



1835 Assembly Street
Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201

Date: November 4, 2004

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-SC

Mr. Ed Duncan
S.C. Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 12559
Charleston, SC 29412

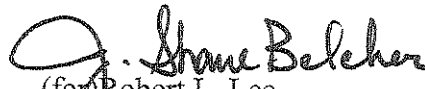
Subject: I-73 Cooperating Agency Invitation

Dear Mr. Duncan:

As we discussed during the Agency Scoping Meeting on August 12, 2004, all members of the Agency Coordination Team are invited to become cooperating agencies on the I-73 project. As stated in *40 CFR 1501.6*, the FHWA, as the lead federal agency, may request any other agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to an environmental issue to be a cooperating agency.

In accordance with the above stated regulations, the FHWA and SCDOT take this opportunity to formally invite your agency to become a cooperating agency for the I-73 project. Attached are the CEQ Regulations *40 CFR 1501.6* that outline the duties of a lead agency and a cooperating agency. Please indicate, by signature at the bottom of this letter, your agreement to be a cooperating agency and return this letter. Please call my office at 803-765-5460 if you have any further questions.

Sincerely yours,


(for) Robert L. Lee
Division Administrator

As a representative of the

SCDNR
insert agency name


signature

accept the invitation to become a cooperating agency on the I-73 project.

Cc: Mitchell Metts, SCDOT
Skip Johnson, The LPA Group

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
Seventh Coast Guard District

909 SE 1st Ave. (Rm432)
Miami, FL 33131
Staff Symbol: (obr)
Phone: 305-415-6749
Fax: 305-415-6763
Email: roverton@d7.uscg.mil

16590/SC I-73
Ser 1277
September 21, 2004

Robert L. Lee
Division Administrator
FHWA South Carolina
1835 Assembly Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Mr. Lee,

In reference to your letter dated September 2, 2004 entitled *I-73 Cooperating Agency Invitation*, I as the Coast Guard Seventh District Bridge Branch representative acknowledge receipt of and accept the invitation to be a cooperating agency.

The Coast Guard will be a cooperating agency on the South Carolina I-73 project in accordance with 40 CFR 1501.6 and as such provide comments concerning proposed bridges over navigable waterways of the United States that fall within the project corridor.

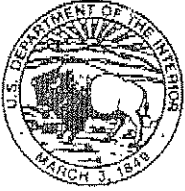
If you have any questions or concerns please call me at (305) 415-6749.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Overton", written over a horizontal line.

RANDALL D. OVERTON
Bridge Management Specialist
U.S. Coast Guard
By direction

Enclosures: Your letter dated September 2, 2004 entitled *I-73 Cooperating Agency Invitation*.



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
175 Croghan Spur Road, Suite 200
Charleston, South Carolina 29407

September 15, 2004

Mr. Robert L. Lee
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
1835 Assembly Street, Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201

Re: Interstate 73 Cooperating Agency Invitation

Dear Mr. Lee:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has received your letter requesting Service involvement as a cooperating agency for the proposed Interstate 73 through Marlboro, Dillon, Marion and Horry Counties, SC.

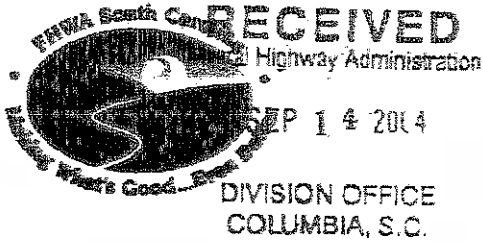
In accordance with applicable Council on Environmental Quality guidance, the Service would be pleased to serve as a National Environmental Policy Act "cooperating agency" in developing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). For that portion of the proposed project within South Carolina, our participation will be specifically limited to: (1) participating in meetings and field trips to obtain baseline information on project-area fish and wildlife resources in South Carolina; (2) evaluating the proposed project's impacts to fish and wildlife resources and habitats in South Carolina, and assisting in the development of measures to avoid, minimize, and/or compensate for those impacts; and (3) providing technical assistance in the development of a Biological Assessment describing the impacts of the proposed activity to federally listed threatened or endangered species and/or their critical habitat in South Carolina.

If the Service can be of further assistance to the Federal Highway Administration in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me or our transportation liaison, Mr. Mark Caldwell, who may be reached at (843) 727-4707 ext. 12.

Sincerely,

Timothy N. Hall
Field Supervisor

TNH/MAC



1835 Assembly Street
Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201

Date: September 2, 2004

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-SC

Mr. Prescott Brownell
NOAA Fisheries
217 Fort Johnson Road
Charleston, SC 29412

Subject: I-73 Cooperating Agency Invitation

Dear Mr. Brownell:

As we discussed during the Agency Scoping Meeting on August 12, 2004, all members of the Agency Coordination Team are invited to become cooperating agencies on the I-73 project. As stated in 40 CFR 1501.6, the FHWA, as the lead federal agency, may request any other agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to an environmental issue to be a cooperating agency.

In accordance with the above stated regulations, the FHWA and SCDOT take this opportunity to formally invite your agency to become a cooperating agency for the I-73 project. Please indicate, by signature at the bottom of this letter, your agreement to be a cooperating agency and return this letter.

Sincerely yours,

for Robert L. Lee
Division Administrator

As a representative of the NOAA FISHERIES, I David R. [Signature]
insert agency name signature
accept the invitation to become a cooperating agency on the I-73 project.

