

## FOREWORD

This Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), also referred to as the DRIC Study, was written so that basic information and conclusions are easy to understand, with technical information summarized. While the EIS is easier to read and understand, it still meets the needs of agency reviewers and decision-makers. Some section headings are changed from what has been common practice in preparing traditional Environmental Impact Statements.

<b>Traditional EIS Heading</b>	<b>Example EIS Heading</b>
Purpose and Need	Why is a New Border Crossing Needed?
Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences	The Environment: What's There Now and What are the Impacts?
Relocations	Who Will Have to Move and When?
Land Use and Zoning	Do the Practical Alternatives Follow Planning and Zoning Requirements?
Noise	Will There be Noise Impacts? Where? Can They be Mitigated?
Agency Coordination	How Were Local, State and Federal Agencies and the Public Involved?

Those desiring greater detail than included in this document are referred to a series of separate Technical Reports as follows:

1. Illustrative Alternatives – the early alternatives considered in the DRIC Study.
2. Community Inventory – a description of important community characteristics.
3. Traffic Analysis – forecasts of traffic used throughout the DRIC study (three volumes).
4. Induced Demand Analysis – the interrelationship of a new border crossing, land use and travel demand.
5. Air Quality Analysis – the analysis needed to inform the public about future air quality to meet the requirements of the federal Clean Air Act.
6. Noise Study – the analysis to determine where noise should be controlled and, particularly, where noise walls should be built, if needed.
7. Wetlands, Threatened and Endangered Species, and Coastal Zone Management Study – the analysis of impacts to the natural resources of the area.
8. Cultural Analysis/Aboveground Resources – an inventory of historic and potentially historic structures in the Area of Potential Effect. The purpose of the report is to document avoidance, minimization, and mitigation efforts for historic properties.

9. Cultural Analysis/Archaeological Resources – an inventory to determine whether any archaeological sites need protection or further research.
10. Indirect/Cumulative Impacts Analysis – the analysis of impacts removed in time or distance, but that are reasonably foreseeable from and attributable to the proposed project (indirect) including impacts caused by projects of other agencies (federal or non-federal) or persons (cumulative).
11. Brine Well Cavity Investigation Program – an analysis, including a drilling program deep into the earth, to make sure there are no voids caused by previous solution salt mining that could affect the proposed project.
12. Initial Site Assessment/Preliminary Site Investigation – a determination of locations that might be contaminated and in need of remediation for the project.
13. Conceptual Engineering – documentation of all engineering concepts of the proposed project: the bridge, plaza, and interchange connecting the plaza to I-75.

Each report is available on the project Web site ([www.partnershipborderstudy.com](http://www.partnershipborderstudy.com)), as well as the locations listed in the Preface.