APPENDIX C. RESOURCE AGENCY COORDINATION ROUND I



Commonwealth of Kentucky

Transportation Cabinet

Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

Paul E. Patton Governor

Secretary of Transportation Clifford C. Linkes, P.E.

James C. Codell, III

Deputy Secretary

November 26, 2003

(See Attached List)

«Mailing_Title» «First_Name» «Last_Name» «Suffix»

«Title»

«Organization»

«Address1»

«Address2»

«City», «State» «Zip»

SUBJECT:

Planning Study

Jackson County

US 421, Alternatives Study – Reconstruction from KY 89 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421 just north of the

Jackson-Rockcastle County line

Item No. 11-113.00

Dear «Letter_Title» «Last_Name»:

We are requesting your agency's input and comments on a planning study to determine the need and potential impacts for a proposed highway project. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet has assembled a study team to evaluate alternatives for the possible reconstruction of US 421 in Jackson County from KY 89 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421 near Bighill in Rockcastle County. The study is currently in the initial data-gathering stage.

We ask that you identify specific issues or concerns of your agency that could affect the development of the project. This planning study will include a scoping process for the early identification of potential alternatives, environmental issues, and impacts related to the proposed project. We believe that early identification of issues or concerns can help us develop highway project alternatives to avoid or minimize negative impacts.



We respectfully ask that you provide us with your comments by January 9, 2004 to ensure timely progress in this planning effort.

During the development of this planning study, comments will be solicited from Federal, state, and local agencies, as well as other interested persons and the general public, in accordance with principles set forth in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. The Federal Highway Administration is partnering with us in these efforts.

Other Transportation Cabinet offices or consultants working on behalf of the Transportation Cabinet may also contact you seeking more detailed data or information to assist them in completing their environmental studies for this phase of the project.

We have enclosed a brochure with the following project information for your review and comment:

- · A preliminary statement of Study Purpose and Project Goals
- Project Location Map and Environmental Features
- Year 2003 Traffic Characteristics
- Vehicle Crash Information

We appreciate any input you can provide concerning this project. Please direct any comments, questions, or requests for additional information to Steve Ross of the Division of Planning at 502/564-7183 or at steve.ross@ky.gov. Please address all written correspondence to Annette Coffey, P.E., Director, Division of Planning, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, 125 Holmes Street, Frankfort, KY 40622.

Sincerely,

Annette Coffey, P.E.

Runte Coffee

Director

Division of Planning

AC:RSR:RC

Enclosures

c:

Jose Sepulveda (w/a)
Glenn Jilek (w/a)
David Whitworth (w/a)
Anthony Goodman (w/a)
Clay McKnight - CVADD
Marc Williams - WSA
Andrew Buell

Joel Holcomb

Dean Croft
Jim Ball
Quentin Smith
Sandy Rudder
Greene Keith
George Best
David Waldner

MS. LAVERNE REID DISTRICT MANAGER AIRPORTS DISTRICT OFFICE, FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION 3385 AIRWAYS BLVD., SUITE 302 MEMPHIS TN 38116

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF TRUCKERS P.O. BOX 487 BENTON KY 42025

MR. HAYES DENT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY 236 SHARKEY AVENUE, SUITE 400 CLARKSDALE MS 38614 MR. ALLEN D. YOUNGMAN
ADJUTANT GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS
BOONE NAT'L GUARD CTR.,100 MINUTEMAN PKY.
FRANKFORT KY 40601

MS. ANN R. LATTA
ACTING COMMISSIONER
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
10TH, FLOOR, CAPITAL PLAZA TOWER, 500 MERO ST.
FRANKFORT KY 40601

MR. GEORGE CROTHERS
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF STATE ARCHAEOLOGY
DEPT. OF ANTHROPOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
211 LAFFERTY HALL
LEXINGTON KY 40506-0024

MR. WILLIAM STRAW, PH.D.
REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER
FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY,
REGION IV
3003 CHAMBLEE-TUCKER ROAD
ATLANTA GA 30341-4130

MS. MARGIE SHOUSE INDEPENDENT HAULER ASSOCIATION 905 NEBO ROAD P.O. BOX 178 MADISONVILLE KY 42431

MR. JACK FISH
PRESIDENT
KENTUCKIANS FOR BETTER TRANSPORTATION
10332 BLUEGRASS PARKWAY
LOUISVILLE KY 40299

KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH 105 REAMS STREET P.O. BOX 1450 LONDON KY 40743

MS. MARCIA R. MORGAN SECRETARY KENTUCKY HEALTH SERVICES CABINET 275 EAST MAIN FRANKFORT KY 40601 MR. KELVIN COMBS KENTUCKY AIRPORT ZONING COMMISSION STATE OFFICE BLDG. ANX., 3RD FLOOR, MAIL CODE A-3 125 HOLMES STREET FRANKFORT KY 40622

MR. BOB ARNOLD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES 380 KING'S DAUGHTERS DRIVE FRANKFORT KY 40601 MR. KEN OILSCHLAGER
PRESIDENT
KENTUCKY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EXECUTIVES, INC.
464 CHENAULT ROAD
FRANKFORT KY 40601

MR. BILLY RAY SMITH COMMISSIONER KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE CAPITOL ANNEX, ROOM 188 FRANKFORT KY 40601

MR. C. THOMAS BENNETT
COMMISSIONER
KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
RESOURCES
ARNOLD L. MITCHELL BLDG., #1 GAME FARM RD.
FRANKFORT KY 40601

MR. STEPHEN A. COLEMAN DIRECTOR KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF NAT'L. RESOURCES, DIVISION OF CONSERVATION 663 TETON TRAIL FRANKFORT KY 40601

MR. CARL CAMPBELL
COMMISSIONER
KENTUCKY DEPT. OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION
AND ENFORCEMENT
2 HUDSON HOLLOW
FRANKFORT KY 40601

MR. JOHN LYONS DIRECTOR KENTUCKY DIVISION OF AIR QUALITY 803 SCHENKEL LANE FRANKFORT KY 40601

MR. KENNETH FROST DIRECTOR KENTUCKY DIVISION OF VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT STATE OFFICE BUILDING, 8TH FLOOR, MAIL CODE 8-4 FRANKFORT KY 40622

MR. JEFF PRATT DIRECTOR KENTUCKY DIVISION OF WATER 14 REILLY ROAD FRANKFORT KY 40601 MR. BOB LOGAN
COMMISSIONER
KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION
14 REILLY ROAD
FRANKFORT KY 40601

MR. HUGH ARCHER
COMMISSIONER
KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF NAT'L. RESOURCES
663 TETON TRAIL
FRANKFORT KY 40601

MR. PAT SIMPSON COMMISSIONER KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE 919 VERSAILLES ROAD FRANKFORT KY 40601

KENTUCKY DISABILITIES COALITION P.O. BOX 1589 FRANKFORT KY 40602-1589

MS. LEAH W. MACSWORDS DIRECTOR KENTUCKY DIVISION OF FORESTRY 627 COMANCHE TRAIL FRANKFORT KY 40601

MR. ROBERT DANIEL DIRECTOR KENTUCKY DIVISION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT 14 REILLY ROAD FRANKFORT KY 40601

MR. MARVIN E. STRONG , JR.
SECRETARY
KENTUCKY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CABINET
CAPITAL PLAZA TOWER, 500 MERO ST.
FRANKFORT KY 40601

MR. JOHN BIRD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KENTUCKY FORWARD 464 CHENAULT ROAD FRANKFORT KY 40601

MR. DAVID L. MORGAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL 300 WASHINGTON STREET FRANKFORT KY 40601

MR. KEVIN GRAFFAGNINO DIRECTOR KENTUCKY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 100 W. BROADWAY FRANKFORT KY 40601

MS. SYLVIA L. LOVELY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
KENTUCKY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC.
101 EAST VINE STREET, STE. 600
LEXINGTON KY 40507

MR. HENRY C. LIST SECRETARY KENTUCKY NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION CABINET CAPITAL PLAZA TOWER, 5TH FLOOR FRANKFORT KY 40601

MS. VICKIE BOURNE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
KENTUCKY OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION DELIVERY
STATE OFFICE BLDG. ANX., 3RD FLOOR, MAIL CODE A-4
125 HOLMES STREET
FRANKFORT KY 40622

MS. MARCHETA SPARROW PRESIDENT KENTUCKY TOURISM COUNCIL TARC,1100 US127 S., BLDG. C FRANKFORT KY 40601 MR. JIM COBB STATE GEOLOGIST & DIRECTOR KENTUCKY GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY 228 MINING AND MINERAL RESOURCES BLDG. LEXINGTON KY 40506

MR. JOHN D. OVERING KENTUCKY HERITAGE RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL 227 MORRIS DRIVE HARRODSBURG KY 40330

KENTUCKY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC. 109 CONSUMER LANE, STE. A FRANKFORT KY 40601-8489

MR. NED SHEEHY
PRESIDENT
KENTUCKY MOTOR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION
134 WALNUT STREET
FRANKFORT KY 40601

MR. DONALD S. DOTT , JR. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KENTUCKY NATURE PRESERVES 801 SCHENKEL LANE FRANKFORT KY 40601

MR. BARRY BARKER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
KENTUCKY PUBLIC TRANSIT ASSOCIATION
1000 WEST BROADWAY
LOUISVILLE KY 40203

MS. ANN R. LATTA
SECRETARY
KENTUCKY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CABINET
CAPITAL PLAZA TOWER,24 FLOOR
500 MERO STREET
FRANKFORT KY 40601

MR. STEVE GOODPASTER
DIRECTOR
KYTC, DIVISION OF BRIDGE DESIGN
STATE OFFICE BUILDING, 7TH FLOOR, MAIL CODE 7-1
FRANKFORT KY 40622

MR. DEXTER NEWMAN
DIRECTOR
KYTC, DIVISION OF CONSTRUCTION
STATE OFFICE BUILDING, 4TH FLOOR, MAIL CODE 4-1
FRANKFORT KY 40622

MR. DAVID WALDNER
DIRECTOR
KYTC, DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS
STATE OFFICE BLDG. ANX., 1ST FLOOR, MAIL CODE A-1
125 HOLMES STREET
FRANKFORT KY 40622

MR. WESLEY GLASS ACTING DIRECTOR KYTC, DIVISION OF MATERIALS FRANKFORT KY 40622

MR. MIKE HILL DIRECTOR KYTC, DIVISION OF MULTIMODAL PROGRAMS STATE OFFICE BLDG. ANX., 3RD FLOOR, MAIL CODE A-5 125 HOLMES STREET FRANKFORT KY 40622

MR. CHUCK KNOWLES DIRECTOR KYTC, DIVISION OF OPERATIONS STATE OFFICE BUILDING, 7TH FLOOR, MAIL CODE 7-2 FRANKFORT KY 40622

MR. CHUCK KNOWLES
ACTING DIRECTOR
KYTC, DIVISION OF TRAFFIC
STATE OFFICE BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, MAIL CODE 1-3
FRANKFORT KY 40622

MR. PHILLIP MANN
ACTING BRANCH MANAGER
KYTC, PERMITS BRANCH
STATE OFFICE BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, MAIL CODE 1-3
FRANKFORT KY 40622

MS. WILLIE H. LILE SECRETARY KENTUCKY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CABINET CAPITAL PLAZA TOWER, 2ND FLOOR FRANKFORT KY 40601 MR. JAMES ALDRIDGE DIRECTOR NATURE CONSERVANCY - KENTUCKY CHAPTER 642 WEST MAIN STREET LEXINGTON KY 40508

MS. HELEN CLEARY
PRESIDENT
SCENIC KENTUCKY
P. O. BOX 2646
LOUISVILLE KY 40201

MR. OSCAR GERALDS SIERRA CLUB 259 WEST SHORT STREET LEXINGTON KY 40507

MR. GARY LANTHRUM
DIRECTOR, NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM
U. S. DEPT. OF ENERGY, ALBUQUERQUE OPERATIONS
OFFICE
P. O. BOX 5400, SC-5
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87185-5400

MR. HEINZ MUELLER
ATTORNEY
U. S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, REGION 4
OFFICE
13TH FLOOR, ATLANTA FEDERAL CTR.
61 FORSYTH ST. SW
ATLANTA GA 30303

MR. DAVID SAWYER STATE CONSERVATIONIST U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE 711 CORPORATE DRIVE, SUITE 110 LEXINGTON KY 40503

MR. LEE ANDREWS
FIELD SUPERVISOR
U.S. DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR, FISH AND WILDLIFE
SERVICE
3761 GEORGETOWN ROAD
FRANKFORT KY 40601

THE HONORABLE JIM BUNNING UNITED STATES SENATOR UNITED STATES SENATE 316 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON DC 20510