Cc: Mitchell Metts, SCDOT



1835 Assembly Street
Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201

Date: September 2, 2004

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-SC

Mr. David Kelly
S.C. Department of Archives and History
8301 Parklane Road
Columbia, SC 29223

Subject: I-73 Cooperating Agency Invitation

Dear Mr. Kelly:

As we discussed during the Agency Scoping Meeting on August 12, 2004, all members of the Agency Coordination Team are invited to become cooperating agencies on the I-73 project. As stated in 40 CFR 1501.6, the FHWA, as the lead federal agency, may request any other agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to an environmental issue to be a cooperating agency.

In accordance with the above stated regulations, the FHWA and SCDOT take this opportunity to formally invite your agency to become a cooperating agency for the I-73 project. Please indicate, by signature at the bottom of this letter, your agreement to be a cooperating agency and return this letter.

Sincerely yours,

RL Robert L. Lee
Division Administrator

As a representative of the SC Dept of Archives + History
SC State Historic Preservation
insert agency name DATE signature

accept the invitation to become a cooperating agency on the I-73 project.

Cc: Mitchell Metts, SCDOT



1835 Assembly Street
Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201

Date: September 2, 2004

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-SC

Ms. Ramona McConney
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, GA 30303

Subject: I-73 Cooperating Agency Invitation

Dear Ms. McConney:

As we discussed during the Agency Scoping Meeting on August 12, 2004, all members of the Agency Coordination Team are invited to become cooperating agencies on the I-73 project. As stated in 40 CFR 1501.6, the FHWA, as the lead federal agency, may request any other agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to an environmental issue to be a cooperating agency.

In accordance with the above stated regulations, the FHWA and SCDOT take this opportunity to formally invite your agency to become a cooperating agency for the I-73 project. Please indicate, by signature at the bottom of this letter, your agreement to be a cooperating agency and return this letter.

Sincerely yours,

for Robert L. Lee
Division Administrator

As a representative of the

Seima Mueller, I for USEPA
insert agency name signature

accept the invitation to become a cooperating agency on the I-73 project.

Cc: Mitchell Metts, SCDOT



1835 Assembly Street
Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201

Date: September 2, 2004

Mr. Richard Chinnis
S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control
1362 McMillan Avenue
Suite 400
Charleston, SC 29405

Subject: I-73 Cooperating Agency Invitation

Dear Mr. Chinnis:

As we discussed during the Agency Scoping Meeting on August 12, 2004, all members of the Agency Coordination Team are invited to become cooperating agencies on the I-73 project. As stated in 40 CFR 1501.6, the FHWA, as the lead federal agency, may request any other agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to an environmental issue to be a cooperating agency.

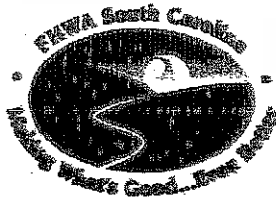
In accordance with the above stated regulations, the FHWA and SCDOT take this opportunity to formally invite your agency to become a cooperating agency for the I-73 project. Please indicate, by signature at the bottom of this letter, your agreement to be a cooperating agency and return this letter.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Lee
Division Administrator

As a representative of the SCDHEC/OCBA, I Richard Chinnis
insert agency name signature
accept the invitation to become a cooperating agency on the I-73 project.

Cc: Mitchell Metts, SCDOT



1835 Assembly Street
Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201

Date: September 2, 2004

Mr. Charles Harrison
S.C. Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Subject: I-73 Cooperating Agency Invitation

Dear Mr. Harrison:

As we discussed during the Agency Scoping Meeting on August 12, 2004, all members of the Agency Coordination Team are invited to become cooperating agencies on the I-73 project. As stated in 40 CFR 1501.6, the FHWA, as the lead federal agency, may request any other agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to an environmental issue to be a cooperating agency.

In accordance with the above stated regulations, the FHWA and SCDOT take this opportunity to formally invite your agency to become a cooperating agency for the I-73 project. Please indicate, by signature at the bottom of this letter, your agreement to be a cooperating agency and return this letter.

Sincerely yours,

for Robert L. Lee
Division Administrator

As a representative of the SC Dept. Parks, Rec, Tourism | Charles Harrison
insert agency name signature
accept the invitation to become a cooperating agency on the I-73 project.

Cc: Mitchell Metts, SCDOT



1835 Assembly Street
Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201

Date: September 2, 2004

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-SC

Mr. Randall Overton
U.S. Coast Guard
909 S.E. 1st Avenue
Miami, FL 33131-3050

Subject: I-73 Cooperating Agency Invitation

Dear Mr. Overton:

As we discussed during the Agency Scoping Meeting on August 12, 2004, all members of the Agency Coordination Team are invited to become cooperating agencies on the I-73 project. As stated in 40 CFR 1501.6, the FHWA, as the lead federal agency, may request any other agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to an environmental issue to be a cooperating agency.

In accordance with the above stated regulations, the FHWA and SCDOT take this opportunity to formally invite your agency to become a cooperating agency for the I-73 project. Please indicate, by signature at the bottom of this letter, your agreement to be a cooperating agency and return this letter.

Sincerely yours,

for Robert L. Lee
Division Administrator

As a representative of the U.S. Coast Guard
insert agency name

signature

accept the invitation to become a cooperating agency on the I-73 project.

Cc: Mitchell Metts, SCDOT



1835 Assembly Street
Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201

Date: September 2, 2004

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-SC

Ms. Rheta Gheddings
S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Subject: I-73 Cooperating Agency Invitation

Dear Ms. Gheddings:

As we discussed during the Agency Scoping Meeting on August 12, 2004, all members of the Agency Coordination Team are invited to become cooperating agencies on the I-73 project. As stated in *40 CFR 1501.6*, the FHWA, as the lead federal agency, may request any other agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to an environmental issue to be a cooperating agency.

