

December 13, 2005

Mr. Mohammed Alghurabi, Project Manager
MDOT, Design Division
425 West Ottawa
Lansing, MI 48933

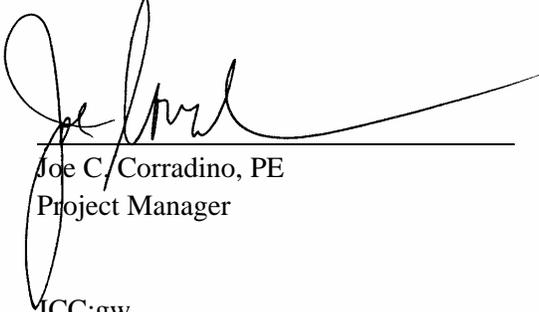
RE: DRIC EPE/EIS Project; Job N. 802330
TCG Project No. 3600 - Invoice No. 11 Progress Report

Dear Mohammed:

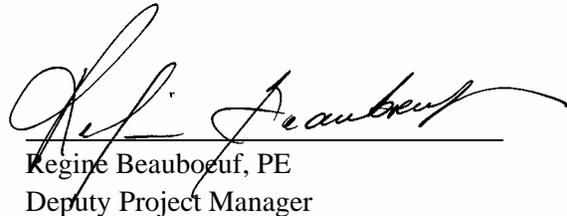
Enclosed is the narrative progress report for the DRIC EPE/EIS Project. It supports Invoice No. 11 for November 2005. The invoice will be submitted under separate cover to Tonya Novach.

Please call if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely yours,



Joe C. Corradino, PE
Project Manager



Regine Beauboeuf, PE
Deputy Project Manager

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Attachment

**PROGRESS REPORT
THE CORRADINO GROUP
DRIC EPE/EIS PHASE
NOVEMBER 1 THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2005**

The following details the work progress for the project by task (Sections A, B, & C). At the end of the task progress discussion are sections that address updates of the schedule, items needed from MDOT, and a listing of substantive verbal contacts with MDOT. Schedule adjustments and verbal contacts are listed on attachments G and H, respectively.

A, B, AND C – PROGRESS BY TASK

TASK 1 (1220) – VERIFY SCOPE/CONDUCT PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN

A. Work Progress

- Participated in a November 2nd Working Group meeting.
- Participated in a November 3rd Steering Committee meeting.
- Prepared a set of Frequently Asked Questions to accompany the media rollout on the Illustrative Alternatives results.
- Assisted in the preparation for the “media rollout” of the Illustrative Alternatives results on November 14th.
- Participated in a November 15th Partnership teleconference following the “media rollout” of the Illustrative Alternatives results.
- Met on November 18th with the U.S. Coast Guard to gather information to define the Practical Alternatives.
- Assisted MDOT in preparing for a meeting in Washington on December 1st with DHS/CBP to gather information to define the Practical Alternatives.
- Conducted the joint Local Advisory Council/Local Advisory Group meeting on November 28th.
- Made final preparations for the December 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th public meetings on Illustrative Alternatives results.
- Mailed invitations to the December public meetings.
- Began the paid radio announcements on the December public meetings.
- Finalized and produced the three volumes of the Illustrative Alternatives report.
- Decided to establish an office in the focused project area.
- Continued to respond to media inquiries, letters, e-mails, comments forms, and calls to the telephone hotline.

- Helped prepare two Status Reports.
- Prepared the monthly Progress Report

B. Products

- Three-volume set of reports documenting the evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives.
- Frequently Asked Questions accompanying the media rollout of the Illustrative Alternatives evaluation results.
- Materials for the Working Group meetings on November 2nd and 28th.
- Materials for the Steering Committee meeting of November 3rd.
- Final graphics and other support materials (comment forms, handouts, etc.) for the December 5th through December 8th public meetings on the Illustrative Alternatives evaluation results.
- Status Reports for November 11th and 25th.
- Monthly Progress Report.