MR. THOMAS M. HUNTER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION
1666 CONNECTICUT AVE., NW
WASHINGTON DC 20235

LT. COLONEL STEVE GAY
DISTRICT ENGINEER
U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NASHVILLE DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 1070
NASHVILLE TN 37202-1070

THE HONORABLE HAROLD ROGERS
UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE - DISTRICT 5
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2406 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20515

MR. KEVIN W. LAWRENCE PLANNING STAFF OFFICER U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE, FOREST SERVICE, DANIEL BOONE NAT'L FOREST 1700 BYPASS RD. WINCHESTER KY 40391 MR. KENNETH W. HOLT
U.S. DEPT. OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERV., CENTER FOR
DISEASE CONTROL, EMERGENCY AND
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION
MAIL STOP F-16
4770 BUFORD HIGHWAY, N.E.
ATLANTA GA 30341-3724

MR. ROGER WIEBUSCH BRIDGE ADMINISTRATOR UNITED STATES COAST GUARD, BRIDGE BRANCH 1222 SPRUCE STREET ST. LOUIS MO 63103

THE HONORABLE MITCH MCCONNELL UNITED STATES SENATOR UNITED STATES SENATE 361-A RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON DC 20510

COLONEL ROBERT E. SLOCKBOWER
DISTRICT ENGINEER
U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, LOUISVILLE DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 59
LOUISVILLE KY 40201

THE HONORABLE ERNIE FLETCHER
UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE - DISTRICT 6
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
1117 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20515

MR. JOHN MILCHICK , JR.
KENTUCKY STATE COORDINATOR
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & URBAN
DEVELOPMENT, KY. STATE OFFICE
601 WEST BROADWAY
LOUISVILLE KY 40202

THE HONORABLE MARIE L. RADER STATE REPRESENTATIVE KENTUCKY HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES P.O. BOX 323 MCKEE KY 40447 THE HONORABLE ALBERT ROBINSON STATE SENATOR KENTUCKY SENATE 1249 SOUTH MAIN STREET LONDON KY 40741

THE HONORABLE ED WORLEY STATE SENATOR KENTUCKY SENATE P. O. 659 RICHMOND KY 40475

THE HONORABLE HARRY MOBERLY STATE REPRESENTATIVE KENTUCKY HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES P.O. BOX 721 RICHMOND KY 40475

THE HONORABLE TOMMY SLONE JUDGE EXECUTIVE JACKSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE P.O. BOX 175 MCKEE KY 40447

THE HONORABLE KENT CLARK JUDGE EXECUTIVE MADISON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 101 WEST MAIN STREET RICHMOND KY 40475

THE HONORABLE STEVEN CONNELLY MAYOR CITY OF BEREA 212 CHESTNUT STREET BEREA KY 40403

JIMMY SINGLETON STATE HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR P.O. BOX 23 GRAY HAWK KY 40434 THE HONORABLE DANNY FORD STATE REPRESENTATIVE KENTUCKY HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES P.O. BOX 1245 MT. VERNON KY 40456

THE HONORABLE DONALD S. PASLEY STATE REPRESENTATIVE KENTUCKY HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 5805 ECTON ROAD WINCHESTER KY 40391

THE HONORABLE LONNIE NAPIER STATE REPRESENTATIVE KENTUCKY HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 302 DANVILLE STREET LANCASTER KY 40444

THE HONORABLE BUZZ CARLOFTIS JUDGE EXECUTIVE ROCKCASTLE COUNTY COURTHOUSE P.O. BOX 755 MT. VERNON KY 40456

THE HONORABLE DWIGHT BISHOP MAYOR CITY OF MCKEE P.O. BOX 455 MCKEE KY 40447

THE HONORABLE CONNIE LAWSON MAYOR CITY OF RICHMOND PO BOX 250 RICHMOND KY 40475

BRIAN EALY JACKSON COUNTY ROAD SUPERVISOR P.O. BOX 175 MCKEE KY 40447 MITCHELL BALL JCR INDUSTRIES P.O. BOX 230 ANNVILLE KY 40402 FLETCHER GABBARD
JACKSON CO. TRANSPORTATION COMM.
350 LAKES CREEK ROAD
MCKEE KY 40447

PAUL HAYS KENTUCKY STATE POLICE – POST 11 11 STATE POLICE ROAD LONDON KY 40741 ANN GABBARD JACKSON CO. DEVELOPMENT ASSOC. 350 LAKES CREEK ROAD MCKEE KY 40447

RALPH HOSKINS JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION P.O. BOX 217 MCKEE KY 40447 LYLE WALKER M.A. WALKER, CO. P.O. BOX 143 MCKEE KY 40447

DEVONA HISEL NORTHERN JACKSON COUNTY 290 ASBILL ROAD MCKEE KY 40447 CLARE KAISER CHRISTIAN APPALACHIAN PROJECT P.O. BOX 70 MCKEE KY 40447

P.O. BOX 421 MCKEE KY 40447 MARY PURKEY ADMINISTRATOR JACKSON COUNTY EMPOWERMENT ZONE P.O. BOX 789 MCKEE KY 40447

KENTUCKY STATE POLICE – POST 7 699 EASTERN BYPASS RICHMOND KY 40475 RODNEY CHRISMAN CHAIRMAN JACKSON CO. IND. AUTH. PO BOX 307 MCKEE KY 40447

JIM HAYS 620 DORMITORY STREET LONDON KY 40741 LINDA TRUETT JACKSON COUNTY TRANSIT P.O. BOX 235 MCKEE KY 40447 MARY DORMADY ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH P.O. BOX 189 MCKEE KY 40447 MIKE BUCKLES
DANIEL BOONE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
420 RICHMOND ROAD
MANCHESTER KY 40962

ROB WILLIAMS
CHAIRMAN
JACKSON COUNTY EMPOWERMENT ZONE
P.O. BOX 789
MCKEE KY 40447

BILL GAY DIRECTOR DES P.O. BOX 682 MCKEE KY 40447

MICHAEL HAYES KENTUCKY HIGHLANDS INVESTMENT CORPORTATION P.O. BOX 1738 LONDON KY 40741

JACKSON CO. EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SOUTH US 421 MCKEE KY 40447

BEREA COLLEGE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES PRESIDENT'S OFFICE, 2182 BEREA KY 40404 CLYDE PHILLIPS PRESIDENT PHILLIPS DIVERSIFIED MFG., INC. P.O. BOX 250 ANNVILLE KY 40402

PEGGY WILSON PHOENIX PRODUCTS INC. 359 RICE HILL RD MCKEE KY 40443

JACKSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. P.O. BOX 250 MCKEE KY 40447

JUDITH SCHMITT GENERAL MANAGER JC TEC INDUSTRIES 232 CARPENTER DRIVE ANNVILLE KY 40402

TERRY BREWER BREWER'S TRUSS CO. P.O. BOX 37 SANDGAP KY 40481-0037

COLM MCARDLE SPECIALTY DEFENSE SYSTEMS PO BOX 187 MCKEE KY 40447-0187 A&P MACHINE & TOOL, INC. NORTHERN JACKSON CO. INDUSTRIAL PARK 106 BETHFORD ROAD MCKEE KY 40447 TED COCHIS MID-SOUTH ELECTRICS INC P.O. BOX 400 ANNVILLE KY 40402-0400 GARY GABBARD GABBARD SIGN CO. INC. 181 MORRILL KERBY KNOB RD MCKEE KY 40447-9735

FLAT ROCK FURNITURE HIGHWAY 421 P.O. BOX 732 TYNER KY 40486 Two public meetings are being held during the course of this study. These are intended to provide information and gain input on the proposed project regarding major issues, potential impacts, and possible alternates. Efforts are also included to coordinate with and get input from local officials, public agency representatives, and others who have a special interest in the project.

The first public meeting, to be held in Sandgap, is to inform the public about the project and request input on preliminary project issues. The second meeting. also in Sandgap, is to present information and get input on the proposed alternatives.

To assist in keeping the public and agencies informed, information will be added to the KYTC's Division of Planning website:

http://www.kytc.state.ky.us/planning/index2.asp

This website will be updated on a regular basis as new information becomes available.

L TRANSPORTATION NETWORK

Field visits and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data will be used to identify transportation network issues and opportunities in the study area. Items for consideration include: highway systems, geometric characteristics, bridge data, existing and future traffic conditions, high crash locations and other highway improvements planned for the study area.



LENVIRONMENTAL DATA

Through field surveys, agency input, and other data sources, a preliminary environmental overview of the project corridor will be completed. This overview will identify major environmental factors, such as: natural resources, cultural sites, special populations, geotechnical issues or hazardous areas.

L DEVELOPMENT & ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES

Using the input from all sources, a series of US 421 alternative corridors will be identified and evaluated based on a set of criteria including: traffic impacts, environmental issues, public and agency input, cost, constructability, and/or others. The no-build option will be given equal consideration. A recommendation for US 421 will be the result of this planning process.



Jackson - Rockcastle County Line

CONTACT INFORMA



Address written comments to: Annette Coffey, P.E.

Daryl Greer, P.E.

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Division of Planning 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, KY 40622

Or you may contact by phone:

Steve Ross

Project Manager Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Division of Planning (502) 564-7183 steve.ross@mail.state.kv.us

You may also look for project information at:

www.kytc.state.ky.us/planning/index2asp



Reconstruction of [42]

From KY 89 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421 just north of the Jackson-Rockcastle County line. 🗼 檢

TRANSPORTATION CABINET

ackson Six-Year Highway Plan, Item No. 11-113.00

he Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) is undertaking a planning study to develop and evaluate alternatives for the possible reconstruction of US 421 from KY89 at the northern city limits of McKee in Jackson. County to the recently improved section of US 421 near Bighill in Rockcastle County, just north of the Jackson-Rockcastle Countyline. No funds are available at this time for the design or construction of this project.

The planning study will (1) analyze existing conditions (including transportation, environmental. socioeconomic issues), (2) estimate future traffic demand, and (3) identify and evaluate potential alternatives for the proposed project. Throughout the planning process, comments, concerns, suggestions, and insight from the general public and local officials will be documented and considered.

The existing US 421 corridor is a two-lane roadway through rolling terrain with 9-foot lanes and 2-foot shoulders. The posted speed limit ranges from 35 mph to 55 mph. US 421 carries an average daily traffic (ADT) volume between 3.930 and 5,160 vehicles per day.

Summarizing the discussions from the first project team meeting and the local officials/stakeholders meeting, the goals of the project are as follows:

Provide improved regional access along an improved route that will:

- Support economic development initiatives by opening up this low-income area
- 🗫 Improve access to jobs, hospitals, services, shopping, and schools in Berea, Richmond, and Lexington.

Help alleviate public concerns about safety and travel time along the existing US 421 corridor by providing atternatives. for improved roadway geometrics.

PUBLIC CONCERNS

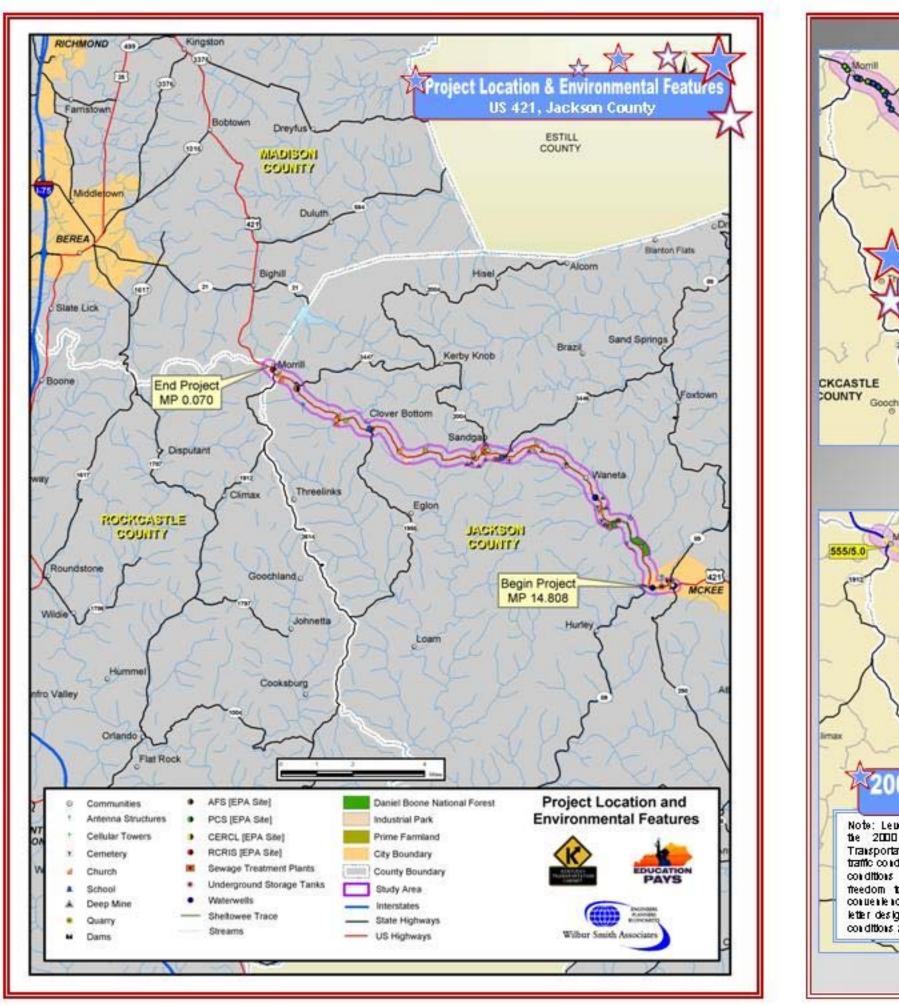
The following have been identified as key issues of concern:

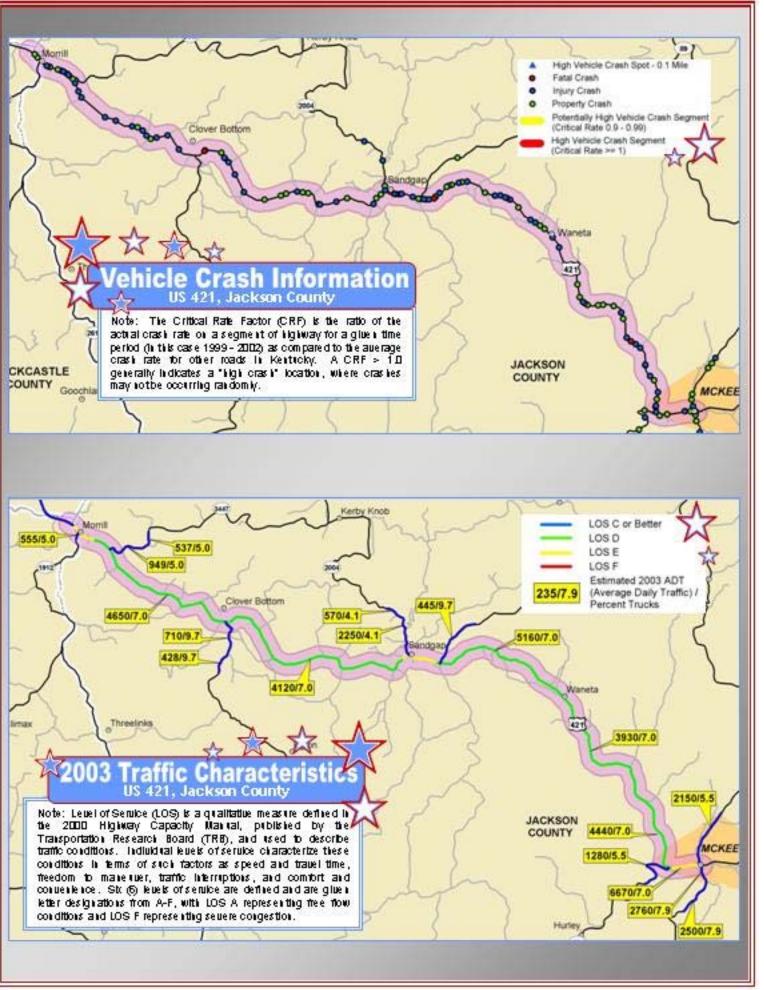
- 🌸 Possible family clusters along US 421
- 🛊 Availability of suitable relocations along the existing route

October 2003

- 🌸 Impacts on the Daniel Boone National Forest
- 🛊 New residential development taking place in Sandgap
- 🛊 New and recently improved businesses in Sandgap
- 👚 Possible caves and karst topography near the Rockcastle County Line
- The historic Cox Simpson House, located near the Rockcastle County Line, currently receiving Enhancement Transportation Funds improvements
- 蜜 Grade issues near Sandgap
- 👚 Possible disturbance to a divide near the Jackson-Rockcastle County Line that separates the drainage basin, i.e., on one side, the water goes into the Kentucky River, and, on the other side, it flows to the Rockcastle River
- Possible impacts to a watershed near Morrill that drains into the Owsley Fork Reservoir

Data	Jackson County	Kentucky
Population (2000)	13,495	+Д+1,7⊕
Minarities (2000)	< 1%	10%
Age 86 or Older (2000)	13%	12%
Population in Powerty (1999)	30%	15%
Percapita income (1899)	\$10,711	§ 18,093
Median Household Income (1999)	\$20,177	₹33 <i>6</i> 72







DIV OF PLANNING

2004 JAN 14 P 3: Office of Business and Administration (859) 985-3131

Fax: (859) 985-3904

CPO 2211

January 9, 2004

Annette Coffey, P.E. Director, Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, KY 40622

Dear Ms. Coffey,

I am responding on behalf of Berea College to your request for input on US 421 Alternatives Study dated November 26. Improvement is obviously needed on this heavily traveled stretch of highway and this study of alternatives should lead to improved safety.

You asked that we identify issues or concerns and Berea is concerned that the planning, construction and use of this highway not negatively impact the watershed that serves Owlsey Fork reservoir. This reservoir provides drinking water to the City of Berea and residents of southern Madison County. We ask that the design and construction take this concern into account.

Thank you for asking for Berea College's input on this important project. I hope our comments are helpful in your planning. Please contact this office if we can provide additional information or elaborate further on this issue.

Sincerely,

E. Diane Kerby Vice President

Business & Administration

JACKSON COUNTY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION P.O. Box 188, McKee, KY 40447

December 17, 2003

2003 DEC | 8 A ||: | L

Annette Coffey, P.E. Ky. Transportation Cabinet Division of Planning 125 Holmes St. Frankfort, KY 40622

Dear Ms Coffey:

Since its founding in 1984, the Jackson County Development Association has had a significant interest in the improvement of the transportation system in and out of the county. We count the reconstruction of Big Hill (U. S. 421 leading into the county) as one of our major accomplishments. Similarly, we have pushed for further improvements of U. S. 421 and applaud the Transportation Cabinet for initiating this important step in the process.

The importance of U. S. 421 north from McKee cannot be overstated. There are, I am sure, technical terms to describe the only road connecting a particular population center with other population centers. But to us, this road is our life's blood, our major artery in and out of the county—our aorta! And this vessel is totally inadequate for the load it is expected to bear today.

In times past, rural places, like Jackson County, were pretty self-sufficient. Except for the need to reach emergency medical care and hospitalization, no one needed to leave the county for much of anything. Agriculture was the major employment sector, and most needs were met by local retail establishments. As agriculture and subsistence farming diminished, people left the county or began to commute out of the county to regional job centers--and roadways increased in importance..

Jackson County has been--and still is listed as one of the most distressed counties in Appalachia. We are convinced that a major reason for this is the lack of adequate roadways connecting us with regional centers. In fact, the Appalachian Regional Highway system has no designated highway any where near this county—and that stands out as a descriptive fact of most the Appalachian counties listed as distressed. That is, a common denominator for the counties in Appalachia seems to be the lack of adequate connectors allowing for the easy passage of commercial activity. These counties remain isolated in a world of modern highways.

Nevertheless, The 90s have seen remarkable achievements in our county, putting joy and pride in our hearts, but further stress on our inadequate roadways. A fourfold increase in manufacturing jobs since the designation of Empowerment Zone status in 1994 has brought increased traffic into the county from surrounding areas, while about 25 percent of the work force continues to commute out of the county. Our proximity to regional centers and a population increase of 9 percent since 1990 foster this activity.

Our specific comment and concern is to see that a roadway sufficient to handle traffic safely is constructed. And by definition, a road constructed to 1950 standards for the traffic of that day is neither sufficient nor adequate for today vehicles or traffic. At the minimum, bad curves need to be removed, turning lanes need to be constructed, and shoulders need to be added where possible. We are not insensitive to the human or environmental needs which must be considered; but are convinced that these needs and the reconstruction of a modern and safe artery are not incompatible.

We want also to stress that commercial and economic activity is not the only aspect of our health dependent on adequate roadways. The metaphor of 421 as our aorta is literally true: our only emergency medical care and hospitalization lie outside our county—in regional medical centers. We need an improved road for both the physical and economic health of our people.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and please call on us if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Anne Gabbard

Chairman, 2003

Cc: Tommy Slone

County Judge-Executive

labland



DIV OF PLANNING

2003 DEC 19 A 10: 29 F.O. Do.: McKee, Kentucky 40447 (606) 287-8395

Fax (606) 287-8396

E Mail: ezdev@prtcnet.org

EZ COMMUNITY, INC.

December 18, 2003

Annette Coffey P.E., Director Division of Planning 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, KY 40622

> Subject: Planning Study of US Hwy 421, McKee to the Jackson County/Rockcastle County Line, KYTC Item No. 11-113.00

Dear Ms. Coffey:

The Jackson County EZ Community, Inc. is a 501(c) 3 not for profit organization committed to the economic and community development of Jackson County. Under the organization's umbrella is an Infrastructure Subcommittee with transportation as one of its key focuses.

The Infrastructure Committee envisions an efficient transportation system that heightens the accessibility for residents, visitors, businesses, and industries to necessary and desired goods, services and opportunities.

Goal #2 of our Strategic Plan for Infrastructure is: To develop a safe, reliable and efficient transportation system that will accommodate travel for residents, visitors, businesses, and industries in order to stimulate growth. Action items under that goal include (a) advocate safety improvements to US Hwy 421 and (b) advocate reconstruction of US Hwy 421.

The need for improvement of HWY 421 from McKee to the Jackson/Rockcastle line has been evident to the people who travel that stretch of road for many, many years. It only takes one drive to ascertain that there are critical safety issues along that route. The number of vehicles traveling that road daily and the documented records of accidents and fatalities, not to mention those that are not documented due to reporting errors, are evidence enough to warrant serious consideration of reconstruction of the entire route. And, at the very least, the statistics show that improvements are seriously needed.

The Jackson County EZ Community, Inc. is in full support of reconstruction/improvements to US Hwy 421 from McKee to the Jackson/Rockcastle line.

Administrator

Jackson County Transportation Committee Jackson County Court House McKee, KY 40447

December 17, 2003

Ms. Annette Coffey, P.E. Director, Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, KY 40622

Dear Ms. Coffee:

I am responding, on behalf of the Jackson County Transportation Committee, to your request of November 26, 2003 for input and comments on the Planning Study, Jackson County, US 421, Alternatives Study – Reconstruction from KY 89 at the northern city limit of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421 just north of the Jackson – Rockcastle County line, Item No. 11-113.00.

First let us express delight that this section of US 421 is being studied for improvement. Simply stated, the transportation corridors in Jackson County consist of three thoroughfares traversing the county. These are US 421, KY 30, and KY 89. KY 89 has been designated as a Scenic Byway and should be developed as a low speed, limited traffic route along the Rockcastle River near Livingston to the Kentucky River at Irvine. This is an important tourist route through our county. KY 30 is a potential major connector from I-75 at London to the Mountain Parkway, I-64 and points beyond; construction on this route has already begun. US 421 connects our county to Manchester on I-75 in the south and to Berea/Richmond on I-75 in the north. Hundreds of people commute to work over this route and it is a major commercial route for goods and services to Jackson County and our area.

As we look to the future, US 421 will play a vital role in regional development; in economic development, in safety, and in convenience for our citizens. We believe that this project, with the future improvement of KY 30 traversing Jackson County from east to west, would greatly promote the progress and well being of our citizens. This route when improved will open easy, and safer north-south access to our Interstate Highway System, markets at Manchester, London, Berea/Richmond, and places beyond. Without access to markets and people, economic development is next to impossible. For the past century, studies, complaints, analyses, and allegations have been made about the plight of these "poor" counties of eastern Kentucky. Along a contiguous area on the border between the highlands of the Cumberland Mountains and the rolling terrain of Central Kentucky lie the ten poorest counties in the Commonwealth. Perhaps the most important action leading to "opening up" these counties is the construction of good roads so that

people may come and go in safety and convenience. Transportation access is key to future development.

We believe that there is no more important project to the future of Jackson County than planning for the improvement of US 421. There are a few obvious considerations, obvious to you, I'm sure, to the development of this plan. We repeat them for emphasis.

- 1. The communities along the route (sometimes scattered) need to continue to be well served by the improved highway. This means that the new route need not stray far from the existing route;
- 2. Safety issues should be important in the determination of "where to begin" in planning for construction. Reconstruction of US 421 will require a long period of time. Once a design is complete, construction should begin in stretches where there are important safety issues such as bad curves, blind entrances, and congested areas.
- 3. It may be well to consider construction "five miles at a time" to complete the reconstruction at the earliest possible date consistent with budgetary limitations and construction convenience. These five-mile stretches should be carefully selected.

