

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

For

Indiana Project
Des. No. 0401402

US 50 North Vernon Northwest Bypass Project
North Vernon, Jennings County, Indiana

An environmental assessment was approved by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on October 24, 2011, and a Public Hearing was held on November 9, 2011. This project provides a northwest bypass around the town of North Vernon. The southern terminus of the project is on U.S. 50 near Jennings County Road 400 W. From here, the new roadway will travel northeast and terminate at S.R. 3 on the north side of North Vernon, just south of CR 350 N. The preferred alternative will take off from the existing US 50 alignment near CR 400 W. About a quarter mile north, there will be a new 4-way signal-controlled intersection with a realigned existing U.S. 50 to the south and a new connector roadway to the north. The new connector roadway will have a bridge over the CSX railroad and connect to CR 400 W north of Base Road. North of the tracks, the new roadway follows the railroad alignment for a short distance. The new roadway will run due north from CR 150 N, about a quarter mile west of CR 250 W (Kipper Lane) and begin to curve to the northeast just before crossing CR 200 N and continues northeast to an intersection with S.R. 7. From the S.R. 7 intersection, the road continues northeast and then curves north to cross CR 300 N. CR 300 N will be closed with cul-de-sacs on either side of the new roadway. Finally, the road curves to the east and terminates at S.R. 3, about two-tenths of a mile south of CR 350 N.

The project supports the planning and economic development goals of North Vernon and Jennings County. The proposed project will provide an efficient, safe and less congested link between the existing and growing industrial area on the north side of North Vernon to US 50 west of town.

The project involves 2.07 acres of wetland impacts and 5,075 linear feet of stream impacts, which will be mitigated through

the USACE and IDEM permitting process. A finding of "no historic properties affected" was made on October 13, 2011. No businesses will be relocated, however there will be eleven residential relocations. This project will not impact any karst features, and is not likely to adversely affect threatened or endangered species.

The FHWA has determined that this project, as identified in the Environmental Assessment, will have no significant impact on the natural and human environment. This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is based on the environmental assessment and Public Hearing transcript that have been independently evaluated by the FHWA and determined to adequately and accurately discuss the environmental issues and impacts of the proposed project. These documents provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining that an environmental impact statement is not required. The FHWA takes full responsibility for the accuracy, scope and content of these documents.

December 16, 2011

Date



for Robert F. Tally, Jr., P.E.
Division Administrator