C. Task Evaluation

- The media reaction in Canada to the announcement of the Illustrative Alternatives results was mainly favorable. There was very little media reaction in the U.S.
- The Ambassador Bridge representatives, in reaction to the elimination of a second span of the bridge, indicated that they would not be involved further in the DRIC Study.
- The Detroit River Tunnel Partnership, in reaction to the elimination of all of its alternatives as a result of the Illustrative Alternatives evaluation, indicated that it would continue to pursue the conversion of its rail tunnels to trucks.
- The Local Advisory Council reacted positively to the proposed involvement of the community to help define the final Practical Alternatives in the focused analysis area.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Conduct the public meetings on December 5th through 8th.
- Meet with the Steering Committee on December 8th.
- Meet with the Crossing Owners, Operators and Proponents group on December 6th.
- Meet with the Private Sector Advisory Group on December 7th to brief them on the Illustrative Alternatives results.
- Conduct two community workshops (December 14th and 21st) to begin defining the Practical Alternatives.

- Meet with the Canadian/URS consulting team on December 27th to begin defining the Practical Alternatives based on input of two workshops.
- Take steps to secure lease in the new Delray Community Center for the local project office to serve the focused analysis area.
- Continue to respond to media inquiries, letters, e-mails, comment forms, and calls to the telephone hotline.

TASK 2 (2120) – PREPARE TRAFFIC ANALYSIS REPORT

A. Work Progress

- Continued to revise the Traffic Analysis Report based on MDOT comments.
- Prepared and submitted to MDOT a memo on the pre-loading of trucks to the U.S. highway network.
- Cooperated with the Canadian/URS consulting team to determine its interest in conducting an induced demand analysis.
- Prepared and submitted a memorandum to MDOT dealing with collecting additional data to support the travel demand analysis.
- Began preparations for the Phases II and III of the TDM work involving application of microsimulation traffic analysis models.

B. Products

- Memorandum report on the pre-loading of trucks.
- Memorandum on collecting additional traffic data to support the travel demand modeling process in Phases II and III of the DRIC Study.

C. Task Evaluation

- The Traffic Analysis Report will be completed by mid-December.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Complete the Traffic Analysis Report based on MDOT comments and submit the updated version to MDOT.
- Cooperate with MDOT to refine the traffic data collection procedures and prepare to apply the VISSIM, Paramics and Border Wizard models.
- Contact Supin Yoder at FHWA in Washington to further discuss the travel demand analysis process.

TASK 3 (2130) – PREPARE JOB JUSTIFICATION/PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT

A. Work Progress

- Met with the Coast Guard on November 18th to gather information to define the Practical Alternatives.
- Prepared for a meeting on December 1st with DHS/CBP to gather information to define the Practical Alternatives.
- Prepared for a meeting on December 2nd with EPA to discuss air quality issues, particularly the PM_{2.5} conformity and to gain input to the cumulative and secondary impacts analysis.

B. Products

- Materials for the November 18th meeting with the U.S. Coast Guard.
- Draft agenda and questions for the DHS/CBP meeting on December 1st.
- Agenda for the meeting with EPA on December 2nd.

C. Task Evaluation

- An aggressive approach is being pursued to meet with a host of federal agencies to gather information to define the Practical Alternatives.
- EPA has indicated some concern that the process is moving so fast that its input is not being fully considered. In order to address this concern, steps have been taken to establish a February 23rd meeting with the federal agencies that are part of the Streamlining Agreement to review the preliminary definition of Practical Alternatives before they are presented for finalization to the Working Group and Steering Committee.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Meet with EPA on December 2nd to discuss the PM_{2.5} conformity issues and gain input on the cumulative/secondary impacts analysis.
- Meet with the CBP on December 19th to gather input to define the Practical Alternatives.
- Meet on December 20th with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to gather information to define the Practical Alternatives.