The people of Jackson County have an intense interest in the improvement of US 421 as is evidenced by the attendance at the Scoping Meeting held at Sand Gap Elementary School on September 2, 2003. As you are well aware, no substantive improvement of the highway has been undertaken since the end of WWII. There are no shoulders, the lanes are narrow, the pavement is crooked, and visibility is poor in many stretches. Historically, Jackson County has been an isolated community with very weak links to the surrounding region. This is changing rapidly and most of our citizens feel that this trend is a very positive development. Easy and safer travel to neighboring communities is important to them and to our future. US 421 is a key route and needs to be developed as a major connector to our neighbors and beyond.

Let us know of other ways we may help make reconstruction of US 421 a reality.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Tommy Slone, Chairman

Jackson County Transportation Committee

Cc:

Andy Buell, District 11

Kentucky Department of Highways

Clay McKnight, Transportation Staff

CVAAD

COUNTY OF ROCKCASTLE

Office of County Judge-Executive Courthouse

PO Box 755

Mt. Vernon, Kentucky 40456 Phone: (606) 256-2856 Fax: 256-8104

December 9, 2003

Annette Coffey, P.E. Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

RE: PLANNING STUDY U.S. 421

Dear Ms. Coffey:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to respond to the U.S. 421 Improvement Planning Study. Although stating the obvious, your office will be inundated with letters such as this requesting everything under the sun. I write, however, to give my congratulations to your office for considering this much needed improvement. No area can possibly realize potential growth without good roads. Further, Jackson County has great natural beauty, and I hope that any road improvements from Big Hill into McKee would consider the enhancement of the natural beauty along with the possibility of preserving historic sites, such as the Big Hill Civil War activities, and providing more information to travelers along that route.

Thanking you again for giving me the opportunity to respond, I remain

Respectfully,

Buzz Carloftis County Judge-Executive 2003 DFC 12 A 11: 9



OFFICE TELEPHONE (502) 564-4696 FAX: (502) 564-2133 TTY: (502) 564-2075

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
500 MERO STREET, 7TH FLOOR
FRANKFORT, KY 40601

December 3, 2003

Ms. Annette Coffey, P.E. Director Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, KY 40622

SUBJECT: Planning Study

Jackson County

Ms. Coffey:

In response to the planning study in Jackson County, the Department of Agriculture is interested in the impact that the proposed highway project will have on agriculture in Jackson County. The agricultural industry is important to all of Kentucky, especially the rural areas such as Jackson County.

Changes in agriculture not only affect farmers directly, but they also trickle throughout the entire economy making impacts on many other businesses. This fact makes it sensible to give land that is considered prime and statewide unique special consideration. Alternatives that disrupt the least amount of farmland should be seriously considered since agriculture is vital to the overall well-being of Jackson County and its citizens.

Feel free to contact me for any additional information.

Sincerely,

Ira Linville

Executive Director

Office of Environmental Services

2003 DEC -8 P 2: 40



FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION
Mike Boatwright, Paducah
Tom Baker, Bowling Green
Allen K. Gailor, Louisville
Ron Southall, Elizabethtown
Dr. James R. Rich, Taylor Mill, Chairman
Ben Frank Brown, Richmond

Dr. James R. Rich, Taylor Mill Ben Frank Brown, Richmond Doug Hensley, Hazard Dr. Robert C. Webb, Grayson David H.Godby, Somerset





COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES C. THOMAS BENNETT, COMMISSIONER

December 8, 2003

Annette Coffey, P.E. Director of Planning Transportation Cabinet 125 Holmes St. Frankfort, KY 40622

RE: Threatened/endangered species and critical habitat review: US 421 Project from KY 89 to McKee, Jackson County, Kentucky, Item No. 11-113.00

Dear Ms. Coffey:

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) has received your request for the above-referenced information. The Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Information System indicates that the federally endangered Indiana bat and Virginia big-eared bat are known to occur in the Johnetta 7.5 minute USGS quadrangle. The federally endangered little-winged pearly mussel is known to occur in the Sandgap 7.5 minute USGS quadrangle. No known threatened and endangered species are known to occur in the Bighill quadrangles. The State listed Rafinesque's big-eared bat is known to occur in the Johnetta 7.5 minute quadrangle. Please be aware that our database system is a dynamic one that only represents our current knowledge of the various species distributions.

Based on this information, KDFWR makes the following recommendations.

In quadrangles in which Virginia big-eared bats are known to occur, any cave entrances that exist within the project area (i.e. the right-of-way and regeneration sites) should be surveyed for potential use by Virginia big-eared bats. Because gray bats are cave residents year-round and maternity colonies are generally found in close proximity to rivers, streams and lakes, any caves within the project area could offer potentially valuable habitat to resident Virginia big-eared bates. If a bat survey is necessary, please contact this office at (502) 564-7109 or the US Fish and Wildlife Service office at (502) 695-0468 for information on how to proceed.

In quadrangles in which Indiana bats are known to occur, any wooded areas that may be impacted by the proposed project should be examined for potential Indiana bat habitat. Indiana bats form maternity colonies and roost under the bark of trees in both riparian and upland areas. Therefore, disturbance of trees with exfoliating bark, dead limbs or cavities should be avoided between March 31 and October 15.

31V OF PLANNING



Page Two Ms. Coffey December 8, 2003

The KDFWR recommends that you contact the appropriate US Corps of Engineers office (Louisville COE (502) 582-5452) and the Kentucky Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet, Division of Water (502) 564-3410 prior to any excavation within the waterways of Kentucky. Additionally, KDFWR recommends the following for the portions of the project that cross intermittent or perennial streams:

- 1. Development/excavation during a low flow period to minimize disturbance;
- Proper placement of erosion control structures below highly disturbed areas to minimize entry of silt to the stream;
- Replanting of disturbed areas after construction, including stream banks and right-ofways, with native vegetation for soil stabilization and enhancement of fish and wildlife populations;
- Return all disturbed instream habitat to its original condition upon completion of construction in the area;
- 5. Preservation of any tree canopy overhanging the stream;
- 6. Return all right-of-ways to original elevation.

I hope this information proves useful to you. If you have any questions or require additional comment, please call me at the above listed number, extension 366 or email me at brad.pendley@mail.state.ky.us.

Sincerely,

cc:

Brad Pendley Wildlife Biologist II

Brad farlley

Environmental Section File

----Original Message-----

From: Roberts, David C - (DMA) [mailto:robertsdc@bngc.dma.state.ky.us]

Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2004 5:31 PM

To: Ross, Steve (KYTC)
Cc: Coffey, Annette (KYTC)

Subject: Planning study/ State wide

Steve,

The following planning studies were reviewed for potential impact on any properties utilized by The Department of Military Affairs. None were found:

Graves County/ Item No. 01-8100.00 Jackson County/ Item No. 11-113.00 Harlan/Leslie/Perry County/ Item No. 11-137.00

A change of command occurred in January of this year making Mr. Donald C. Storm our Adjutant General. Please send all future correspondence to his attention.

Thanks

David C. Roberts Assistant Director Facilities Division 502-607-1543 Fax 502-607-1270



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET

DEPARTMENT FOR SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION & ENFORCEMENT FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601

ALLEN LUTTRELL

COMMISSIONER

London Regional Office 85 State Police Road London, KY 40741

Memorandum

To:

Annette Coffey, P.E.

From:

Chet Edwards, Environmental Control Supervisor

Date:

01/12/04

Re:

Requested information Hwy 89/421 Planning Study

I received the information requesting our comments on the planning study for the reconstruction of highway 89 to the newly completed section of highway 421 at the Jackson/Rockcastle county line. Thank-you for your consideration in this matter. Presently, the London Regional Office **does not** have any permits in the study area. There are reserves within the study area/selected corridor that could be permitted at sometime in the future, depending on coal market conditions; however, this project would not likely affect them any way. The permitting of those reserves would take at least a year if someone decided to apply for a permit. If it is possible, I suggest you make another check for this information when your project reaches further development.

ERNIE FLETCHER GOVERNOR



Dayl

LAJUANA S. WILCHER SECRETARY

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET

DEPARTMENT FOR SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION & ENFORCEMENT FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601 ALLEN LUTTRELL COMMISSIONER

> London Regional Office 85 State Police Road London, KY 40741

Memorandum

To:

Annette Coffey, P.E.

From:

Chet Edwards, Environmental Control Supervisor

Date:

01/15/04

Re:

Requested information Hwy 89/421 Planning Study

I received the information requesting our comments on the planning study for the reconstruction of highway 89 to the newly completed section of highway 421 at the Jackson/Rockcastle county line. Thank-you for your consideration in this matter. Presently, the London Regional Office **does not** have any permits in the study area. There are reserves within the study area/selected corridor that could be permitted at sometime in the future, depending on coal market conditions; however, this project would not likely affect them any way. The permitting of those reserves would take at least a year if someone decided to apply for a permit. If it is possible, I suggest you make another check for this information when your project reaches further development.



ERNIE FLETCHER GOVERNOR

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION CABINET

DEPARTMENT FOR SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION & ENFORCEMENT
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601
ALLEN LUTTRELL
COMMISSIONER

December 24, 2003

Annette Coffey, P.E., Director Division of Planning 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, KY 40601

RE: Planning Study Jackson County

U.S. 421, Alternatives Study – Reconstruction from KY 89 at the Northern City Limits of McKee to the recently improved section of U.S. 421 just North of the Jackson – Rockcastle line.

Item No. 11-113.00

Dear Ms. Coffey:

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the above referenced proposed highway construction project.

Personnel from our department's field offices have conducted a review of the information provided and have identified two active rock quarries in this area. The quarry located on KY 89 is permitted as M.A. Walker Company, Inc. (Permit No. 055-9400) and is approximately 5.2 miles South of KY 89 junction with U.S. 421 on Indian Creek. The quarry located on U.S. 421 is permitted as M.A. Walker Company, LLC (Permit No. 055-9401) and is on U.S. 421 at Clover Bottom. These two quarries generate a substantial amount of traffic in this area.

If I or my staff can be of any further assistance in this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (502) 564-6940.

/) () .

Allen Luttrell Commissioner

AL/JM/aw

Ross, Steve (KYTC)

From:

Blevins, Mike L (KYTC-WSC)

Sent:

Tuesday, December 23, 2003 1:30 PM

To:

Ross, Steve (KYTC)

Subject:

Jackson County - Planning Study 11-113.0

Steve,

The Branch has reviewed the project and the following comments are provided:

The Branch would prefer an alignment that avoids any quarries and/or coal mined areas (surface or underground) if possible as stated in the Geotechnical Overview by QORE.

Also, the Pennington Formation may contain shale's with poor engineering properties such as highly weathered rock, deep Rock Disintegration Zones and existing slides which may require more R/W than normal. Also, shale's from this formation used in embankments may result in flatter than normal fill slopes.

If there are any questions, please advise.



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION CABINET DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

DIVISION FOR AIR QUALITY 803 SCHENKEL LN FRANKFORT KY 40601-1403

December 15, 2003

Ms. Annette Coffey, P.E. Director, Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

Dear Ms. Coffey,

The Division has reviewed the Planning Study for evaluating alternatives for the possible reconstruction of US 421 in Jackson County from KY 89 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421 near BigHill in Rockcastle County, Item Number 11-113.00. The following Kentucky Administrative Regulations apply to this proposed project:

Kentucky Division for Air Quality Regulation 401 KAR 63:010 Fugitive Emissions states that no person shall cause, suffer, or allow any material to be handled, processed, transported, or stored without taking reasonable precaution to prevent particulate matter from becoming airborne. Additional requirements include the covering of open bodied trucks, operating outside the work area transporting materials likely to become airborne, and that no one shall allow earth or other material being transported by truck or earth moving equipment to be deposited onto a paved street or roadway. Please note the Fugitive Emissions Fact Sheet located at http://www.air.ky.gov/e clearinghouse.html.

Kentucky Division for Air Quality Regulation 401 KAR 63:005 states that open burning is prohibited. Open Burning is defined as the burning of any matter in such a manner that the products of combustion resulting from the burning are emitted directly into the outdoor atmosphere without passing through a stack or chimney. However, open burning may be utilized for the expressed purposes listed on the Open Burning Fact Sheet incorporated by reference in 401 KAR 63:005 Section 3, Prohibition of Open Burning. The Fact Sheet is located at http://www.air.ky.gov/e clearinghouse.html.

Finally, the projects listed in this document must meet the conformity requirements of the Clean Air Act as amended and the transportation planning provisions of Title 23 and Title 49 of United States Code.