In accordance with the above stated regulations, the FHWA and SCDOT take this opportunity to formally invite your agency to become a cooperating agency for the I-73 project. Please indicate, by signature at the bottom of this letter, your agreement to be a cooperating agency and return this letter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RL' or 'PT' with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Robert L. Lee
Division Administrator

As a representative of the _____, I _____
insert agency name *signature*
accept the invitation to become a cooperating agency on the I-73 project.

Cc: Mitchell Metts, SCDOT



1835 Assembly Street
Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201

Date: September 2, 2004

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-SC

Mr. John Boettcher
S.C. Emergency Management Division
1100 Fish Hatchery Road
West Columbia, SC 29172

Subject: I-73 Cooperating Agency Invitation

Dear Mr. Boettcher:

As we discussed during the Agency Scoping Meeting on August 12, 2004, all members of the Agency Coordination Team are invited to become cooperating agencies on the I-73 project. As stated in *40 CFR 1501.6*, the FHWA, as the lead federal agency, may request any other agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to an environmental issue to be a cooperating agency.

In accordance with the above stated regulations, the FHWA and SCDOT take this opportunity to formally invite your agency to become a cooperating agency for the I-73 project. Please indicate, by signature at the bottom of this letter, your agreement to be a cooperating agency and return this letter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "RL", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert L. Lee
Division Administrator

As a representative of the _____, I _____
insert agency name *signature*
accept the invitation to become a cooperating agency on the I-73 project.

Cc: Mitchell Melts, SCDOT



1835 Assembly Street
Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201

Date: September 2, 2004

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-SC

Mr. Travis Hughes
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
69A Hagood Avenue
Charleston, SC 29403

Subject: I-73 Cooperating Agency Invitation

Dear Mr. Hughes:

As we discussed during the Agency Scoping Meeting on August 12, 2004, all members of the Agency Coordination Team are invited to become cooperating agencies on the I-73 project. As stated in *40 CFR 1501.6*, the FHWA, as the lead federal agency, may request any other agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to an environmental issue to be a cooperating agency.

In accordance with the above stated regulations, the FHWA and SCDOT take this opportunity to formally invite your agency to become a cooperating agency for the I-73 project. Please indicate, by signature at the bottom of this letter, your agreement to be a cooperating agency and return this letter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "RL Lee", written over a horizontal line.

Robert L. Lee
Division Administrator

As a representative of the _____, I _____
insert agency name *signature*
accept the invitation to become a cooperating agency on the I-73 project.

Cc: Mitchell Metts, SCDOT



1835 Assembly Street
Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201

Date: September 2, 2004

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-SC

Ms. Tina Hadden
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
69A Hagood Avenue
Charleston, SC 29403-5107

Subject: I-73 Cooperating Agency Invitation

Dear Ms. Hadden:

As we discussed during the Agency Scoping Meeting on August 12, 2004, all members of the Agency Coordination Team are invited to become cooperating agencies on the I-73 project. As stated in *40 CFR 1501.6*, the FHWA, as the lead federal agency, may request any other agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to an environmental issue to be a cooperating agency.

In accordance with the above stated regulations, the FHWA and SCDOT take this opportunity to formally invite your agency to become a cooperating agency for the I-73 project. Please indicate, by signature at the bottom of this letter, your agreement to be a cooperating agency and return this letter.

Sincerely yours,

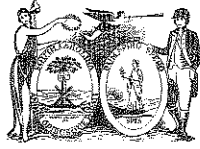
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "RL Lee", written over a horizontal line.

Robert L. Lee
Division Administrator

As a representative of the _____, I _____
insert agency name *signature*
accept the invitation to become a cooperating agency on the I-73 project.

Cc: Mitchell Metts, SCDOT

The State of South Carolina
Military Department



OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

STANHOPE S. SPEARS
MAJOR GENERAL
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

November 2, 2005

Mr. Patrick Tyndall
Environmental Program Manager
Federal Highway Administration
1835 Assembly Street, Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201-2430

Re: I-73 Concurrence at Purpose and Need Decision Point

Dear Mr. Tyndall:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) have requested concurrence regarding the purpose and need for the I-73 project. As Director of the South Carolina Emergency Management Division, with a division representative serving on the I-73 Agency Coordination Team (ACT), I agree with the consensus of the ACT and in turn provide my concurrence at this decision point.

This concurrence is based upon evaluation and discussion of the purpose and needs for the project. Concurrence at this decision point does not guarantee permit issuance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. Osborne".

Ronald C. Osborne
Director

Emergency Management Division
2779 Fish Hatchery Road
West Columbia, South Carolina 29172
(803) 737-8500 • Fax: (803) 737-8570



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

March 28, 2005

Mr. Patrick Tyndall
Environmental Program Manager
Federal Highway Administration
1835 Assembly Street, Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201-2430

Re: I-73 Concurrence at Purpose and Need Decision Point

Dear Mr. Tyndall:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) requested concurrence regarding the purpose and need statement for the I-73 project. As a representative of the Environmental Protection Agency serving on the I-73 Agency Coordination Team (ACT), I agree with the consensus of the ACT and in turn provide concurrence at this decision point.

This concurrence is based upon evaluation and discussion of the purpose and need for the project with regard to currently available information. If new information becomes available during the NEPA process, the purpose and need statement may need to be refined.

Concurrence at this decision point does not guarantee permit issuance. Please be aware that listing economic development as a primary purpose in the EIS may complicate the evaluation process that will take place under the 404(b)(1) guidelines.