TASK 4 (2140) – DEVELOP/REVIEW ILLUSTRATIVE ALTERNATIVES

A. Work Progress

- Finalized Volume 1 - Summary Report, and Volumes 2 and 3 (supporting data) of the Illustrative Alternatives analysis results.
- Prepared GIS database for 4,500± parcels in the focused study area.
- Prepared materials for meetings with the:
 - ✓ Working Group on November 2nd.
 - ✓ Steering Committee on November 3rd.
 - ✓ Media rollout on November 14th.
 - ✓ FAQs to be used in associated with a media rollout on November 14th.
 - ✓ Core Team meeting on November 22nd.
 - ✓ Joint LAC/LAG meeting on November 28th.
 - ✓ Working Group meeting on November 28th.
- Provided additional input to the MDOT to finalize the letters of request for right-of-entry on 52 parcels in the focused analysis area.

B. Products

- Final Illustrative Alternatives Evaluation Report (3-volume set).
- Final letters to obtain right-of-entry on the first 52 parcels.

C. Task Evaluation

- The Ambassador Bridge representatives, in reaction to the elimination of a second span of the bridge, indicated that they would not be involved further in the DRIC Study.
- The Detroit River Tunnel Partnership, in reaction to the elimination of all of its alternatives as a result of the Illustrative Alternatives evaluation, indicated that it would continue to pursue the conversion of its rail tunnels to trucks.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Conduct the public meetings on December 5th through 8th to gain reaction to the results of the Illustrative Alternatives analysis.
- Meet with the Crossing Owners, Operators and Proponents group on December 6th to gain reaction to the results of the Illustrative Alternatives analysis.
- Meet with the Private Sector Advisory Group on December 7th to gain reaction to the results of the Illustrative Alternatives evaluation process.

- Meet with the Steering Committee on December 8th to gain direction to the next steps in refining the Practical Alternatives development process.
- Prepare for and conduct public workshops on each of December 14th and 21st to gather information to define the Practical Alternatives.

TASK 5 (2160) – DEVELOP SCOPING DOCUMENT

A. Work Progress

- This work has been completed.

TASK 6 (2310) – CONDUCT SEE TECHNICAL STUDIES

A. Work Progress

- Continued the process of developing the historic context and land use histories for the focused analysis area.
- Prepared a photographic inventory of 4,500± properties in the focused analysis area.
- Began the recordation process for the east portion of the focused analysis area.
- Continued identifying properties in the focused analysis area that may need additional archaeological work.
- Developed spreadsheets for wetland data, threatened and endangered species data, coastal zone management project data, and water quality/stream crossing data. Conducted QA/QC on these data.
- Assisted in the preparation of right-of-entry scopes of work for historic, archaeological, and wetlands inventories.
- Began the review for possible refinement of the cumulative and secondary impacts analysis.
- Assisted MDOT in distributing reports to each of the Chippewa Tribes of Saginaw and Sault Ste. Marie.
- Assisted MDOT in preparing right-of-entry letters to conduct hazardous material investigations.

B. Products

- Photographic inventory of 4,500± properties in focused analysis area.
- Input to right-of-entry paperwork for first 52 parcels.
- Reports delivered to each of Chippewa Tribes of Saginaw and Sault Ste. Marie.

C. Task Evaluation

- The SEE work for the Illustrative Alternatives evaluation was so extensive and the area of continued analysis so concentrated that conducting further SEE work for the DEIS will be very efficient.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Assist MDOT as it follows up on the issuance of letters of right-to-enter property for analysis of historic, archaeological, wetland, and hazardous material issues.
- Meet with EPA on December 2nd to discuss both the conformity of analysis required of PM2.5 and gain input on the cumulative and secondary impacts analysis.
- Continue the historic recordation process.
- Continue the development of the land use histories to be used to guide the various cultural analysis investigations.
- Conduct a tour of historic Fort Wayne.

TASK 7 (2320) – AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

A. Work Progress

- Additional work was held up until the change order was approved by MDOT in mid-November. Aerial photography will now resume.

B. Products

- None as none required.

