

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Driving Indiana's Economic Growth

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Federal Highway Issues I-69 Tier 2 Section 3 Record of Decision

Washington, Ind. – The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has issued a Tier 2 Record of Decision (ROD) for Section 3 of the I-69 Evansville to Indianapolis project. Section 3 begins just north of US 50 east of Washington and runs through Daviess County into Greene County to US 231 near the Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center.

"We began construction of portions of Section 1 in 2008 and now, issuance of the ROD in Section 3 means we'll advance 26 additional miles in the near future," said INDOT Commissioner Michael W. Reed. "Governor Daniels pledged to make I-69 a reality; with every day that passes and every additional milestone that is reached, Indiana is another step closer to seeing this vital transportation asset built."

In the ROD approved January 28th, the FHWA approved Refined Preferred Alternative 1 as the Selected Alternative for Section 3. Refined Preferred Alternative 1 was chosen because it best addresses the project purposes while balancing important environmental, community, and economic values. The ROD authorizes the use of federal funds in the design and construction of Section 3 of I-69. Construction is planned to begin on portions of Section 3 by April of this year.

"The cooperation of local officials and the communities has been a major factor in the success of the projects going to construction on schedule" stated Samuel Sarvis, Deputy Commissioner of Major Programs.

The corridor for the entire I-69 Evansville to Indianapolis project was approved by FHWA in March 2004, based on the Tier 1 Final Environmental Impact Study released in December 2003. With the issuance of a Tier 2 Section 3 ROD, Section 3 becomes the second of the six Tier 2 sections to complete its studies under the National Environmental Policy Act.

Daily office hours are available in the Washington office located at 60 N. Commercial Park Drive or by phone (812-254-2831) for questions or comments.

The Tier 2 Section 3 ROD may be viewed on the I-69 Project Website and at INDOT and FHWA offices. Questions or comments pertaining to Section 3 or other parts of the project may also be directed to the I-69 Project Website at <u>www.i69indyevn.org</u>

-30-