While EPA realizes that one of the primary purposes of the project is to promote economic development, it is still crucial to consider a broad range of alternatives during the early scoping process. We expect that when further detailed data is evaluated, some preliminary alternatives may be eliminated from consideration due to data refinements and potential impacts. Current, accurate data should be used to ensure that a reasonable range of preliminary alternatives for a project of this magnitude and importance be considered, so that after refinements take place a range of viable alternatives will be left to be considered.

Thank you for your early coordination with us. If you have any questions, please contact Ramona McConney of my staff at (404) 562-9615.

Sincerely,

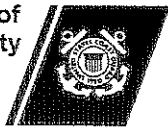
Heinz J. Mueller, Chief
EPA Program Office

Internet Address (URL) • <http://www.epa.gov>

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U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
Seventh Coast Guard District

909 SE 1st Ave. (Rm432)
Miami, FL 33131
Staff Symbol: (obr)
Phone: 305-415-6749
Fax: 305-415-6763
Email: roverton@d7.uscg.mil

16590/SC I-73
Ser: 1323
December 15, 2004

Mr. Patrick Tyndall
Environmental Program Manager
Federal Highway Administration
1835 Assembly Street, Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201-2430

Re: I-73 Concurrence at Purpose and Need Decision Point

Dear Mr. Tyndall:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) have requested concurrence regarding the purpose and need for the I-73 project. As a representative of U. S. Coast Guard Seventh District Bridge Branch, serving on the I-73 Agency Coordination Team (ACT), I agree with the consensus of the ACT and in turn provide my concurrence at this decision point.

This concurrence is based upon evaluation and discussion of the purpose and needs for the Project. Concurrence at this decision point does not guarantee permit issuance.

If you have any questions or concerns on this matter please call me at (305) 415-6749.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Overton", written over a horizontal line.

RANDALL D. OVERTON
Bridge Management Specialist
U.S. Coast Guard
By direction

South Carolina Department of
Natural Resources



John E. Frampton
Director
John V. Miglarese
Deputy Director for
Marine Resources

December 14, 2004

Mr. Patrick Tyndall
Environmental Program Manager
Federal Highway Administration
1835 Assembly Street, Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201-2430

Re: I-73 Concurrence at Purpose and Need Decision Point

Dear Mr. Tyndall:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) have requested concurrence regarding the purpose and need for the I-73 project. The Purpose and Need Statement was approved by consensus of the I-73 Agency Coordination Team (ACT).

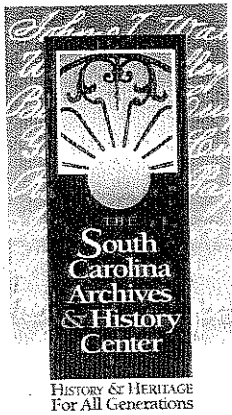
Personnel with the S.C. Department of Natural Resources have participated in the development of the Purpose and Need Statement and concur with the use of this statement for the I-73 Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert E. Duncan". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Robert E. Duncan
Environmental Programs Director

cc: Mitchell Metts - SCDOT



December 13, 2004

Mr. Patrick Tyndall
Environmental Program Manager
Federal Highway Administration
1835 Assembly Street, Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201-2430

Re: I-73 Concurrence at Purpose and Need Decision Point

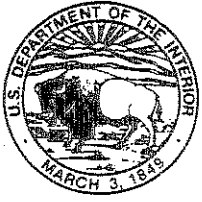
Dear Mr. Tyndall:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) have requested concurrence regarding the purpose and need for the I-73 project. As a representative of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History serving on the I-73 Agency Coordination Team (ACT), I agree with the consensus of the ACT and in turn provide my concurrence at this decision point.

This concurrence is based upon evaluation and discussion of the purpose and needs for the Project. Concurrence at this decision point does not guarantee permit issuance.

Sincerely,

David P. Kelly
DOT Project Coordinator



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
176 Croghan Spur Road, Suite 200
Charleston, South Carolina 29407

December 13, 2004

Mr. Patrick Tyndall
Environmental Program Manager
Federal Highway Administration
1835 Assembly Street, Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201-2430

Re: I-73 Purpose and Need Concurrence

Dear Mr. Tyndall:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) have requested concurrence from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) regarding the Purpose and Need for the I-73 project. The Purpose and Need for this project was conceived and prepared jointly by the Agency Coordination Team (ACT) over the past year.

With this letter, the Service concurs with the Purpose and Need for the I-73 project. This concurrence is based upon a consensus for the final draft of the Purpose and Need discussed during the December 9, 2004, ACT meeting in Columbia, SC. If new information becomes available that could alter the final draft, this concurrence determination may be affected and further consultation with the Service may be required.

Sincerely,

Timothy N. Hall
Field Supervisor

TNH/MAC

South Carolina

Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism

Chad Prosser, Director

December 10, 2004

Mr. Patrick Tyndall
Environmental Program Manager
Federal Highway Administration
1835 Assembly Street, Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201-2430

Re: I-73 Concurrence at Purpose and Need Decision Point

Dear Mr. Tyndall:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) have requested concurrence regarding the purpose and need for the I-73 project. As a representative of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism serving on the I-73 Agency Coordination Team (ACT), I agree with the consensus of the ACT and in turn provide my concurrence at this decision point.

This concurrence is based upon evaluation and discussion of the purpose and needs for the Project. Concurrence at this decision point does not guarantee permit issuance.