C. Task Evaluation

- Further work in this area is now underway following change order approval.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Take the steps necessary to secure additional aerial photography of area between Schaefer Road and Southfield Road to appropriately analyze a possible improvement to roadways to connect I-75 to I-94.

TASK 8 (2330) – GEOTECHNICAL DATA

A. Work Progress

- Finalized the tunnel feasibility analysis report. Posted on the project Web site.
- Reviewed DRTP's tunnel feasibility report.
- Began research to define the history of brine wells in the focused analysis area.

B. Products

- Final tunnel feasibility report.

C. Task Evaluation

- The key issue in executing, on a timely basis, locating brine wells is permission to gain entry to key properties. To expedite this, an inventory is being made to determine which properties of the 4,500± in the focused analysis area are government-owned. Preliminary indications are that one-third of these properties are owned by government which should facilitate a smoother entry to properties for drilling purposes.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Continue the conduct of research to determine brine well and other geophysical conditions affecting the development of the Practical Alternatives.
- Begin the assessment of properties to which entry must be gained in order to locate drilling equipment.

TASK 9 (2340) – PRACTICAL ALTERNATIVES**A. Work Progress**

- Met with the U.S. Coast Guard on November 18th to gather additional information to define the Practical Alternatives.
- Prepared an agenda and questions for a meeting on December 1st with DHS/CBP to gather information to further define the Practical Alternatives.
- Developed vertical alignments of the potential crossings.
- Evaluated, on a preliminary basis, horizontal alignments for connections of plazas to I-75 in the focused analysis area.
- Developed concept layouts of plazas and the allocation of acreage for the DHS/CBP functions to be served within the perimeter of the plazas.
- Developed criteria for circulation needs within the plaza and from the plaza to the road connector and the bridge based upon information from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Coast Guard, and DHS/CBP.
- Set meeting for December 1st with DHS/CBP in Washington.
- Set meeting for December 19th with CBP in Detroit.
- Set meeting for December 20th with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

B. Products

- Agenda for the November 18th meeting with the U.S. Coast Guard.
- Agenda and questions for the upcoming December 1st meeting with DHS/CBP.

C. Task Evaluation

- The U.S. Coast Guard has given preliminary feedback on pier location within the Detroit River and provided information with regards to bridge “skews” and navigational needs. The Coast Guard has also agreed to informally review bridge proposals as they are developed and guide the process until formal submittal of the bridge height, cross-section and alignment characteristics.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Meet with DHS/CBP in Washington on December 1st to gather input to define the Practical Alternatives.
- Meet with CBP in Detroit on December 19th to gather input to define the Practical Alternatives.
- Meet with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on December 20th to gather input to define the Practical Alternatives.
- Cooperate with the Canadians to define the allocation of work for all crossing design-related activities.
- Secure FEMA maps in the focused analysis area.
- Initiate contact with the Border Wizard organization to coordinate the schedule of the upcoming border processing analyses.
- Investigate the feasibility of building a river crossing that connects the Gateway Project directly to a Canadian plaza.
- Determine when to meet with the International Joint Commission.
- Secure maintenance-of-traffic plans for the Ambassador Bridge/Gateway Project.

TASK 10 (2360) – PREPARE DEIS**A. Work Progress**

- Continued to communicate with the federal cooperating agencies to satisfy their needs as it is required in DEIS documentation.

B. Products

- None as none required.

C. Task Evaluation

- Additional engagement of federal cooperating agencies is scheduled for February 23rd to review the preliminary Practical Alternatives.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Prepare DEIS documentation as SEE and Engineering work is completed.

TASK 11 (2380) – DEIS AVAILABILITY/PUBLIC HEARING

A. Work Progress

- Work in this task has not been initiated.

TASK 12 (2510) – RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE

A. Work Progress

- Work in this task has not been initiated.

TASK 13 (2525) – ENGINEERING REPORT

A. Work Progress

- Work in this task has not been initiated.

TASK 14 (2530) – PREPARE FEIS

A. Work Progress

- Work in this task has not been initiated.

