MEMORANDUM

P-004-2013 cc: M. McGregor S. Ross S. Gutti T. Higdon M. Pelfrey S. Dikes

TO:	Keith Damron, P.E. Division of Planning						
BY:	Bart Asher, P.E., P.L.S. Geotechnical Branch Manager						
DATE:	July 29, 2013						

SUBJECT: Livingston County US 60 Bridge Replacement Study over Cumberland River Item # 1-1142 Mars # 8658308P Preliminary Geotechnical Assessment

The Division of Planning is conducting a bridge replacement study for the subject project. This project is located in Livingston County, KY Where US 60 passes over the Cumberland River just north of Smithland and east of the confluence of the Cumberland and Ohio Rivers (as depicted on the site map). This abbreviated review will discuss some general geotechnical concerns with the area.

The approximate coordinates for the center of this site is site are: 37.148475 degrees North and -88.399527 degrees West. The site is located in the Smithland (657) Geologic Quadrangle which is in the Mississippian Plateau or Pennyrile Physiographic Region.

Mapping indicates that the study area is surrounded by a number of geologic faults. The Latrobe Fault is inferred to be just north of the current bridge location. That fault has, in places, been mined commercially for fluorspar. Aggregate has been mined commercially in the area. The Reed Quarry, one of the largest producers of crushed rock in the world, is located approximately $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the north of the site.

The available mapping indicates the overburden material around the bridge to be alluvium and Loess. It appears that the mapping indicates that the overburden materials are underlain by Tar Springs Sandstone. The mapping also indicates that there could be some karst features in the quadrangle but none appear to be close to the proposed bridge location.

Plans pertaining to this site with the following drawing numbers are available in the KYTC Bridge office: 5347, 7646, 8464, 10375, 18180, 23409. 18180 involved extensive foundation rehabilitation of Pier B and Pier NP1. Those sheets were viewable but for the most part were not accessible to be included in this report due to problems with the microfilm scanner. Borings from some of the original plans are included.

Foundations for the existing bridge (see attached profile) appear to be:

SA (South abutment) – Spread Footing on Solid Rock SP4 – Spread Footing on Solid Rock SP3 – Spread Footing on Solid Rock SP2 – Concrete piles (could be friction or rock bearing)

SP1 – Concrete piles (could be friction or rock bearing)

Pier A (main span over river) – Spread footings on cemented gravel

Pier B (main span over river) – Spread footings on cemented gravel and H-piles driven to rock (rehab)

NP1 – Spread footings on sand and clay and H-piles driven to rock (rehab)

NP2 – Spread footings on sand and clay

NP3 – Concrete friction piles

- NP3 Concrete friction piles
- NP4 Concrete friction piles
- NP5 Concrete friction piles
- NP6 Concrete friction piles
- NP7 Concrete friction piles
- NP8 Concrete friction piles

NA (North Abutment) - Concrete friction piles

One of the proposed alternates is to reuse the existing foundations for a new superstructure. This does not appear to be desirable from a geotechnical standpoint. It is difficult to analyze the inplace capacity and remaining service life of piles with unknown lengths. Main span pier A does not appear to be founded on bedrock and pier B and NP1 have had a major retrofit and appears to be at least partially founded on bedrock. Additionally, discussions with District personnel and a review of archived plans revealed that numerous retrofits have taken place on this bridge. District personnel indicated some of these retrofits were due to movement of the bridge. The cause of the movement is unknown. Reuse of any substructures will require an in-depth investigation and analysis.

Foundations for a new bridge in this area could be spread footing foundations on bedrock, drilled shafts extended into bedrock, piles driven to bedrock or friction piles founded in the overburden soils. It is likely that the main span would be required to be founded in bedrock with drilled shafts as the preferred foundation type. Upon further study of the hydraulics of a new bridge it is likely that all foundations will be required to extend to bedrock. Evaluation of the proper seismic parameters based on what is found during the field investigation phase will be critical for design of a new bridge. The potential for barge impact could factor into the design of the bridge foundations.

Soils in the area are generally suitable for embankment construction. Generally, embankments built from the native soils can be constructed to a height of 60 feet with 2H:1V sideslopes if the foundation is suitable and proper compaction methods are used. Soil cuts over approximately 10 feet often require analyses to design proper sideslopes. In no case should soil cuts be steeper than 2H:1V. Suitable rock for embankment construction and rock roadbed is readily available in this area of the state. Soils in the area are considered erodible.

A review of aerial mapping indicates that there could be some ponded, wet or potentially swampy areas in some of the proposed corridors (most notably the most eastern alternate where a blue line stream heads toward the Cumberland River). These areas would require site specific investigations in order to determine suitability for design of the embankments. Additional structures may be required.

The Cumberland River, in this area, has some stream bank stability/scour issues. The Division of Maintenance and this office has recently evaluated the bank in the vicinity of the bridge. Piling has reportedly been exposed and a remediation measures have been developed (Call No. 100 Contract ID 132981). At the time of this report these measures had not been constructed. Loss of material appears to have been a concern in previous work on the bridge as well. The evaluation of scour and the erosion potential of the site soils will be critical in the design of any new structure.



View looking at South Bank of Cumberland River.



Approximate Profile of bank, South Side Cumberland River (from Division of Maintenance)

California Bearing Ratio (CBR) values used in pavement design generally range from 2-4 for soils subgrades in the area. Chemical modification of subgrade or the use of rock roadbed is sometimes used in the area. Wet areas could require undercutting and replacement of soils.

Site specific Geotechnical investigations are critical in this region for design.

Please feel free to contact this office for additional information.

Attachments:

Proposed corridor map GQ Site Map Select plan sheets from various bridge plans

US 60 – LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY

EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY EXISTING ALIGNMENT

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ALT.1 – BRIDGE REHABILITATION IN PLACE AND ALT.2 – SUPERSTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT ON EXISTING OR REHABILITATED STRUCTURE

ALT. 3- BRIDGE REPLACEMENT UPSTREAM (EAST OF EXISTING)

ALT. 4 - BRIDGE REPLACEMENT DOWNSTREAM (WEST OF EXISTING)



<u>Legend</u>









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Dr.# 7646 COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

CUMBERLAND RIVER BRIDGE AT SMITHLAND, KY

SUBSTRUCTURE-MAIN BRIDGE SCALE IN FEET

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