attached to this synopsis.

Table 1 describes the results of public official's participation at the meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 1</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public Officials Participation</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance at meeting</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(including AHTD and CAP staff)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total comments received</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dane Weindorf, Hamburg Mayor, submitted a comment. He stated the intersection of Hwy. 82/52/425 has had several fatalities with vehicles running the stop sign on Hwy. 82 and Hwy. 52. He requested a flashing stop sign like was installed north of Hamburg on another project.

Table 2 describes the results of public participation at the 4-7 p.m. meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 2</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public Participation</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance at meeting</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(including AHTD and CAP staff)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comments received</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Crafton Tull reviewed all comments received and evaluated their contents. The summary of comments listed below reflects the personal perception or opinion of the person or organization making the statement. The sequencing of the comments is random and is not intended to reflect importance or numerical values. Some of the comments were combined and/or paraphrased to simplify the synopsis process.

An analysis of the responses received from the public survey is shown in Table 3.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey Results</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supports improvements to Highway 82</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does not support improvements to Highway 82</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Believes the project would have beneficial impacts</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Believes the project would have adverse impacts</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge of historical, archeological or cemetery sites</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge of area environmental constraints</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home or property offers limitations to the project that need to be considered during the design</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suggestion to better serve the needs of the community</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Comments</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Comments Received</strong></td>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following is a listing of comments concerning issues associated with this project:

- One respondent stated he had a potential borrow site on his property if needed.
- One respondent commented the project was very well presented.
• One respondent stated they appreciated the information and answers provided at the meeting.
• One respondent stated they were concerned about traffic for school buses.
• One respondent stated they wanted the project to extend to the state line.
• One respondent stated that side ditches were needed for good drainage on both sides of the highway.

**Attachments:**

• Blank comment form
• Public officials sign-in sheet
• Public meeting sign-in sheets
• 11x17 map handout
• Small-scale copy of the display board
• Typical Section of Improvements board
CITIZEN COMMENT FORM

AHTD JOB NUMBER CA0202
HIGHWAY 425—HAMBURG (WIDENING) (HIGHWAY 82)
ASHLEY COUNTY

LOCATION:
HAMBURG MIDDLE SCHOOL (GYM)
1109 CUB ST., HAMBURG, AR
4:00 – 7:00 P.M.
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015

Make your comments on this form and leave it with AHTD Connecting Arkansas Program personnel at the meeting or mail it within 15 days to: AHTD Connecting Arkansas Program, Attn: Jon Hetzel, 4701 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72118. Email: Info@ConnectingArkansasProgram.com.

Yes  No
☐  ☐ Do you feel there is a need for the proposed widening of Hwy 82 between Hwy 425 and Hamburg? ____________________________

☐  ☐ Do you feel that the proposed widening project will have any impacts (☐ Beneficial or ☐ Adverse) on your property and/or community (either economically, socially, or environmentally, etc.)? Please explain. ________

☐  ☐ Do you know of any historical sites, family cemeteries, or archaeological sites in the proposed area? Please note and discuss with staff. ________

☐  ☐ Do you know of any environmental constraints, such as endangered species, hazardous waste sites, existing or former landfills, or parks and public lands in the vicinity of the project? Please note and discuss with staff. ____________________________

(Continued on back)
Yes  □  No  □  Does your home or property offer any limitations to the project, such as septic systems, that need to be considered in the design?

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

□  □  Do you have a suggestion that would make this proposed project better serve the needs of the community? __________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

It is often necessary for the AHTD to contact property owners along potential routes. If you are a property owner along or adjacent to the route under consideration, please provide information below. Thank you.

Name: (Please Print) ____________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________  Phone: (____) _________ -- _________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

E-mail: ____________________________________________

Please make additional comments here. _____________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

For additional information, please visit our website at www.ConnectingArkansasProgram.com
# AHTD Environmental Impacts Assessment Form

## AHTD Job Number:
CA0202

## FAP Number:

## Job Title:
Hwy 425-Hamburg (Widening) (S), Ashley County

### Environmental Impacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environmental Impacts</th>
<th>None</th>
<th>Minor</th>
<th>Significant</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Air Quality</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction Impacts</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Temporary minor impacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Resources</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>MOA to be developed for impacts to Levi Wilcoxon Demonstration Forest (AS0034)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endangered Species</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Resources</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Justice/Title VI</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish and Wildlife</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floodplains</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Floodplain encroachments, no change to BFE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Service Property</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous Materials/Landfills</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Use Impacts</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migratory Birds</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Include in Special Provisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navigation/Coast Guard</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noise Levels</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prime Farmland</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protected Waters</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Recreation Lands</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Water Supply/WHPA</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relocatees</td>
<td>X</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 4(f)/6(f)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Underground Storage Tanks</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Impacts</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stream Impacts</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Up to 396 linear feet of impacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Quality</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Temporary during construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetlands</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.23 acres of impacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife Refuges</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Section 401 Water Quality Certification Required?**
Yes