Sincerely,


Charles W Harrison
Deputy Director

cc: Chad Prosser
Director

Amy Duffy
Chief of Staff





DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
69-A Hagood Avenue
CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29403-5107

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Regulatory Division

Mr. Robert L. Lee
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
1835 Assembly Street, Suite 1270
Columbia, South Carolina 29201-2430

Dear Mr. Lee:

Bob

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requested the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District, participate as a cooperating agency in the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for the I-73 project. As stated in 40 CFR 1501.6, the FHWA, as the lead Federal action agency, may request any other agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to an environmental issue to be a cooperating agency. In accordance with the above stated regulations, the Corps formally accepts your invitation to become a cooperating agency.

In addition, FHWA and the South Carolina Department of Transportation requested concurrence regarding the Interagency Coordination Process for the I-73 project. The Interagency Coordination Process has outlined the level of agency involvement, key decision points in the NEPA/permitting process, as well as a dispute resolution process. We accept this approach and in turn provide our concurrence on the Interagency Coordination Process. We are committed to integrating and streamlining our permit review process with your planning and environmental review processes.

Lastly, the FHWA and the SCDOT requested concurrence regarding the purpose and need for this project. We accept the stated purpose and need and provide concurrence in that regard. Please be advised that upon receipt of a permit application for the proposed project, the Corps will make a separate determination of project purpose for its evaluation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The Corps determination of project purpose may differ from the applicant's when making the distinction between basic and overall project purpose.

This being the first attempt to merge the NEPA/404 processes between FHWA, SCDOT, and the Corps, Charleston District, we have recognized some fundamental differences in the way our agencies conduct an environmental review of the projects which we are involved. This is primarily due to the Corps authority under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines require that the Corps define the project's basic and overall project purpose, determine if the project is water dependent, and conduct an analysis of practicable alternatives.

The Corps is concerned regarding critical decisions made on the EIS as a "consensus vote" when we are either unable to take a position or our position is contrary to the consensus of the interagency team. These decisions may jeopardize our ability to utilize documentation from

the EIS and require subsequent analysis, specifically, our utilization of the alternatives analysis in the EIS to determine the project's compliance with the Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines. Therefore, we feel it is paramount that FHWA, SCDOT, and the Corps meet to understand each others missions and statutory requirements, define the merged process, and resolve outstanding issues.

We appreciate your invitation and look forward to our continued collaboration with you on this project. Please be advised that our concurrences are based upon the most current information available. If new information becomes available that requires further consideration, the concurrence may in turn be affected. Although we anticipate our participation as cooperating agency will help facilitate the permit process, it can in no way guarantee permit issuance.

*Bob -
I look forward
to talking to you about
I-73 as well as the
NEPA/404 process.
EL*

Sincerely,



Edward R. Fleming
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army
District Commander

Copy furnished:

Ms. Elizabeth Mabry
Executive Director
South Carolina Department of Transportation
955 Park Street
Post Office Box 191
Columbia, South Carolina 29202-0191

South Carolina

Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism

Chad Prosser, Director

October 11, 2005

Dan Dozier
CDR Associates
7910 Woodmont Avenue
Suite 805
Bethesda, MD 20814

Re: I-73 Concurrence on the Interagency Coordination Process

Dear Mr. Metts:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) have requested concurrence regarding the Interagency Coordination Process for the I-73 project. The Interagency Coordination Process has outlined the level of agency involvement, key decision points in the NEPA/permitting process, as well as a dispute resolution process. The goals of the Interagency Coordination Process are to increase agency and public involvement, develop a mechanism that leads to decisions that stick, improve process efficiency, merge NEPA and the Section 404/401 processes, meet or exceed agency mandates, and to enhance communication and relationships.

As a representative of S.C. Parks, Recreation & Tourism serving on the I-73 Agency Coordination Team (ACT), I agree with this approach and in turn provide my agency's concurrence on the Interagency Coordination Process. This concurrence is based upon the most current scientific information. If new scientific information becomes available that could affect the decision made, the concurrence may in turn be affected. In addition, this concurrence does not guarantee permit issuance.

Sincerely,

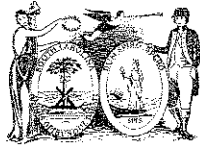


Charles Harrison
Deputy Director

cc: Mitchell Metts



The State of South Carolina
Military Department



OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

STANHOPE S. SPEARS
MAJOR GENERAL
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

August 25, 2004

Mr. Mitchell Metts
Program Manager
South Carolina Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 191
Columbia, SC 29202

Re: I-73 Concurrence on the Interagency Coordination Process

Dear Mr. Metts:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) have requested our concurrence regarding the Interagency Coordination Process for the I-73 project. The most recent Final Process Agreement, dated August 13, 2004, adequately outlines the Interagency Coordination Process, the level of agency involvement, key decision points in the NEPA/permitting process, and the proposed dispute resolution process.

As Director of the South Carolina Emergency Management Division with a division representative serving on the I-73 Agency Coordination Team (ACT), I agree with this approach and in turn provide my division's concurrence on the Interagency Coordination Process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. Osborne".

Ronald C. Osborne
Director

Emergency Management Division
1100 Fish Hatchery Road
West Columbia, South Carolina 29172
(803) 737-8500 • Fax: (803)-737-8570

South Carolina Department of Natural Resources



John E. Frampton
Director

August 19, 2004

Mr. Mitchell Metts
Program Manager
South Carolina Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 191
Columbia, SC 29202

Re: Concurrence on the I-73 Interagency Coordination Process

Dear Mr. Metts:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) have requested concurrence regarding the Interagency Coordination Process for the I-73 project. This process has outlined the level of agency involvement, identified key decision points in the NEPA/permitting process, as well as provided a dispute resolution process.

