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TRAFFIC OPERATIONS MEMO NO. 03-26

TO: Chief District Engineers
Engineering Support Branch Managers

THROUGH: James Ballinger, P.E.
State Highway Engineer
Initial JB

John Moore, P.E.
Deputy State Highway Engineer
for Project Delivery and Preservation
DS JM

FROM: Tim Tharpe, P.E.
Director
Division of Traffic Operations

DATE: August 17, 2026

SUBJECT: Lighting Policy – Agricultural Land

The 2026 Legislative Session introduced a new law pertaining to roadway lighting in relation to agricultural land. KRS 176.056 – "Light from outdoor fixtures not to encroach on agricultural land -- Shielding -- Complaint – Exception" prescribes that the Cabinet shall not allow light emitted from an outdoor light fixture to encroach on any agricultural land, whether public or private.

For any new lighting installations, illuminance levels from the lighting fixture at the right-of-way boundary adjacent to agricultural land shall be designed such that these levels are limited to 0.00 foot-candles.

For any existing lighting installations, if the Cabinet receives notification from the owner of agricultural land that light emitted from an outdoor light fixture encroaches on that agricultural land, the Cabinet shall ensure that the outdoor light fixture is fully shielded within 30 days of the date of the notification.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the Division of Traffic Operations.

cc: Russ Romine, ACEC-KY