**Short-term Activity Authorization Required?**
Yes

**Section 404 Permit Required?**
Yes  Type: Nationwide 14

**Remarks:** Mitigation will be calculated prior to the 404 permit application and mitigation through an approved mitigation bank.

**Signature of Evaluator:**

**Date:** 2/11/16

5/17/2011
DESIGN INFORMATION

Job Number CA0202 FAP Number County Ashley
Job Name Highway 425- Hamburg (Widening) (S)
Design Engineer Crafton Tull

Brief Project Description
Approximately 5.4 miles of the existing two lane roadway will be widened to a 5 lane section.

EXISTING CONDITIONS:
Roadway Width: 24’ Shoulder Width: 3'-6’
Number of Lanes and Width: 2 @ 12’
Average Existing ROW Width 120’

PROPOSED CONDITIONS:
Roadway Width: 59’ Shoulder Width: 8’
Number of Lanes and Width: 4 @ 12’ and 1 @ 11’ center turn lane
Average Proposed ROW Width 165’

CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION:
If detour: Where N/A Length N/A

DESIGN DATA:
2016 ADT 4200 2036 ADT 5000 %Trucks 17 Design Speed 45/60 mph
Approximate total length of project: 5.4 mile(s)
Justification for improvements: To increase both safety and capacity of this major rural arterial.
February 1, 2018

Regulatory Division

NATIONWIDE PERMIT NO. MVK 2018-00092

Mr. John Fleming
Division Head, Environmental Division
Arkansas Department of Transportation
PO Box 2261
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261

Dear Mr. Fleming:

Please refer to your recent request concerning Department of the Army permit requirements pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. You requested authorization for the placement of dredged and fill material in waters of the United States associated with widening 9.3 miles of U.S. Highway 425 from two lanes to four lanes. Proposed improvements include four 12-foot-wide travel lanes, 8-foot-wide shoulders and 11-foot-wide painted median. The project will be constructed on existing alignment and will cross sixteen streams. Named streams include Hanks Creek and West Creek, the other fourteen streams are unnamed. The project will replace the bridges over Hanks Creek, West Creek and one unnamed stream with concrete box culverts. The culverts at all other stream crossings will be retained and extended to accommodate embankment widening. Impacts at all stream crossings will be less than 0.1 acres. A total of 0.2 acres of wetlands will be adversely impacted by the project. Approximately 57 acres of additional right-of-way will be required for the project. There are no endangered species or cultural resources impacts.

The project was approved by the ArDOT and Federal Highway Administration as a Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion on December 16, 2016. Approximately 0.5 miles of the project will be constructed in Louisiana and 8.8 miles will be constructed in Arkansas. Through a cooperative agreement with the Louisiana Department of Transportation, ArDOT will oversee all construction. The project is located approximately five miles southeast of Crossett in section 9, T. 23 N., R. 6 E., Morehouse Parish, Louisiana, in sections 5, 8, 17, 20, 29, 31, and 32, T. 19 S., R. 7 W., and in sections 21, 28, 32 and 33, T. 18 S., R. 7 W., Ashley County, Arkansas. A vicinity map, project location maps and wetland impacts worksheet are enclosed.

The proposed activities are authorized by Department of the Army Nationwide Permit (NWP) No. 23 (copy enclosed), provided that the following Special Condition and General Conditions therein are met. For your convenience, we have highlighted the General Conditions of the NWP that are the most pertinent to your project. You should become familiar with the conditions and
maintain a copy of the permit at the worksite for ready reference. If changes are proposed in the design or location of the project, you should submit revised plans to this office for approval before construction of the change begins.

**Special Condition:**

1. **The ArDOT agrees to mitigate for the adverse impacts to 0.2 acres of wetlands with 2.0 wetland credits at an approved mitigation bank before construction of the project begins. The ArDOT will provide documentation of the mitigation bank transaction to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Little Rock District Transportation Program Manager.**

   Please pay particular attention to General Condition No. 12 which stipulates that appropriate erosion and siltation controls be used during construction and all exposed soil be permanently stabilized. Erosion control measures must be implemented before, during and after construction.