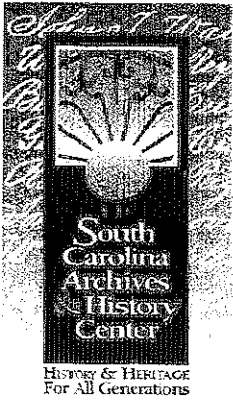
Personnel with the S.C. Department of Natural Resources have participated in the development of the Interagency Coordination Process and concur with the use of this process for the I-73 Project.

Sincerely,

Ed Duncan

Robert E. Duncan
Environmental Program Director

cc: Patrick Tyndall - FHWA



August 18, 2004

Mr. Mitchell Metts
Program Manager
South Carolina Department of Transporta
P.O. Box 191
Columbia, SC 29202

Re: **I-73 Concurrence on the Interagency Coordination Process**

Dear Mr. Metts:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) have requested concurrence regarding the Interagency Coordination Process for the I-73 project. The Interagency Coordination Process has outlined the level of agency involvement, key decision points in the NEPA/permitting process, as well as a dispute resolution process. The goals of the Interagency Coordination Process are to increase agency and public involvement, develop a mechanism that leads to decisions that stick, improve process efficiency, merge NEPA and the Section 404/401 processes, meet or exceed agency mandates, and to enhance communication and relationships.

As a representative of the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, serving on the I-73 Agency Coordination Team (ACT), I agree with this approach and in turn provide my agency's concurrence on the Interagency Coordination Process. This concurrence is based upon the most current scientific information. If new scientific information becomes available that could affect the decision made, the concurrence may in turn be affected. In addition, this concurrence does not guarantee permit issuance.

Sincerely,

David P. Kelly
Department of Transportation Project
Coordinator
SC State Historic Preservation Office

cc: Patrick Tyndall, FHWA



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

August 17, 2004

Mr. Patrick Tyndall
Environmental Program Manager
Federal Highway Administration
1835 Assembly Street, Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201-2430

RE: I-73 Concurrence on the Interagency Coordination Process

Dear Mr. Tyndall:

This letter is in response to the request from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) for concurrence regarding the Interagency Coordination Process for the I-73 Project. EPA reviewed the Final Draft Interagency Coordination Process agreement, as discussed in the August 12, 2004 meeting in Columbia, SC.

EPA concurs with this approach, and is pleased with your early coordination efforts for this project. As we previously discussed, EPA's cooperating agency role does not in any way preclude our regulatory responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

If you need additional information, please contact Ramona McConney of my staff at (404) 562-9615. For questions regarding Section 404 issues, please contact Bob Lord at (404) 562-9408. We look forward to working with FHWA and SCDOT on this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heinz Mueller".

Heinz Mueller, Chief
NEPA Program Office



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
176 Croghan Spur Road, Suite 200
Charleston, South Carolina 29407

August 17, 2004

Mr. Patrick Tyndall
Environmental Program Manager
Federal Highway Administration
1835 Assembly Street, Suite 1270
Columbia, SC 29201-2430

Re: I-73 Concurrence on the Interagency Coordination Process and Dispute Resolution

Dear Mr. Tyndall:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) have requested concurrence from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) regarding the Interagency Coordination Process for the I-73 project. The Interagency Coordination Process has outlined the level of agency involvement, key decision points in the NEPA/permitting process, as well as a dispute resolution process. The goals of the Interagency Coordination Process are to increase agency and public involvement, develop a mechanism that leads to decisions that stick, improve process efficiency, merge NEPA and the Section 404/401 processes, meet or exceed agency mandates, and to enhance communication and relationships.

The Service agrees with this approach and is providing concurrence on the Interagency Coordination Process. This concurrence is based upon the most recent information revealed and discussed during the August 12, 2004, coordination meeting in Columbia, SC. If new information becomes available that could affect the original decision, this concurrence determination may be affected and further consultation with the Service may be required.

Sincerely,

Timothy N. Hall
Field Supervisor

TNH/MAC



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Habitat Conservation Division
219 Fort Johnson Road
Charleston, South Carolina 29412

August 18, 2004

Mr. Mitchell Metts
Program Manager
South Carolina Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 191
Columbia, SC 29202

Re: I-73 Interagency Coordination Process Concurrence

Dear Mr. Metts:

This responds to your request concerning concurrence regarding the Interagency Coordination Process (ICP) for the I-73 project. The ICP outlines agency involvement, identifies key decision points in the NEPA/permitting process, and establishes a dispute resolution process. The goals of the ICP are to increase agency and public involvement, develop a mechanism that leads to firm decisions, improves efficiency, merges NEPA and the Section 404/401 processes, meets or exceeds agency mandates, and enhances communication and relationships.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries), generally agrees with this approach and the provisions set forth in the ICP. In agreeing to abide by the ICP, NOAA Fisheries in no way relinquishes its responsibilities pursuant to requirements of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, nor do we agree to any provision that would involve transfer or sharing of our statutory responsibilities. We further note that our views will be based upon the most current and reliable scientific information and facts; however, if new scientific information or facts become available, then such information and facts may serve as a basis for modification of existing decisions.

Finally, I would like to use this opportunity to notify you that the NOAA Fisheries' technical representative has been changed. Mr. Prescott Brownell, Fishery Biologist, will replace Jocelyn Karazia in this capacity. Additionally, please note that this concurrence letter represents the views of NOAA Fisheries' Habitat Conservation Division and that our Protected Resources Division may provide a separate response.

We look forward to working with you and the other agencies throughout this process. If further assistance is needed, please contact Prescott Brownell at the letterhead address, or by telephone at (843) 762-8591.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David H. Rackley". The signature is written in a cursive style.