Ms. Annette Coffey Letter December 15, 2003 Page 2

Every effort should be made to maintain compliance with the preceding regulations and requirements. The Division also suggests an investigation into compliance with applicable regulations in the local governments. If there are any questions relating to this matter, please contact me at (502) 573-3382 extension 347.

Sincerely

John E. Gowins

Supervisor, Evaluation Section

Program Planning & Administration Branch

JEG/jmf

Ross, Steve (KYTC)

From:

Shields, Carl (KYTC)

Sent:

Thursday, December 11, 2003 3:02 PM

To:

Ross, Steve (KYTC); Croft, Dean (KYTC-D11); Koos, Tom (KYTC)

Cc: R

Subject:

Rawlings, Paul (KYTC)
Archaeological Comments 11-113 Jackson Planning Study (US 421)

Steve, Dean, and Tom,

I have reviewed the planning study for 11-113 Jackson circulated by Division of Planning. Below are my comments...

- Small portions of the project area have been previously subjected to archaeological survey. Nothing significant was found.
- No known significant archaeological sites are located within the study area.
- Floodplains have a greater potential to contain undisturbed archaeological sites. These could require a significant amount of archaeological investigations. A good portion of the project is located within stream floodplains. Sticking close to the existing alignment (if possible) should reduce the number of sites impacted.
- Anticipate a large number of family cemeteries on the toe-slopes. Large, early cemeteries may require archaeological investigation.
- If alternates run cross-country, the project may impact rockshelters. Rockshelters were often utilized by Native Americans. They also have a greater chance of having intact archaeological deposits, which could require a significant amount of archaeological investigation.

As the project continues, or if you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or one of the other archaeologists.

Carl

Carl R. Shields - Archaeologist Division of Environmental Analysis Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Frankfort, Kentucky phone: (502) 564-7250 fax: (502) 564-5655

fax: (502) 564-5655 Carl.Shields@ky.gov



ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET DEPARTMENT FOR NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY LEAH W. MACSWORDS, DIRECTOR 627 COMANCHE TRAIL FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601

January 5, 2004

Annette Coffey, P.E. Director Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

Dear Ms. Coffey:

Re: Planning Study, Jackson County U.S. 421 Alternatives Study, Item No. 11-113.00

After reviewing the U.S. 421 Alternatives Study for the proposed highway project from north of McKee to the improved section at Bighill, we cannot find any concerns or issues in the Planning Study that would affect the Division of Forestry.

If we can be of further assistance, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Leah W. MacSwords

Director

LWM:fap

c Buddy Farson



DIV OF PLANNING

Commonwealth of Kentuck (10)3 DEC -3 P 2: 46

Transportation Cabinet

Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

Paul E. Patton Governor

James C. Codell, III Secretary of Transportation

Clifford C. Linkes, P.E. Deputy Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Annette Coffey, P.E.

Director

Division of Planning

FROM:

Phillip Mann Pm

Acting Branch Manager

Permits Branch

DATE:

December 1, 2003

RE:

Jackson County - Planning Study - US 421

The Permits Branch has reviewed the data provided for subject study site and wish to offer the following.

- We urge the Cabinet to classify this project and all new projects as partially controlled access 1.
- Assuming the project is partial control access, we encourage all possible access points be set 2. on the plans in accordance with 603 KAR 5:120, even if they are not to be constructed at that
- In addition, we would like to make every effort possible to have the design speed to be the 3. same as anticipated posted speed when the project is complete.
- We would like to see access control fence installed with the project.
- Please notify this office if the proposed roadway is to be placed on the National Highway 5. System. This information is needed to assist us in regulating the installation of any outdoor advertising device.
- If the proposed roadway is to be on the N. H. S., early notification of the final line and grade is 6. needed. This enables us to monitor outdoor advertising devices prior to road construction being completed.
- Please notify this office if the proposed roadway is to be placed on the National Highway 7. System. This information is needed to assist this office in regulating the installation of any outdoor advertising device.

Thank you for the opportunity to verbalize our concerns.

DPM/JR



Ross, Steve (KYTC)

From:

Ballard, Kim (NREPC, DEP)

Sent:

Tuesday, December 23, 2003 8:42 AM

To:

Ross, Steve (KYTC)

Cc:

Hatton, Tony (NREPC, DEP); Wells, Boyce (NREPC, DEP)

Subject:

DOT Planning Study-Jackson County

On behalf of Tony Hatton, Acting Director:

Division of Waste Management's comments on:

Planning Study Jackson County

Resource Conservation & Local Assistance Branch (contact Tom Heil):

Request the use of Pulverized Glass Aggregate (PGA) in roadbed construction, where feasible.

Superfund Branch (contact Fazi Sherkat):



Superfund Sites By County For ...

Underground Storage Tank Branch (contact Lori Terry):



jackson_dot.xls

Enforcement Branch (contact Barbara Cornett):

Enf has had the following facilities in enforcement in Jackson County that list US 421 as the address.

Facility	Program	Enforcement Status
Callahan's County Auto	UST	closed
Johnson's 76	UST	closed
Johnson's Ashland	UST	at OLS
Raodway Mart	UST	closed
J. Vickers	UST	closed
Whickers Grocery	UST	at OLS

Solid Waste Branch (contact Tony Cooley):