   Also, in order to fully comply with the conditions of the NWP, you must submit the enclosed compliance certification within 30 days of completion of the project. This is required pursuant to General Condition No. 30 of the permit.

   For your information, we have enclosed a copy of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Section 401 Water Quality Certification conditions, which are conditions of your permit. If you have any questions concerning compliance with the conditions of the 401 certification, you should contact Ms. Lazendra Hairston at the ADEQ, Water Division, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118, telephone (501) 682-0645. We have also enclosed a copy of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality Section 401 certification. If you have any questions regarding this certification, you should contact Ms. Elizabeth Hill at (225) 219-3225, or by email at Elizabeth.Hill@La.gov.

   The NWP determination will be valid until March 18, 2022. If NWP No. 23 is modified, suspended, or revoked during this period, your project may not be authorized unless you have begun or are under contract to begin the project. If work has started or the work is under contract, you would then have twelve (12) months to complete the work.
Your cooperation in the Regulatory Program is appreciated. If you have any additional questions about this permit or any of its provisions, please contact Mr. Johnny McLean at (501) 324-5295 and refer to Permit No. MVK 2018-00092, U.S. Highway 425 widening southeast of Crossett (ArDOT Project No. CA0201).

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Sarah Chitwood
Chief, Regulatory Evaluation Branch

Copy Furnished:
Vicksburg District Regulatory, w/cy dwgs
Ms. Lazendra Hairston, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, w/cy dwgs
Mr. Lindsey Lewis, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, w/cy dwgs
Ms. Elizabeth Hill, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, w/cy dwgs
4.0 TABLES AND WORKSHEETS

REQUIRED WETLAND MITIGATION CREDIT TABLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FACTORS</th>
<th>OPTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lost Type</td>
<td>Type C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority Category</td>
<td>Tertiary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Existing Condition</td>
<td>Very Impaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Drain</td>
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<td>Impound/Flood</td>
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<td>&lt; 0.25 Acre</td>
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<tr>
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Note: The cumulative impact factor for the overall project should be included in the sum of factors for each impacted area on the Required Wetland Mitigation Credit Worksheet.

REQUIRED WETLAND MITIGATION CREDIT WORKSHEET

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
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<th>Area 2</th>
<th>Area 3</th>
<th>Area 4</th>
<th>Area 5</th>
<th>Area 6</th>
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<td>Dominant Impact</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
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<td>R₂ = 2.9</td>
<td>R₃ = 9.1</td>
<td>R₄ = 11.1</td>
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<td>R₆ =</td>
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<td>A₂ = 0.03</td>
<td>A₃ = 0.01</td>
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<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.6</td>
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</table>

Required Wetland Mitigation Credits = \( \sum (R \times A) = 2.0 \)
Colonel Robert G. Dixon
District Commander
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 867
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-0867

RE: Public Notice: Re-issuance of Nationwide Permits

Dear Colonel Dixon:

The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has completed its review of the above referenced public notice for re-issuance of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permits (NWPs) for the State of Arkansas.

ADEQ has determined that there is a reasonable assurance that the activities covered under most of these NWPs will be conducted in a manner which, according to the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission's Regulation No.2, will not physically alter a significant segment of the waterbody and will not violate the water quality criteria.

Therefore, pursuant to §40(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act, the ADEQ hereby issues water quality certification for all NWPs with the exception of NWPs 14, 29, and 43, contingent upon the following conditions:

1) An individual water quality certification request must be submitted to ADEQ for Activities which may impact Extraordinary Resource Waters, Ecologically Sensitive Waterbodies, and Natural Scenic Waterways and their tributaries (within 1 mile) as defined in Regulation No. 2, Water Quality Standards.

2) The applicant shall contact ADEQ to determine if a Short Term Activity Authorization (STAA) is needed when performing work in the wetted area of any waterbody. More information can be obtained by contacting the Water Division Planning Section of ADEQ at 501-682-0946.

3) The applicant shall implement all practicable best management practices (BMPs) to avoid excessive impacts of sedimentation and turbidity to the surface waters.

4) The applicant will take all reasonable measures to prevent the spillage or leakage of any chemicals, oil, grease, gasoline, diesel, or other fuels. In the unlikely event such spillage or leakage occurs, the applicant must contact ADEQ immediately.