TASK 15 (2550) – OBTAIN RECORD OF DECISION

A. Work Progress

- Work in this task has not been initiated.

TASK 16 (2810) – CONDUCT INITIAL SITE ASSESSMENT

A. Work Progress

- Cooperated with MDOT to establish rights-of-entry to 52 properties on which the initial site assessment for hazardous materials can be conducted.

B. Products

- Input to MDOT to secure rights-of-entry on 52 properties.

C. Task Evaluation

- The securing of rights-of-entry is key to taking the next major step dealing with the initial site assessments for hazardous materials.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Continue to review the development of Practical Alternatives as it affects the need for additional rights-of-entry for properties to be evaluated for the potential hazardous materials.

TASK 17 (2820) – CONDUCT PRELIMINARY SITE INVESTIGATION

A. Work Progress

- Work has not been initiated in this task.

TASK 18 (3310) – AERIAL TOPOGRAPHIC MAPPING

A. Work Progress

- Imported check points for terrain evaluation and report.

B. Products

- Completed five percent of the check points.

C. Task Evaluation

- The work is proceeding slowly awaiting definition of Practical Alternatives.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Develop spreadsheet for terrain comparison.

TASK 19 (3320) – CONTROL SURVEY FOR AERIALS

A. Work Progress

- Work on hold pending definition of Practical Alternatives.

B. Products

- None as none required.

C. Task Evaluation

- Work on hold pending definition of Practical Alternatives.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Proceed once Practical Alternatives are defined.

TASK 20 (3330) – DESIGN SURVEY

A. Work Progress

- Work has not been initiated on this task.

TASK 21 (3350) – HYDRAULICS SURVEY

A. Work Progress

- Work has not been initiated on this task.

TASK 22 (4510) – RIGHT-OF-WAY SURVEY

A. Work Progress

- Work has not been initiated on this task.

TASK 23 (3370) – STRUCTURE SURVEY

A. Work Progress

- Work has not been initiated on this task.

TASK 24 (3520) – SCOUR ANALYSIS

A. Work Progress

- Work in this task has not been initiated.

TASK 25 (3530) – FOUNDATION INVESTIGATION

A. Work Progress

- Began the geotechnical work in the original scope of work, i.e., exclusive of brine well investigations.
- Began the research on brine well locations to initiate the additional work dealing with brine well investigations.

B. Products

- None as none required.

C. Task Evaluation

- The upcoming field work will be dependent on access to properties to place drilling equipment. Efforts are being made in cooperation with MDOT so that the rights-of-entry can be secured by the beginning of March.

D. Upcoming Plans

- Continue the research on the brine well issue.
- Define, to the extent possible, the properties on which right-of-entry would be required for drilling equipment.

TASK 26 (3710) – REQUIRED MITIGATION

A. Work Progress

- Established workshops on December 14th and 21st at which the community will articulate its needs which will likely cover mitigation issues.

B. Products

- None as none required.

C. Task Evaluation

- It is clear that the application of mitigation will be responsive to issues raised by the public during the consultation period defining the Practical Alternatives and afterwards.

D. Plans for Next Reporting Period

- Meet at two workshops with the community with respect to their issues and concerns as well as vision for the focused analysis area.

D. UPDATE OF PREVIOUSLY APPROVED SCHEDULE (ATTACHED)

A change order for additional work was secured in November. The work in a number of areas is now underway.

E. ITEMS NEEDED FROM MDOT

- Assistance in dividing the engineering work on the border crossing facilities between the U.S. and Canadian consulting teams.
- As-built plans for:
 - ✓ I-375 in Downtown Detroit.
 - ✓ Public utility information.
 - ✓ Right-of-entry paperwork on properties needed to advance the analysis of the Practical Alternatives.