No landfills along the route.

```
COUNTY_CODE COUNTY_NAME SITE_SEQ_ID SITE_NAME
           55 JACKSON
                                 858055 JACKSON COUNTY/MAINT GARAGE
           55 JACKSON
                                8837055 TYNER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
           55 JACKSON
                                8838055 JACKSON CO BOARD OF EDUCATION
           55 JACKSON
                                8841055 BINGHAMS GROCERY
           55 JACKSON
                                8842055 TIMS GARAGE
           55 JACKSON
                                8843055 JACKSON CO LUMBER CO
           55 JACKSON
                                8845055 HOLTS GROCERY
           55 JACKSON
                                8846055 JACKSON CO RECC MAINT GARAGE
           55 JACKSON
                                8847055 STANTONS SHELL
           55 JACKSON
                                8848055 HERBERT ISAACS GROC
           55 JACKSON
                                8849055 FRAN PARRETT GROCERY
           55 JACKSON
                                8850055 SPARKS GROCERY
           55 JACKSON
                                8041055 JOHNSON ASHLAND (76)
           55 JACKSON
                                1652055 JACKSON COUNTY MAINT GARAGE(BUS)
           55 JACKSON
                                1005055 FILL UPS GAS & GROCERY
           55 JACKSON
                                4824055 CARPENTER TRUCKING COMPANY INC
           55 JACKSON
                                2258055 MCKEE WORK CENTER
           55 JACKSON
                                2223055 PEOPLES RURAL TELEPHONE COOP COR
           55 JACKSON
                                2437055 CORNER QUIK STOP #1
                                2640055 CREECH CORNER MARKET
           55 JACKSON
           55 JACKSON
                                 974055 JACKSON COUNTY SAV A LOT
           55 JACKSON
                                9406055 COLLETTS GROCERY
           55 JACKSON
                                6237055 SPORTSMAN MARKET
           55 JACKSON
                                6223055 BOND TEXACO
           55 JACKSON
                                3075055 C JS GAS
           55 JACKSON
                                3899055 UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
           55 JACKSON
                                1003055 SAND SPRING GROCERY
           55 JACKSON
                                4018055 ANNVILLE R-L331400
           55 JACKSON
                                4484055 JOHN GABBARD
           55 JACKSON
                                8311055 ANNVILLE TOWN & COUNTRY MKT INC
           55 JACKSON
                                1001055 WILLIAMS GAS & GROCERY
                                7083055 SERVICE STATION 96 D BP 031
           55 JACKSON
           55 JACKSON
                                5408055 KENNYS FOOD MART (JRS COMBO)
           55 JACKSON
                                3841055 HOMETOWN MART
           55 JACKSON
                                7696055 HWY 30 MART
           55 JACKSON
                                8105055 MCWHORTER GROC
           55 JACKSON
                                8110055 WHICKERS GROCERY
                                8193055 MR BILLS GAS & GRO (MCKEE IGA)
           55 JACKSON
           55 JACKSON
                                8775055 MCKEE GULF
           55 JACKSON
                                8745055 CORNER QUIK STOP #2 (ROADWAY MT)
           55 JACKSON
                                8839055 SANDGAP SCHOOL
                                1472055 GRAY HAWK FOOD MART
           55 JACKSON
           55 JACKSON
                                1697055 CHESLEY C CLEMONS CLEMONS GROC
                                1850055 SCOTTYS MINI MART
           55 JACKSON
                                2372055 DOW ABNER
           55 JACKSON
           55 JACKSON
                                2381055 HOUSES MARKET
           55 JACKSON
                                1002055 GRAY HAWK LANDING
                                3629055 HELTONS SERVICE STATION
           55 JACKSON
                                4139055 YORK BROTHERS GARAGE (JOHN M YOR
           55 JACKSON
                                474055 STAR CONCRETE SERVICE (SPARKMAN)
           55 JACKSON
           55 JACKSON
                                 560055 HAYS ASHLAND
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55 JACKSON	20083070 MCDOWELL GROCERY
55 JACKSON	20082529 DEATONS GROCERY
55 JACKSON	20082549 C & D GROCERY
55 JACKSON	20080735 COLE GARAGE
55 JACKSON	20080634 ROBERTS GROCERY
55 JACKSON	20080635 HISEL GROCERY
55 JACKSON	20079779 CLYDE RICE STORE
55 JACKSON	5558055 JACKSON COUNTY R E C C
55 JACKSON	9286055 SHELL FOOD MART 3
55 JACKSON	1014055 SMITH BROS GROCERY
55 JACKSON	1012055 B & M MARKET
55 JACKSON	1013055 CARRIER PROPERTY
55 JACKSON	1011055 ROGERS GROCERY
55 JACKSON	1010055 HELLLARDS SERVICE STATION
55 JACKSON	3922055 PAUL JONES
55 JACKSON	4805055 CARPENTER CONSTRUCTION CO INC
55 JACKSON	1009055 HAZELWOOD GROCERY
55 JACKSON	1008055 WARDS MARKET
55 JACKSON	1007055 MAYS 66
55 JACKSON	1006055 MURPHYS SERVICE STATION
55 JACKSON	1004055 CHEVRON
55 JACKSON	5292055 CALLAHANS COUNTY AUTO
55 JACKSON	4151055 HAROLDS STANDARD SERVICE
55 JACKSON	4152055 SANDGAP ONE STOP
55 JACKSON	10000407 DUPLICATE TO 4755013
55 JACKSON	10000512 TODDS GROCERY
55 JACKSON	20002860 AAA SERVICE STATION INC
55 JACKSON	20002862 BAKER STORE
55 JACKSON	20020443 MOORES GROCERY

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Address	CITY	ST	POSTAL_CO
US HWY 421 N	GRAY HAWK	KY	40434
KY HWY 30	TYNER	KY	40486
ST RD 577	ANNVILLE	KY	40402
JCT SOAPTOWN RD & KY 1071	MCKEE	KY	40447
ST RD 290 & HWY 30	ANNVILLE	KY	40447
ST RD 2003 RT 3	MCKEE	KY	40447
ST RD 2002	MCKEE	KY	40447
HWY 421	MCKEE	KY	40447
HWY 421 S	GRAY HAWK	KY	40434
HWY 89 N	MCKEE	KY	40447
HWY 30	BOND	KY	40407
KY 587	MCKEE	KY	40447
HWY 421	SAND GAP	KY	40481
HWY 421 S	MCKEE	KY	40447
1584 US 421 N	MCKEE	KY	40447
RT 30	ANNVILLE	KY	40402
US HWY 421	MCKEE	KY	40447
US HWY 421 S	MCKEE	KY	40447
JCT HWY 421 & 30	TYNER	KY	40486
US HWY 421	MCKEE	KY	40447
US HWY 421	MCKEE	KY	40447
RTE 2	MCKEE	KY	40447
JCT OF HWYS 421 & 30W	TYNER	KY	40486
KY HWY 30	BOND	KY	40407
HWY 30	ANNVILLE	KY	40402
116 US 421 N	MCKEE	KY	40447
677 HWY 89 N	MCKEE	KY	40447
COUNTY RD 2003	MCKEE	KY	40447
RTE 578	ANNVILLE	KY	40402
4368 HWY 30 W	ANNVILLE	KY	
HWY 421	SANDGAP	KY	
KY RT 1	ANNVILLE	KY	
99 KIRBY KNOB RD	SANDGAP	KY	
HWY 421	MCKEE	KY	
2575 HWY 30 W	ANNVILLE	KY	40434
US 421 N	TYNER	KY	
US 421 N	TYNER	KY	40486
GODFREY ST	MCKEE	KY	40447
MAIN ST	MCKEE	KY	40447
JCT HWY 30 E & 421	TYNER	KY	40486
HWY 421	SANDGAP	KY	40481
US HWY 421 S	GRAY HAWK	KY	40434
834 KY HWY 2004	MCKEE	KY	40447
US 421 N	MCKEE	KY	40447
ROUTE 1	MCKEE	KY	40447
HWY 30 W	ANNVILLE	KY	40402
US HWY 421 S	GRAY HAWK	KY	40434
7298 HWY 30W	ANNVILLE	KY	
ROUTE 1	ANNVILLE	KY	
2531 COUNTY FARM RD	GRAY HAWK	KY	
US 421	GRAY HAWK	KY	
	ANCOUNTED THE TOTAL PROPERTY OF THE	57775	

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379 HWY 2002	MCKEE	KY	40447
US 421	TYNER	KY	40486
378 KY HWY 2002	MCKEE	KY	40447
HWY 89	MCKEE	KY	40447
HWY 89	MCKEE	KY	40447
HWY 2004	SANDGAP	KY	40481
US 421	TYNER	KY	40486
PO BOX 307	MCKEE	KY	40447
HWY 421	MCKEE	KY	40447
548 KY HWY 2004	MCKEE	KY	40447
US 421 N	CLOVER BOTTOM	KY	40447
US 421 N	SAND GAP	KY	40481
1735 KY HWY 2004	MCKEE	KY	40447
903 US 421 N	MCKEE	KY	40447
GEN DELIVERY	TYNER	KY	40486
HWY 89	MCKEE	KY	40447
HWY 421 N	MCKEE	KY	40447
3400 HWY 30 W	ANNVILLE	KY	40402
1182 KY HWY	MCKEE	KY	40447
HWY 421	SAND GAP	KY	40481
1584 HWY 421 N	MCKEE	KY	40447
	GRAY HAWK	KY	40434
	MCKEE	KY	40447
	SANDGAP	KY	40481
1344 TOWN HILL RD	JACKSON	KY	41339
108 OLD ARVEL PO ROAD	MCKEE	KY	40447
345 US 421 SOUTH	MCKEE	KY	40447
	MCKEE	KY	40447
HWY 577 W	ANNVILLE	KY	40402

Superfund Information System Sites by County

Commonwealth of Kentucky NREPC DWM

County Name JACKSON						0.0000000000000000000000000000000000000	
Incident Id Name	Date Received	Spill Class	Incident Type	Status	Nearest Community	Latitude	Latitude Longitude Section
15913 SAND GAP DUMP	01/18/2001			ACTIVE	Sandgap		STATE SUPERFUND
15914 TYNER DUMP	1002/81/10			ACTIVE	Tyner		STATE SUPERFUND
Count of sites in JACKSONCounty 2							
County name alert excess	Date Received	Selli Class	Incident Type	Status	Nearest Community	Latitude	Longitude Section
INCREMENT OF A PARTY O	05/24/2001		UST (EXEMPT)	CLOSED	LOUISVILLE	38.239167	-85.72417 PETROLEUM
MODELLETTE & MAIN ASSOCIATIOS	06/07/1995	PETROLEUM	UST (EXEMPT)	CLOSED	LOUISVILLE	38.25417	-85.75944 PETROLEUM
30323 JULIUS MARKET STREET / METRO PARKS	11/17/1858		FACILITY SPILL	CLOSED	LOUISVILLE	38.25417	-83.75944 FEDERAL SUPERFUND
47743 JOHN CRITTENDEN DRIVE	03/06/1998	PETROLEUM	FACILITY SPILL	CLOSED	LOUISVILLE	38.25417	-85.75944 PETROLEUM
116407 4420 PARTIERS LLC	05/19/2003		UST (EXEMPT)	CLOSED	SAINT MATTHEWS	38.251389	-85.6375 PETROLEUM
OTT STANDARD TO THE STANDARD T	07/14/2003		FACILITY SPILL	CLOSED	SAINT MATTHEWS	38.251944	-85.63694 PETROLEUM
34774 ARIO CONCORD HILLS - SPILL	04/26/1999		PACILITY SPILL	CLOSED	LOUISVILLE	38.25417	-85.75944 PETROLEUM
20651 9TH STREET EXTENSION / CITY OF LOUISVILLE AND KY D	01/11/1994	HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE	SOIL CONTAMINATION	ACTIVE	LOUISVILLE	38.24034	-85.76794 STATE SUPERFUND
18122 9TH STREET INDUSTRAL PARK TANK	10/16/1995		UST (EXEMPT)	CLOSED	LOUISVILLE	38.25417	-85.75944 PETROLEUM
SOUTH ARANDONED DRUM PHOSPHORIC ACID	08/24/1998		ABANDONED DRUMS	ACTIVE	LOUISVILLE	38.1609	-85.7188 STATE SUPERFUND
38794 ABANDONED DRUMS (UNKNOWN MATERIAL)	12/01/1995		ABANDONED DRUMS	CLOSED	LOUISVILLE	38.25417	-85,75944 STATE SUPERFUND
37022 ABCO BRAMER CO	\$661161790	PETROLEUM	UST (EXEMPT)	CLOSED	LOUISVILLE	38.25417	-85,75944 PETROLEUM
37024 ABELL ELEVATOR	96/161/90	PETROLEUM	UST (EXEMPT)	CLOSED	LOUISVILLE	38.25417	-85.75944 PETROLEUM
44295 ACME FISHER TANK LININGS / BROADWAY RUBBER CORP.	04/17/1997	HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE	PACILITY SPILL	ACTIVE	LOUISVILLE	38.246389	-85.77472 STATE SUPERFUND
40821 ACTION GRAPHIC	06/05/1996		FACILITY SPILL	CLOSED	LOUISVILLE	38,25417	-85,75944 PETROLEUM
34590 ADAIR STREET DRUMS	09/26/1994		ABANDONED DRUMS	CLOSED	LOUISVILLE	38.25417	-85.75944 STATE SUPERFUND
39412 ADVANCED CHEMICAL	02/07/1996		OTHER	CLOSED	LOUISVILLE	38.25417	-85.75944 PETROLEUM
S3182 ARPORT AUTH, OF LOUISVILLE	07/09/1999		FACILITY SPILL	CLOSED	LOUISVILLE	38.25417	-85.75944 PETROLEUM
40907 ALCAN ROLLED PRODUCTS CO.	06/13/1996	PETROLEUM	FACILITY SPILL	CLOSED	LOUISVILLE		PETROLEUM
114346 ALCOA	02/26/2003	HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE	FACILITY SPILL	ACTIVE	LOUISVILLE	38,188052	-85.67955 FEDERAL SUPERFUND
40022 ALEX KENNEDY SCHOOL	05/23/1996		UST (EXEMPT)	CLOSED	LOUISVILLE	38,25417	-85.75944 PETROLEUM
13867 ALEXANDER RESIDENCE TANK	12/01/2000		UST (EXEMPT)	CLOSED	O'Bannon		PETROLEUM
98672 ALL CENTER DEVELOPMENT	03/20/2002	HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE OTHER PETROLEUM	SOIL CONTAMINATION	ACTIVE	LOUISVILLE	38.25819	-85.76049 STATE SUPERFUND
42995 ALLIANT HEALTH SYSTEM	11/20/1996	PETROLEUM	FACILITY SPILL	CLOSED	LOUISVILLE	38.25417	-85.75944 PETROLEUM
53426 ALLIED DRUM SERVICE	08/03/1999	PETROLEUM	FACILITY SPILL	CLOSED	LOUISVILLE	38.21409	-85.76419 PETROLEUM
30407 ALPHA ENVIRONMENTAL	06/08/1993		FIRE/EXPLOSION	CLOSED	LOUISVILLE	38,25417	-85,75944 STATE SUPERFUND
20666 AMERICAN AIR FILTER	01/14/1994	HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE	GROUNDWATER	ACTIVE	LOUISVILLE	38.205005	-85.76034 STATE SUPERFUND
39624 AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND	02/28/1996		FACILITY SPILL	CLOSED	LOUISVILLE	38.25417	-85.75944 PETROLEUM



Kentucky Geological Survey

Research and Graduate Studies 228 Mining and Mineral Resources Building Lexington, KY 40506-0107 Phone: (859) 257-5500 Fax: (859) 257-1147

Fax: (859) 257-1147 www.uky.edu/kgs

December 24, 2003

Annette Coffey, P.E. Director Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

Dear Ms. Coffey:

This letter is to summarize any geologic concerns for the planning study:

Jackson County

U.S. 421, alternate study-Reconstruction from Ky. 89 at the northern city limits of McKee, Ky. to the recently improved section of U.S. 421 just north of the Jackson/Rockcastle County line.

Item No. 11-113.00

Physiographic Region

The planning study area is in the Eastern Kentucky Coal Field and Mississippian Plateau (Pennyroyal or Pennyrile) Physiographic Regions, which are underlain by sandstone, conglomerates, shale, silty shale, siltstone, coal, underclay, and limestone.

Karst Potential

The planning study area might encounter karst features in the limestone, such as sinkholes and caves.

Landslide Potential

The planning study area probably would encounter pre- or post-landslide hazards.

Unconsolidated Sediments

The planning study area would encounter unconsolidated sediments at or near stream drainage, such as gravel, sand, and silt.

Resource Conflicts

The planning study area might encounter some resource conflicts such as prior ownership of property for coal and limestone mining.



Materials Suitability

The planning study area probably would encounter limestone suitable for construction stone.

Fault Potential

The planning study area probably would not encounter any faults.

Earthquake Zone

The planning study area has a probable peak ground acceleration (PGA) due to earthquake ground motion of 0.09g. There would be a very low potential for liquefaction or slope failure in the unconsolidated sediments at or near streams caused by earthquake bedrock ground motion.

Sincerely,

Richard A Smath

Geologist

cc Richard Wilson



The Secretary for Health Services

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY 275 EAST MAIN STREET FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40621-0001 (502) 564-7042

ERNIE FLETCHER GOVERNOR

JAMES W. HOLSINGER, JR., M.D., PH.D. SECRETARY

December 15, 2003

Annette Coffey, P.E., Director Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, KY 40622

Dear Ms. Coffey:

In response to your November 26, 2003 communication, please be advised that the construction project identified as Item No. 11-113.00 will have no adverse effect on the Cabinet for Health Services.

Sincerely,

Lun M. Wiser by Rule mathery

"...promoting and safeguarding the health and wellness of all Kentuckians."

Amanda Ratliff

Steve.Ross@ky.gov Friday, January 23, 2004 10:01 AM From: Sent: To: cddixon@wilbursmith.com Cc: aratliff@wilbursmith.com; Jimmy.Wilson@ky.gov Subject: FW: US 421 Jackson Co. - KSNPC response to Planning Study Carl, comments from KSNPC. R. Steven Ross, P.E. KYTC - Division of Planning (502) 564-7183 > ----Original Message-----> From: Palmer-Ball, Brainard (EPPC, KSNPC) Friday, January 23, 2004 9:59 AM > To: Ross, Steve (KYTC) > Subject: KSNPC response to Planning Study > TO: Steve Ross/Annette Coffey, KTC/Division of Planning > FROM: Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., KSNPC > DATE: January 24, 2004 > RE: Planning Study for US 421 from McKee to Jackson/Rockcastle County > line > KSNPC has reviewed the Planning Study summary. A review of our natural > heritage database revealed the presence of no KSNPC-listed species or > unique natural areas that we believe would be DIRECTLY impacted by > implementation of the project. However, there are several concerns > that should be addressed during planning stages: 1) minimizing impact

> to the Horse Lick Creek drainage (including provisions for precluding

> hazardous spills into tributary drainages of Horse Lick Creek,
> including underground passageways), 2) assuring that no caves are
> impacted by the project, 3) minimizing stream impacts including runoff
> of sediment from soils disturbed and exposed during construction, and

> 4) minimizing forest fragmentation.



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY KENTUCKY STATE POLICE

919 VERSAILLES ROAD FRANKFORT 40601

PAUL E. PATTON GOVERNOR DIV OF PLANNING 2003 DEC -3 A 10: 27

> PATRICK N. SIMPSON COMMISSIONER

Ms. Annette Coffey, P.E. Director, Division of Planning Transportation Cabinet Frankfort, KY 40602

December 2, 2003

RE: Planning Study for US 421 in Jackson County

Dear Ms. Coffey:

Thank you for forwarding the information regarding the US 421 planning study for Jackson County. This project is of particular importance to me, since I am a lifelong resident of Jackson County. I worked for several years as a uniform Trooper in Jackson County. As such, I understand the issues and concerns related to this particular roadway.