5) The applicant shall limit construction to low flow periods as much as possible to minimize adverse effects on water quality and aquatic life.
Mr. Martin S. Mayer
Chief, Regulatory Branch
Department of the Army
Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District
P. O. Box 60267
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267
Attention: Brenda A. Archer

RE: Water Quality Certification WQC 160629-02 *CORRECTED*
2017 Nationwide Permit Reissuance
State of Louisiana

Dear Mr. Mayer:

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services (LDEQ), provides with this correspondence clarification of the water quality certification approval and reissuance of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Nationwide Permits (NWPs), general conditions, and definitions with some modification in the Federal Register (Vol. 82 No. 4) as published January 6, 2017. The 2017 NWPs are in effect as of March 19, 2017. The publication of the final NWPs in the Federal Register serves as the Corps application for water quality certification (WQC) under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act for those NWPs that will result in a discharge in the State of Louisiana.

LDEQ has reviewed the Corps’ Reissuance of Nationwide Permits, as published in the referenced Federal Register and issues WQC 160629-02 with the attached Nationwide Permit (NWP) Regional Conditions, February 2017 for the following NWPs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NWP 3</th>
<th>NWP 18</th>
<th>NWP 33</th>
<th>NWP 46</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>NWP 4</td>
<td>NWP 19</td>
<td>NWP 34</td>
<td>NWP 48</td>
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<td>NWP 5</td>
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<td>NWP 49</td>
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<td>NWP 21</td>
<td>NWP 37</td>
<td>NWP 50</td>
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<td>NWP 7</td>
<td>NWP 22</td>
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<td>NWP 40</td>
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<td>NWP 27</td>
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<td>NWP 43</td>
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<td>NWP 31</td>
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<td>NWP 17</td>
<td>NWP 32</td>
<td>NWP 45</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LDEQ denies 401 Water Quality Certification to the reissuance of NWP 29 except those associated with construction or expansion of a single residence pursuant to the attached State of Louisiana Nationwide Permit Regional Conditions.

LDEQ has denied 401 Water Quality Certification to the reissuance of NWP 39.

Based on the information provided in the application, it is the opinion of LDEQ that the Nationwide Permit NWP 39 could have potential adverse effects on water quality or fail to comply with State water quality standards as provided for in LAC 33:IX. Chapter 11, and should be considered for certification on a case-by-case basis. Therefore, certification for this NWP is denied.

Should you have any questions concerning any part of this certification, please contact Elizabeth Hill at (225) 219-3225 or by email at elizabeth.hill@la.gov. Please reference Agency Interest (AI) number 149056 and Water Quality Certification 160629-02 on all future correspondence to this Department to ensure all correspondence regarding this subject is properly filed into the Department’s Electronic Document Management System.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elliott B. Vega
Assistant Secretary

Attachment

c: IO-W
NWP 16. Return Water from Upland Contained Disposal Areas:
No additional regional conditions are proposed.

NWP 17. Hydropower Projects:
No additional regional conditions are proposed.

NWP 18. Minor Discharges:
This NWP, via disavowal of Coastal Zone certification by the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, is considered denied without prejudice within the Louisiana Coastal Zone. Individual requests for approval under this NWP will be conditioned to require the applicant to obtain a Louisiana Department of Natural Resources determination/certification before the NWP is valid.

NWP 19. Minor Dredging:
No additional regional conditions are proposed.

NWP 20. Response Operations for Oil and Hazardous Substances:
This NWP, via disavowal of Coastal Zone certification by the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, is considered denied without prejudice within the Louisiana Coastal Zone. Individual requests for approval under this NWP will be conditioned to require the applicant to obtain a Louisiana Department of Natural Resources determination/certification before the NWP is valid.

NWP 21. Surface Coal Mining Activities:
No additional regional conditions are proposed.

NWP 22. Removal of Vessels:
This NWP, via disavowal of Coastal Zone certification by the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, is considered denied without prejudice within the Louisiana Coastal Zone. Individual requests for approval under this NWP will be conditioned to require the applicant to obtain a Louisiana Department of Natural Resources determination/certification before the NWP is valid.

NWP 23. Approved Categorical Exclusions:
This NWP, via disavowal of Coastal Zone certification by the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, is considered denied without prejudice within the Louisiana Coastal Zone. Individual requests for approval under this NWP will be conditioned to require the applicant to obtain a Louisiana Department of Natural Resources determination/certification before the NWP is valid.