David H. Rackley
Supervisor
South Atlantic Branch



cc:
SCDNR
SCDNR, MRD
SCDHEC
FWS, Charleston
COE, Charleston
EPA, Atlanta
F/SER3 Bernhart



June 7, 2004

Dr. Stephania Bolden
Protected Resources Division
National Marine Fisheries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
9721 Executive Center Drive North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702

SUBJECT: I-73 Interagency Workshop

Dear Dr. Bolden:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) are hosting an Interagency Workshop regarding the proposed I-73 project. The Workshop will be held on June 30th and July 1st at The Hilton at Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina in Mount Pleasant. We are requesting that your agency participate in this very important Workshop. The intent of the Workshop is to begin the Interagency Coordination process for the I-73 project.

Interstate 73 (I-73) is a new, major interstate roadway facility proposed from Michigan to South Carolina. Because of the nature and magnitude of this project, the SCDOT and the FHWA are proposing an Interagency Coordination process to achieve the best overall public decision on this project. The goals of this Interagency coordination are to streamline the process in a manner consistent with federal laws and policies, while at the same time insuring stewardship of resources. This would be accomplished by developing a process that will:

- Aggressively pursue improved communication and collaboration with all Federal, State, and local partners in the transportation decision making process to gain meaningful involvement;
- Streamline and improve NEPA process efficiency for an Environmental Impact Statement on the I-73 project, including the merger of the NEPA and 404 processes.

- Actively involve all partners in an open, cooperative, and collaborative process, beginning at the earliest planning stages and continuing through project development into construction.
- Help each agency meet or exceed their objectives, including the transportation objectives of this project.

We propose that two steps be taken to start the process. Both of these steps will be discussed in further detail at the Workshop.

Step 1 – Establish an Agency Coordination Team (ACT)

The ACT will serve as the primary decision-making body for the I-73 project regarding all NEPA and permit decisions. The ACT will be composed of one agency designee from the following agencies:

- ❖ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- ❖ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- ❖ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- ❖ NOAA Fisheries
- ❖ Federal Highway Administration
- ❖ U.S. Coast Guard
- ❖ S.C. Emergency Management Division Representative
- ❖ S.C. Parks, Recreation, & Tourism Representative (PRT)
- ❖ S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control
- ❖ SCDHEC-Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
- ❖ S.C. Department of Natural Resources
- ❖ State Historic Preservation Officer
- ❖ S. C. Department of Transportation

It is important to note that ACT members should be empowered to attend ACT team meetings and make important project decisions. The intent is for each agency's ACT team member to stick with the I-73 project for the duration of the EIS and permitting, approximately 3 years.

Step 2 – Produce a Signed Process Agreement


The next step is to have all ACT members agree to an Interagency Coordination Process for the I-73 project. A professional facilitator will be employed to make sure that ACT members have input to shape the design of the process. Once ACT members have agreed to a process, a written agreement will be signed by all ACT members.

The process agreement will outline the level of involvement for each agency. The agreement will also spell out key decision points in the NEPA/ permitting process. Once the ACT members have made a decision on the project, that decision will not be revisited.

The process agreement will also include a detailed dispute resolution process. If, for some reason, a decision cannot be agreed upon by the ACT members, then the decision will be elevated according to the dispute resolution process.

Please confirm that your agency will participate in the Workshop with an email to Mr. Skip Johnson (sjohnson@lpagroup.com). We will be sending you a package of information before the meeting, along with a draft process agreement that can serve as a starting point for our discussions. We look forward to working with you to develop a process that will be meaningful and can act as a model for future projects in South Carolina and the rest of the nation.

Sincerely,



Patrick L. Tyndall
Environmental Program Manager
Federal Highway Administration



Mitchell Metts, P.E.
Project Manager
SC Dept. of Transportation

cc: Ms. Tina Hadden, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Mr. Tim Hall, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ms. Ramona McConney, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Mr. Prescott Brownell, NOAA Fisheries
Mr. David Rackley, NOAA Fisheries
Mr. Patrick Tyndall, Federal Highway Administration
Mr. Brodie Rich, U.S. Coast Guard
Mr. Ronald Osborne, S.C. Emergency Management Division Representative
Mr. Chad Prosser, S.C. Parks, Recreation, & Tourism Representative (PRT)
Ms. Rheta Geddings, S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control
Mr. Richard Chinnis, SCDHEC-Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
Mr. Ed Duncan, S.C. Department of Natural Resources
Ms. Mary Edmunds, State Historic Preservation Office
Mr. Wayne Hall, S. C. Department of Transportation
Mr. Skip Johnson, THE LPA GROUP



June 7, 2004

Mr. Richard Chinnis
Director, Regulatory Programs Division
Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control
1362 McMillan Avenue, Suite 400
Charleston, South Carolina 29405

SUBJECT: I-73 Interagency Workshop

Dear Mr. Chinnis:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) are hosting an Interagency Workshop regarding the proposed I-73 project. The Workshop will be held on June 30th and July 1st at The Hilton at Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina in Mount Pleasant. We are requesting that your agency participate in this very important Workshop. The intent of the Workshop is to begin the Interagency Coordination process for the I-73 project.

Interstate 73 (I-73) is a new, major interstate roadway facility proposed from Michigan to South Carolina. Because of the nature and magnitude of this project, the SCDOT and the FHWA are proposing an Interagency Coordination process to achieve the best overall public decision on this project. The goals of this Interagency coordination are to streamline the process in a manner consistent with federal laws and policies, while at the same time insuring stewardship of resources. This would be accomplished by developing a process that will:

- Aggressively pursue improved communication and collaboration with all Federal, State, and local partners in the transportation decision making process to gain meaningful involvement;
- Streamline and improve NEPA process efficiency for an Environmental Impact Statement on the I-73 project, including the merger of the NEPA and 404 processes.