F. SUBSTANTIVE VERBAL CONTACTS WITH MDOT (ATTACHED)

- Attended the following meetings on:
 - ✓ November 2nd with the Working Group.
 - ✓ November 3rd with the Steering Committee.
 - ✓ November 15th with the Steering Committee via telecon.
 - ✓ November 22nd with the MDOT Core Team.
 - ✓ November 28th with the Working Group.
 - ✓ November 28th with the Local Advisory Council and the Local Advisory Group.
- Upcoming meetings:
 - ✓ December 1st with DHS/CBP in Washington.
 - ✓ December 5th through 8th with the public.
 - ✓ December 6th with the Crossing Owners, Operators and Proponents group.
 - ✓ December 7th with the Private Sector Advisory Group.
 - ✓ December 8th with the Steering Committee.
 - ✓ December 14th with the public in a workshop.
 - ✓ December 19th with CBP in Detroit.
 - ✓ December 20th with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Detroit.
 - ✓ December 20th with MDOT Core Team.
 - ✓ December 21st with the public in a workshop.
 - ✓ December 27th with URS to define, on a preliminary basis, the Practical Alternatives.

ATTACHMENT

G. SCHEDULE DETAIL

Original Date	Anticipated Date	Explanation
Fourth week of February 2005	Fourth week of February 2005	1 Preliminary Evaluation Criteria
Last week of March 2005	Mid-April 2005 ¹	2 Study Kickoff
Third week of June 2005	Third week of June 2005	3 Illustrative Alternatives Definition
Fourth week of June 2005	Fourth week of June 2005	4 Scoping Document
Fourth week of August 2005	Fourth week of August 2005	5 Scoping
Third week of November 2005	Third week of November 2005	6 Preliminary Evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives
Second week of December 2005	Second week of December 2005	7 Preliminary Illustrative Alternatives Evaluation
Fourth week of February 2006	Fourth week of February 2006	8 Evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives/Select Practical Alternatives
Third week of March 2006	Third week of March 2006	9 Practical Alternatives Selection
First week of April 2006	First week of April 2006	10 Context Sensitive Design 1
First week of May 2006	First week of May 2006	11 Community Impact Assessment 1
First week of June 2006	First week of June 2006	12 Context Sensitive Design 2
First week of July 2006	First week of July 2006	13 Community Impact Assessment 2
Fourth week of July 2006	Fourth week of July 2006	14 Engineering Concepts Report
First week of August 2006	First week of August 2006	15 Context Sensitive Design 3
Second week of August 2006	Second week of August 2006	16 Preliminary DEIS
Second week of October 2006	Second week of October 2006	17 Draft DEIS
Fourth week of November 2006	Fourth week of November 2006	18 Public Hearing Script/Video
Second week of December 2006	Second week of December 2006	19 FHWA Approved DEIS
Second week of January 2007	Second week of January 2007	20 DEIS Public Hearing
Second week of April 2007	Second week of April 2007	21 Public Hearing Comment Summary
Fourth week of July 2007	Fourth week of July 2007	22 Recommended Alternative
Fourth week of August 2007	Fourth week of August 2007	23 Final EIS
Fourth week of September 2007	Fourth week of September 2007	24 Final Engineering Report
Fourth week of November 2007	Fourth week of November 2007	25 MOU
Second week of December 2007	Second week of December 2007	26 Recommended Alternative Presentation
Fourth week of December 2007	Fourth week of December 2007	27 Access Justification Report
Fourth week of December 2007	Fourth week of December 2007	28 ROD

¹ Revised based upon the occurrence of various overlapping spring breaks.

ATTACHMENT

H. CONTACT RECORDS

- Daily e-mail and conversations by phone and in person with MDOT Project Manager and MDOT personnel.
- Two status reports.
- Monthly progress report.
- Meetings of:
 - ✓ November 2nd with the Working Group.
 - ✓ November 3rd with the Steering Committee.
 - ✓ November 15th with the Steering Committee via telecom.
 - ✓ November 22nd with the MDOT Core Team.
 - ✓ November 28th with the Working Group.
 - ✓ November 28th with the Local Advisory Council and the Local Advisory Group.

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