There is considerable need for reconstruction of US 421. People who reside in Jackson County utilize this particular roadway as there primary means of commuting to and from work, to and from hospitals and doctors, to and from Richmond, Ky. and Manchester, Ky. to shop and visit friends and associates. This roadway was created many years ago, utilizing antiquated equipment, for an extremely low volume of traffic, as compared to today's traffic situation. The traffic flow has simply outgrown the design of the roadway. Many of the collisions that occur on US 421, in part, may be associated with the antiquated design of the roadway.

The current condition of US 421 reduces the potential for new business or economic development. Some new factories do not locate in Jackson County, simply due to the cost for shipping items into and from the facilities.

This construction will open up alternative routes for motorists passing through our area, which could reduce the amount of traffic on I-75, Daniel Boone Parkway and Mountain Parkway, as it increases the opportunity for growth in Jackson



Page 2 US 421 Planning Study December 2, 2003

County. Additionally, this improvement will not only improve the quality of life for Jackson County, but also for Owsley and Lee County.

I see no issues or concerns with this project that outweigh the potential benefits for the county and its citizens. A few of the concerns or issues related to this project are as follows:

 There is a substantial work force that commutes to other counties via US 421. Consideration should be given to the needs of those motorists, in particular.

During extremely wet seasons, there is a potential for flooding along US 421, particularly in the Clover Bottom area.

Relocation of US 421 is preferred, but may be difficult, particularly in the Sand Gap community, due to terrain.

Jackson County is a small, low-income area with huge potential for tourism, business and residence. It is accessible for people who wish to live near small and medium range cities, but not within those areas. It provides opportunity for assisted living residences for the elderly.

If Jackson County is to truly catch up with the opportunities afforded to citizens of Madison, Laurel, Clay and Rockcastle County, we desperately need reconstruction to US 421. Thank you for allowing me to comment on this issue. If you have any other questions or concerns, do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Capt. Paul Hays/ Commander, Post 11

London, KY



DIV OF PLANNING

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY DEC 11 P 3: 06

KENTUCKY STATE POLICE

919 VERSAILLES ROAD FRANKFORT KY, 40601

PAUL E. PATTON GOVERNOR PATRICK N. SIMPSON COMMISSIONER

December 4, 2003

Ms. Annette Coffey, P.E. Director, Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

Dear Ms. Coffey:

I am in receipt of your correspondence concerning a planning study for the possible reconstruction of US 421 in Jackson County.

I have forwarded your remarks to Captain Steve Wright, Commander of the Richmond Post. He can be reached at (859) 623-2404. Thank you for including our input during the planning stages of this development.

Sincerely,

Rodney W. Brewer, Lt. Colonel Director, Division of Police Services

RB:DH:mls

cc: Patrick N. Simpson, Commissioner

Major Shelby Lawson, Troop Commander Captain Steve Wright, Commander, Post 7

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER M/F/D

Ross, Steve (KYTC)

From:

Wright, Steve (KSP)

Sent:

Friday, December 05, 2003 12:41 PM

To:

Ross, Steve (KYTC)

Subject:

US421

I along with my Sgt. for Jackson County have reviewed the material sent to us. We have no input as to any specific problems which we can offer suggestions. I appreciate your concern and if I or any of my staff can assist you, please contact us.

Capt. Stephen W. Wright Kentucky, State Police

Kentucky State Police Commander Post 7 699 Eastern Bypass Richmond, KY 40475 Office (859) 623-2404



DIV OF PLANNING 2004 JAN -8 A IO: 16

December 26, 2003

Ms. Annette Coffey, P.E. Director Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, KY 40622

Dear Ms. Coffey:

We appreciate receiving your November 26, 2003 letter offering the Appalachian Regional Commission an opportunity to comment on the proposed US 421 reconstruction project from KY 89 to the Jackson / Rockcastle County line.

The proposed project will not have any adverse effect on the Appalachian Development Highway System.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 884 7706.

Sincerely:

Edward A. Terry, Jr.; P

Senior Transportation Advisor



ski____

Commonwealth of Kentucky

Transportation Cabinet

Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

Paul E. Patton Governor

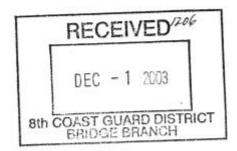
Clifford C. Linkes, P.E. Deputy Secretary

James C. Codell, III

Secretary of Transportation

November 26, 2003

Mr. Roger Wiebusch Bridge Administrator United States Coast Guard, Bridge Branch 1222 Spruce Street St. Louis, MO 63103



SUBJECT:

Planning Study

Jackson County

US 421, Alternatives Study – Reconstruction from KY 89 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421 just north of the

Jackson-Rockcastle County line

Item No. 11-113.00

Dear Mr. Wiebusch:

We are requesting your agency's input and comments on a planning study to determine the need and potential impacts for a proposed highway project. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet has assembled a study team to evaluate alternatives for the possible reconstruction of US 421 in Jackson County from KY 89 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421 near Bighill in Rockcastle County. The study is currently in the initial data-gathering stage.

We ask that you identify specific issues or concerns of your agency that could affect the development of the project. This planning study will include a scoping process for the early identification of potential alternatives, environmental issues, and impacts related to the proposed project. We believe that early identification of issues or concerns can help us develop highway project alternatives to avoid or minimize negative impacts.

Pursuant to the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1982, it has been determined this is not a waterway over which the Coast Guard exercises jurisdiction for bridge administration purposes. A Coast Guard bridge permit is not required.

ROGER K WIEBUSCH Bridge Administrator

Eighth Coast Guard District (obr)

(Dete)UCATION

Forest Service London Ranger District 761 South Laurel Road London, KY 40744 606-864-4163

File Code: 1950

Date: December 9, 2003

Annette Coffey, P.E. Director, Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, KY 40622

Dear Ms. Coffey:

2003 DEC 15 A II: C

Thank you for your invitation to comment on the US Hwy 421 Planning Study. My staff has prepared a list of issues that we feel should be addressed in the planning of this project. The London District Biologist, John Omer, has recently responded to a request by Palmer Engineering for biological issues associated with the study area. A copy of that letter is attached.

Issues associated with the US 421 Reconstruction Project:

- Biological: Federally listed endangered and sensitive bat species habitat areas are near the study corridor, and T & E mussel habitat downstream from Birch Lick Creek in the Rockcastle River may be subject to sedimentation (see above referenced letter to Palmer Engineering).
- 2. National Forest boundary marking: Twenty-three monumented USA property corners are within the study corridor. The corner monumentation should be protected from disturbance, or picked up on preliminary engineering surveys to facilitate replacement after disturbance. A licensed surveyor should supervise this work to preserve the integrity of the evidence and associated documentation.
- 3. Signage: There is a stone-based "Entering National Forest" portal sign located on a trail Right of Way (ROW) near the western intersection of US 421 with the Sheltowee Trace National Recreation Trail. The sign should be protected from disturbance, or, if removal is required, replaced at a location selected for appropriate sight distance and aesthetics. Other signs to be addressed are associated with the Sheltowee Trace route marking and property boundary marking.

- 4. Sheltowee Trace: About 1.6 miles of this National Recreation Trail passes through the study area, mostly located along US 421 and other road shoulders. Consideration should be given to the continued use of this route by pedestrians, equestrians, mountain bikers, and properly licensed motorized (motorcycle) users who currently enjoy the trail segments north and south of US 421. The Forest Service has retained an easement (about .23 acres); at the western trail intersection with US 421, located between Elisha Branch and the highway ROW line, 30' from centerline. If relocation of this trail intersection area is required, an appropriate replacement easement would be required to ensure that the existing use could continue: parking for several vehicles, space for trail signage, portal sign location unless otherwise accommodated, and an adequately hardened stream ford approach.
- 5. There is an issue with unlicensed motor vehicles (ATVs, off road motorcycles) using this segment of trail either on or along the shoulder of the highway, in violation of state law, to access the legal motorized trail segments to the north and south. The road segment shared by the trail is too long to be considered legal for ATV use under state law. We have discussed the possibility of trail relocation in this area to remedy that concern. Such relocation would require a tract or easement acquisition by the Forest Service in the area southwest of the FS 370 US 421 intersection. While admittedly beyond the scope of the project, we would be glad to entertain a discussion of possible alternatives that might address this concern. There may be an opportunity to use TEA 21 grant funding to plan a multi-use trail lane alongside the highway to accommodate the current mix of motorized and other trail users.

I have also attached a map of our immediate area of concern. The trail, boundary, road locations, and 1000-foot (each side) study corridor are shown. If you have any questions or comments about these or any other issues, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

JOHN T. STROJAI

District Ranger

File Code: 2670

Date: November 20, 2003

Devetta Hill Biologist Palmer Engineering 400 Shoppers Drive Winchester, KY 40392-0747

Dear Devetta Hill:

The land managed by the Daniel Boone National Forest within the area described in the project description is not known to contain any federally listed threatened or endangered species. It is also not known to contain any species listed on the Regional Forester's list of sensitive species. However, most of the route is within five miles of several (up to six) significant bat hibernacula caves. These caves are used as hibernacula by the Indiana bat (Myotis sodalist), Virginia bigeared bat (Plecotus townsendii virginianus) and/or Rafinesque's big-eared bat (Corynorhinus rafinesquii). The first two are federally endangered species and the last is on the Regional Forester's sensitive species list.

On land managed by the Forest Service, currently suitable Indiana bat roost trees may be felled only between October 15 and March 31 for areas more than five mile from a significant Indiana bat cave. If tree removal occurs at other times, the tree must be evaluated for current Indiana bat use, according to U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service protocol. Areas within five miles of a significant Indiana bat cave, tree cutting is further limited to exclude between September 1 and December 1.

The only other concern is that Birch Lick Creek, which US 421 follows for much of that section, is a tributary to the Rockcastle River. The Rockcastle River is known to be inhabited by several federally listed threatened and endangered mussels. Potential sedimentation from this project may need to be monitored.

If you need further assistance or if you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact our District Wildlife Biologist, John Omer, at (606) 864-4163.

Sincerely,

JOHN T. STROJAN

District Ranger



United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service 771 Corporate Drive; Suite 210 Lexington, KY 40503-5479

Ms. Annette Coffey, P.E. Director, Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, KY 40622 December 29, 2003

Dear Ms. Coffey:

In regards to the Planning Study for US 421 – Reconstruction from KY 89 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421 just north of the Jackson-Rockcastle County line, Item No. 11-113.00, the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is concerned with potential impacts that the proposed highway project might have upon prime farmland soils and additional farmlands of statewide importance. If federal dollars are to be used to convert important farmlands from agricultural uses to non-agricultural uses a Form AD-1006 (or Form NRCS-CPA-106 if the project is a corridor type project) must be submitted to the local NRCS office. These forms may be obtained from the local NRCS office and are also available as electronic forms on the web at

http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/fppa/pdf_files/AD1006.PDF and http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/fppa/pdf_files/CPA106.pdf .

The contact person is:

Charles W. Gibson, District Conservationist USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service Dunsil Building US 421, P.O. Box 172 McKee, KY 40447-0172

phone: (606) 287-8314

Mr. Gibson can help in identifying important farmlands in the proposed project area.

Sincerely,

DAVID G. SAWYER State Conservationist

cc: Charles W. Gibson, District Conservationist, McKee, KY Robert Bradley, Area Conservationist, Mount Sterling, KY



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY NASHVILLE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Regulatory Branch 3701 Bell RD Nashville, TN 37214 February 2, 2004

DIV OF PLANNING

. 2004 FEB -b P 2: 22

Regulatory Branch

SUBJECT: File No. 200301934; Proposed Alternatives Study, Reconstruction of US-421 From KY-89 (McKee Northern City Limits) to Just North of the Jackson-Rockcastle County Line, in Jackson County, Kentucky

Annette Coffey, P.E. Director, Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

Dear Ms. Coffey:

This concerns your request for comments regarding the potential effects of the subject proposal on areas of interest or programs administered by our agency. We apologize for responding after your closing date and hope that you are able to use our comments to assist in your planning efforts. Please reference File No. 200301934 in future communications with us about this work.

The regulatory authorities and responsibilities of the Corps of Engineers (Corps) are based mainly on two laws: Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344). Section 10 prohibits the obstruction or alteration of navigable waters of the United States (U.S.) without a Corps permit. Section 404 requires a Corps permit for any discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S.

Based on a review of the Wildie, Sandgap, and Johnetta U.S. Geological Survey Quadrangle maps, the proposed corridor's alternative alignments would involve potential stream construction activities in or over Birch Lick Creek and tributaries, Clover Bottom Creek and tributaries, and several streams near Morrill, Kentucky. As stated in the submitted brochure, certain areas near Morrill are part of the Kentucky River watershed. All areas draining into the Kentucky River are located within the regulatory jurisdiction of the Corps' Louisville District (CLD). Since only a small segment of the project falls within CLD's boundaries, we will request permission from them to review the entire project here. We estimate that most of the streams crossed would be considered waters of the U.S., thus subject to Section 404. None of the streams affected by the corridor's alignments are considered navigable waters of the U.S.

Our desk review did not reveal the presence of jurisdictional wetlands. However, we suggest route alignment surveys to identify the extent of impacts to federally regulated waters and confirm that no wetlands exist. Any wetlands found adjacent to the waters of the U.S. impacted by the alignments would also be jurisdictional.