June 7, 2004

Mr. Ed Duncan
Director of Environmental Programs
S.C. Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 167
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

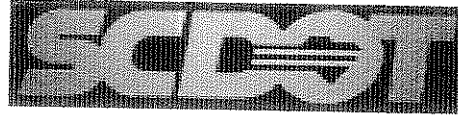
SUBJECT: I-73 Interagency Workshop

Dear Mr. Duncan:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) are hosting an Interagency Workshop regarding the proposed I-73 project. The Workshop will be held on June 30th and July 1st at The Hilton at Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina in Mount Pleasant. We are requesting that your agency participate in this very important Workshop. The intent of the Workshop is to begin the Interagency Coordination process for the I-73 project.

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June 7, 2004

Ms. Mary Edmunds
S.C. Department of Archives and History
8301 Parklane Road
Columbia, South Carolina 29223

SUBJECT: I-73 Interagency Workshop

Dear Ms. Edmunds:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) are hosting an Interagency Workshop regarding the proposed I-73 project. The Workshop will be held on June 30th and July 1st at The Hilton at Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina in Mount Pleasant. We are requesting that your agency participate in this very important Workshop. The intent of the Workshop is to begin the Interagency Coordination process for the I-73 project.

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- Streamline and improve NEPA process efficiency for an Environmental Impact Statement on the I-73 project, including the merger of the NEPA and 404 processes.
- Actively involve all partners in an open, cooperative, and collaborative process, beginning at the earliest planning stages and continuing through project development into construction.



June 7, 2004

Ms. M. Rheta Geddings
Director
Division of Water Quality
S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

SUBJECT: I-73 Interagency Workshop

Dear Ms. Geddings:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) are hosting an Interagency Workshop regarding the proposed I-73 project. The Workshop will be held on June 30th and July 1st at The Hilton at Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina in Mount Pleasant. We are requesting that your agency participate in this very important Workshop. The intent of the Workshop is to begin the Interagency Coordination process for the I-73 project.

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- Streamline and improve NEPA process efficiency for an Environmental Impact Statement on the I-73 project, including the merger of the NEPA and 404 processes.



June 7, 2004

Ms. Tina Hadden
Regulatory Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 919
Charleston, South Carolina 29402-0919

SUBJECT: I-73 Interagency Workshop

Dear Ms. Hadden:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) are hosting an Interagency Workshop regarding the proposed I-73 project. The Workshop will be held on June 30th and July 1st at The Hilton at Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina in Mount Pleasant. We are requesting that your agency participate in this very important Workshop. The intent of the Workshop is to begin the Interagency Coordination process for the I-73 project.

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June 7, 2004

Mr. Tim Hall
Project Leader
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
176 Croghan Spur Road
Suite 200
Charleston, South Carolina 29407

SUBJECT: I-73 Interagency Workshop

Dear Mr. Hall:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) are hosting an Interagency Workshop regarding the proposed I-73 project. The Workshop will be held on June 30th and July 1st at The Hilton at Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina in Mount Pleasant. We are requesting that your agency participate in this very important Workshop. The intent of the Workshop is to begin the Interagency Coordination process for the I-73 project.

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June 7, 2004

Mr. Heinz J. Mueller
Chief
Office of Environmental Assessment
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IV
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

SUBJECT: I-73 Interagency Workshop

Dear Mr. Mueller:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) are hosting an Interagency Workshop regarding the proposed I-73 project. The Workshop will be held on June 30th and July 1st at The Hilton at Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina in Mount Pleasant. We are requesting that your agency participate in this very important Workshop. The intent of the Workshop is to begin the Interagency Coordination process for the I-73 project.

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June 7, 2004

Mr. Ronald C. Osborne
Director
South Carolina Emergency Management Division
1100 Fish Hatchery Road
West Columbia, South Carolina 29172

SUBJECT: I-73 Interagency Workshop

Dear Mr. Osborne:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) are hosting an Interagency Workshop regarding the proposed I-73 project. The Workshop will be held on June 30th and July 1st at The Hilton at Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina in Mount Pleasant. We are requesting that your agency participate in this very important Workshop. The intent of the Workshop is to begin the Interagency Coordination process for the I-73 project.

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June 7, 2004

Mr. Chad Prosser
Executive Director
S.C. Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

SUBJECT: I-73 Interagency Workshop

Dear Mr. Prosser:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) are hosting an Interagency Workshop regarding the proposed I-73 project. The Workshop will be held on June 30th and July 1st at The Hilton at Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina in Mount Pleasant. We are requesting that your agency participate in this very important Workshop. The intent of the Workshop is to begin the Interagency Coordination process for the I-73 project.

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June 7, 2004

Mr. Brodie Rich
Project Manager
Seventh District Bridge Section
U.S. Coast Guard
909 S.E. 1st Avenue
Miami, Florida 33131-3050

SUBJECT: I-73 Interagency Workshop

Dear Mr. Rich:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) are hosting an Interagency Workshop regarding the proposed I-73 project. The Workshop will be held on June 30th and July 1st at The Hilton at Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina in Mount Pleasant. We are requesting that your agency participate in this very important Workshop. The intent of the Workshop is to begin the Interagency Coordination process for the I-73 project.

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- Streamline and improve NEPA process efficiency for an Environmental Impact Statement on the I-73 project, including the merger of the NEPA and 404 processes.