NWP 24. Indian Tribe or State Administered Section 404 Programs:
July 19, 2018

Regulatory Division

NATIONWIDE PERMIT NO. MVK 2017-00565

Mr. John Fleming
Division Head, Environmental Division
Arkansas Department of Transportation
PO Box 2261
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261

Dear Mr. Fleming:

Please refer to your recent request concerning Department of the Army permit requirements pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. You requested authorization for the placement of dredged and fill material in waters of the United States associated with widening 5.4 miles of U.S. Highway 82 from two lanes to four lanes. Proposed improvements include four 12-foot-wide travel lanes, 8-foot-wide shoulders and an 11-foot-wide painted median. The project will be constructed on existing alignment and will cross seventeen streams impacting approximately 2,167 linear feet. Three of the streams are perennial and fourteen are ephemeral. Impacts will primarily be the extension of existing culverts and aligning the channels with the culverts. Stream impacts at each crossing will be less than 300 linear feet and 0.1 acres except for Stream 9 where approximately 684 linear feet will be relocated to the toe of the embankment slope. Stream 9 is an ephemeral stream which functions as a roadside channel. Relocating the stream will not result in any loss of stream functions or services. The project will impact eleven wetland areas totaling 1.1 acres that are located adjacent to the stream crossings. Approximately 30 acres of additional right-of-way will be required for the project. The project will impact the Levi Wilcoxson Demonstration Forest which is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. There are no threatened or endangered species impacts.

The project is located immediately south of Hamburg in sections 3, 10 and 15, T. 18 S., R. 7 W., and in sections 26, 27 and 34, T. 17 S., R. 7 W., Ashley County, Arkansas. A vicinity map, project location map, wetland and stream impact maps, and a wetland mitigation worksheet are enclosed.

The proposed activities are authorized by 17 Department of the Army Nationwide Permits (NWP’s) No. 14 (copy enclosed), provided that the following Special Conditions and General Conditions therein are met. For your convenience, we have highlighted the General Conditions
of the NWP that are the most pertinent to your project. You should become familiar with the conditions and maintain a copy of the permit at the worksite for ready reference. If changes are proposed in the design or location of the project, you should submit revised plans to this office for approval before construction of the change begins.

Special Conditions:

1. ArDOT agrees to mitigate for the adverse impacts to 1.1 acres of wetlands with 9.98 wetland credits at an approved mitigation bank before construction of the project begins. ArDOT will provide documentation of the mitigation bank transaction to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Little Rock District Transportation Program Manager.


Please pay particular attention to General Condition No. 12 which stipulates that appropriate erosion and siltation controls be used during construction and all exposed soil be permanently stabilized. Erosion control measures must be implemented before, during and after construction.

Also, in order to fully comply with the conditions of the NWP, you must submit the enclosed compliance certification within 30 days of completion of the project. This is required pursuant to General Condition No. 30 of the permit.

For your information, we have enclosed a copy of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Section 401 Water Quality Certification conditions, which are conditions of your permit. If you have any questions concerning compliance with the conditions of the 401 certification, you should contact Ms. Melanie Treat at the ADEQ, Water Division, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118, telephone (501) 682-0040.

The NWP determination will be valid until March 18, 2022. If NWP No. 14 is modified, suspended, or revoked during this period, your project may not be authorized unless you have begun or are under contract to begin the project. If work has started or the work is under contract, you would then have twelve (12) months to complete the work.

Your cooperation in the Regulatory Program is appreciated. If you have any additional questions about this permit or any of its provisions, please contact Mr. Johnny McLean at (501)
324-5295 and refer to Permit No. **MVK 2017-00565, U.S. Highway 82 widening south of Hamburg (ArDOT Project No. CA0202).**

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Sarah Chitwood  
Chief, Regulatory Evaluation Branch

Copy Furnished:  
Vicksburg District Regulatory, w/cy dwgs  
Ms. Melanie Treat, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, w/cy dwgs  
Mr. Lindsey Lewis, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, w/cy dwgs
Total in Study Limits - 427.53 ft.
Total Impacted - 174.31 ft.
# Required Mitigation Credits Worksheet for a Commercial Mitigation Bank

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<th>Wetland 6</th>
<th>Wetland 7</th>
<th>Wetland 8</th>
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<td>Type B</td>
<td>Type A</td>
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<td>1.08</td>
<td>9.98</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Required Credits = ∑(RxAAa) = 9.98

**Credit per acre at Commercial Mitigation Bank = 3.5

Acres = 2.85

* Assume that the commercial mitigation site's service area will cover the project area in the Bayou Bartholomew 8-digit HUC (Pelican Foster Mitigation Bank or Lower Cutoff Mitigation Bank).

** Assume commercial mitigation bank credit per acre of 3.5.