Please note that our permit review includes application of the Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines. As such, the design of the project must avoid impacts or adverse modification to the waters of the U.S. to the extent practicable. The construction of bridges or bottomless culverts that completely span streams, limiting approach fills to areas above the ordinary high water mark, and avoiding stream relocations and wetland fills whenever practicable are ways that must be considered. Documentation of avoidance, minimization, and mitigation efforts should be documented and provided with the permit application package.

Thank you for including us in your scoping process. are available to discuss our permit requirements in detail as well as efforts to avoid or minimize the project's aquatic resource impacts. I may be reached at the above address, telephone (615) 369-7519. My email address is jose.r.hernandez@lrn02.usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

J. Ruben Hernandez Project Manager

Operations Division



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Atlanta GA 30333

December 23, 2003

Annette Coffey, P.E. Director, Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

Re:

Item No. 11-113.00

Planning Study

Jackson County - US 421

Dear Ms. Coffey:

This is in response to your letter of November 26, 2003 requesting our agency's input and comments on a planning study to determine the need and the potential impacts for the possible reconstruction of US 421 in Jackson County from KY 89 to the recently improved section of US 421 near Bighill in Rockcastle County. We are responding on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), U.S. Public Health Service.

While we have no project specific comments to offer at this time, we do recommend that the topics listed below be considered during the NEPA process along with other necessary topics, and addressed if appropriate. Mitigation plans which are protective of the environment and public health should be described in the DEIS wherever warranted.

AREAS OF POTENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERN:

I. Air Quality

- dust control measures during project construction, and potential releases of air toxins potential process air emissions after project completion
- · compliance with air quality standards

II. Water Quality/Quantity

- special consideration to private and public potable water supply, including ground and surface water resources
- · compliance with water quality and waste water treatment standards
- ground and surface water contamination (e.g. runoff and erosion control)
- body contact recreation

III. Wetlands and Flood Plains

- potential contamination of underlying aquifers
- · construction within flood plains which may endanger human health
- · contamination of the food chain

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IV. Hazardous Materials/Wastes

- · identification and characterization of hazardous/contaminated sites
- safety plans/procedures, including use of pesticides/herbicides; worker training
- · spill prevention, containment, and countermeasures plan

V. Non-Hazardous Solid Waste/Other Materials

· any unusual effects associated with solid waste disposal should be considered

VI. Noise

 identify projected elevated noise levels and sensitive receptors (i.e. residential, schools, hospitals) and appropriate mitigation plans during and after construction

VII. Occupational Health and Safety

· compliance with appropriate criteria and guidelines to ensure worker safety and health

VIII. Land Use and Housing

- special consideration and appropriate mitigation for necessary relocation and other potential adverse impacts to residential areas, community cohesion, community services
- · demographic special considerations (e.g. hospitals, nursing homes, day care centers, schools
- consideration of beneficial and adverse long-term land use impacts, including the potential influx of people into the area as a result of a project and associated impacts
- · potential impacts upon vector control should be considered

IX. Environmental Justice

federal requirements emphasize the issue of environmental justice to ensure equitable
environmental protection regardless of race, ethnicity, economic status or community, so that
no segment of the population bears a disproportionate share of the consequences of
environmental pollution attributable to a proposed project. (Executive Order 12898)

While this is not intended to be an exhaustive list of possible impact topics, it provides a guide for typical areas of potential public health concern which may be applicable to this project. Any health related topic which may be associated with the proposed project should receive consideration when developing the draft and final EISs. Please furnish us with one copy of the draft document when it becomes available for review.

Sincerely yours

Paul Joe, DO, MPH

Medical Officer

National Center for Environmental Health (F16)

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE 3761 GEORGETOWN ROAD FRANKFORT, KY 40601

January 12, 2004

2004 JAN ILL P 3: 50

Ms. Annette Coffey Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Subject:

FWS #04-0366; US 421 Planning Study, Jackson and Rockcastle Counties,

Kentucky (KTC Item No.11-113.00)

Dear Ms. Coffey:

Thank you for your correspondence of November 26, 2003, regarding the US 421 Planning Study in Jackson and Rockcastle Counties, Kentucky. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KTC) is planning the reconstruction of US 421 from KY 89 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421 just north of the Jackson-Rockcastle County line. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) personnel have reviewed the information submitted and the following comments are provided in accordance with the provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) and the Endangered Species Act (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

In general, we are concerned that highway projects frequently accelerate erosion and sedimentation in streams, resulting in adverse effects to the aquatic environment. The use of heavy equipment to move earth and existing vegetation disrupts natural drainage patterns and exposes large areas of disturbed soil to erosion. Excessive sedimentation can clog stream channels and contribute to increased flooding. It can also increase water temperatures and cause oxygen demands which can damage or destroy fish and invertebrate populations. Deposition of sediment on the channel bottom also degrades aquatic habitat by filling in substrate cavities, burying demersal eggs, and smothering bottom organisms. In addition, turbidity, as induced by accelerated erosion and sedimentation, results in further damage to aquatic systems. Increased particulate matter suspended in the water column may drive fish from the polluted area by irritating the gills, concealing forage, and/or destroying vegetation that may be essential for spawning and cover habitat for particular species. Turbidity also degrades water quality by reducing light penetration, pH and oxygen levels, and the buffering capacity of the water. Degraded water quality may continue far downstream from the point where the erosion occurs.

Prevention of excessive sedimentation can occur only through application of Best Management Practices during daily construction activities. Rigid application of your agency's construction erosion control standards can preclude most sedimentation problems. In some cases, however, additional measures will need to be taken by on-site inspectors and construction representatives that are trained in erosion and sediment control methods. We request that you consider having an inspector on-site during construction to ensure work area stabilization on a daily basis.

Upon review of the proposed projects, we find that the information provided is insufficient to determine if the proposed actions will require U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' permits. Since permit applications could more thoroughly reveal the extent of construction activities affecting aquatic resources, we will provide additional comments during the 404 review process should the project necessitate Corps' permits. However, we would likely have no objection to the issuance of permits if any necessary stream channel work is held to a minimum and Best Management Practices are utilized and enforced, effectively controlling erosion, sedimentation, and other potential hazards. The following conditions are specifically recommended:

- Erosion and sediment control measures, including but not limited to the following, should be implemented on all vegetatively denuded areas:
 - a. Preventive planning: A well-developed erosion control plan which entails a preliminary investigation, detailed contract plans and specifications, and final erosion and sediment control contingency measures should be formulated and made a part of the contract.
 - Diversion channels: Channels should be constructed around the construction site to keep the work site free of flow-through water.
 - Silt barriers: Appropriate use should be made of silt fences, hay bale and brush barriers, and silt basins in areas susceptible to erosion.
 - d. Temporary seeding and mulching: All cuts and fill slopes, including those in waste sites and borrow pits, should be seeded as soon as possible.
 - Limitation of in-stream activities: In-stream activities, including temporary fills and equipment crossings, should be limited to those absolutely necessary.
- Channel excavations required for pier placement should be restricted to the minimum necessary for that purpose. Overflow channel excavations should be confined to one side of the channel, leaving the opposite bank and its riparian vegetation intact.
- All fill should be stabilized immediately upon placement.
- Streambanks should be stabilized with riprap or other accepted bioengineering technique(s).
- Existing transportation corridors should be used in lieu of temporary crossings where possible.
- Good water quality should be maintained during construction.

Efficient management practices can minimize adverse impacts associated with construction. It is important that these and other measures be monitored and stringently enforced. This will aid in preserving the quality of the natural environment.

According to our records, three federally listed species may occur within the proposed project area. They are listed below:

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status
running buffalo clover	Trifolium stoloniferum	endangered
Indiana bat	Myotis sodalis	endangered
Virginia big-eared bat	Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus	endangered

Running buffalo clover (*Trifolium stoloniferum*), a federally listed endangered species may occur in the proposed project site. Running buffalo clover is known to occur in habitats ranging from stream banks and low mesic (moderately moist) forests to lawns and cemeteries. The KTC should survey the project area to determine the presence or absence of this species within the project area in an effort to determine if potential impacts to these species are likely. A qualified biologist, and preferably one who holds the appropriate collection permits for this species, must undertake such surveys, and we would appreciate the opportunity to approve the biologist's survey plan prior to the survey being undertaken and to review all survey results, both positive and negative. If these species are identified, we request written notification of such occurrence(s) and further coordination and consultation with the KTC.

According to our records, summer roost habitat and/or winter hibernacula for the endangered Indiana bat (Myotis sodalis) and Virginia big-eared bat (Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus) may exist within the proposed project site. Based on this information, we believe that: (1) forested areas in the vicinity of and on the project area may provide potentially suitable summer roosting and foraging habitat for the Indiana bat and potentially suitable foraging habitat for the Virginia big-eared bat (if suitable roosting sites are present); and (2) caves, rockshelters, and abandoned underground mines in the vicinity of and on the project area may provide potentially suitable winter hibernacula habitat for the Indiana bat and/or potentially suitable summer roosting and winter hibernacula habitat for the Virginia big-eared bat. Our belief that potentially suitable habitat may be present, and possibly occupied by one or both of these species, is based on the information provided in your correspondence, the fact that much of the project site and surrounding areas contain forested habitats that are within the natural ranges of these species, and our knowledge of the life history characteristics of these species.

The Indiana bat utilizes a wide array of forested habitats, including riparian forests, bottomlands, and uplands for both summer foraging and roosting habitat. Indiana bats typically roost under exfoliating bark, in cavities of dead and live trees, and in snags (i.e., dead trees or dead portions of live trees). Trees in excess of 16 inches diameter at breast height (DBH) are considered optimal for maternity colony roosts, but trees in excess of 9 inches DBH appear to provide suitable maternity roosting habitat. Male Indiana bats have been observed roosting in trees as small as 3 inches DBH.

Prior to hibernation, Indiana bats utilize the forest habitat around the hibernacula, where they feed and roost until temperatures drop to a point that forces them into hibernation. This "swarming" period lasts, depending on weather conditions in a particular year, from about September 15 to about November 15. This is a critical time for Indiana bats, since they are acquiring additional fat reserves and mating prior to hibernation. Research has shown that bats

exhibiting this "swarming" behavior will range up to five miles from chosen hibernacula during this time. For hibernation, the Indiana bat prefers limestone caves, sandstone rockshelters, and abandoned underground mines with stable temperatures of 39 to 46 degrees F and humidity above 74 percent but below saturation.

Virginia big-eared bats occur in isolated populations in eastern Kentucky where they prefer caves in karst regions (i.e., areas underlain with limestone bedrock and many caves and sink holes) dominated by oak-hickory or beech-maple-hemlock forest. These bats hibernate in areas of caves where temperatures usually range from 32 to 54 degrees F. In summer, maternity colonies are found in the relatively warm parts of caves.

Because we have concerns relating to these species on this project and due to the lack of occurrence information available on these species relative to the proposed project area, we have the following recommendations relative to Indiana bats and Virginia big-eared bats.

- 1. Based on the presence of numerous caves, rockshelters, and underground mines in eastern Kentucky, we believe that it is reasonable to assume that other caves, rockshelters, and/or abandoned underground mines may occur within the project area, and, if they occur, they could provide winter habitat for Indiana bats and/or summer and winter habitat for the Virginia big-eared bat. Therefore, we recommend that you survey the project area for caves, rockshelters, and underground mines, identify any such habitats that may exist on-site, and avoid impacts to those sites pending an analysis of their suitability as Indiana bat and/or Virginia big-eared bat habitat by this office.
- Since a known Indiana bat hibernaculum exists less than 5 miles south of the project area, we recommend you only remove trees between November 15 and March 31 in order to avoid impacting Indiana bat "swarming" behavior

If these recommendations cannot be accomplished, then the KTC should survey the project area to determine the presence or absence of these species within the project area in an effort to determine if potential impacts to these species are likely. A qualified biologist who holds the appropriate collection permits for these species must undertake such surveys, and we would appreciate the opportunity to approve the biologist's survey plan prior to the survey being undertaken and to review all survey results, both positive and negative. If any Indiana bats and/or Virginia big-eared bats are identified, we request written notification of such occurrence(s) and further coordination and consultation with you.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed action. If you have any questions regarding the information we provided, please contact Mindi Brady at (502)/695-0468 (ext.229).

Sincerely,

Virgil Lee Undrews Jr.

Field Supervisor