

March 10, 2005

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

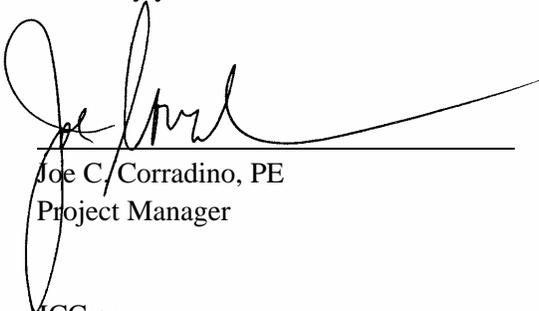
RE: DRIC EPE/EIS Project; Job N. 802330  
TCG Project No. 3600 - Invoice No. 2 Progress Report

Dear Mohammed:

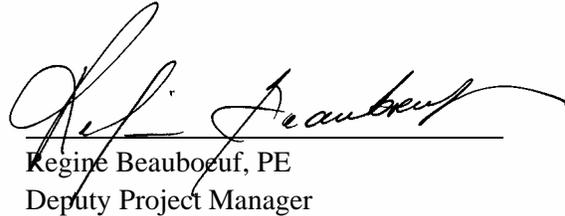
Enclosed is the narrative progress report for the DRIC EPE/EIS Project. It supports Invoice No. 2 for February 2005. The invoice will be submitted under separate cover to Tonya Nobach.

Please call if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely yours,



Joe C. Corradino, PE  
Project Manager



Regine Beauboef, PE  
Deputy Project Manager

JCC:gw  
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Attachment

**PROGRESS REPORT  
THE CORRADINO GROUP  
DRIC EPE/EIS PHASE  
FEBRUARY 1 – FEBRUARY 28, 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**

- Met February 1<sup>st</sup> with Partnership Steering Committee to resolve establishing a Local Advisory Council.
- Met February 2<sup>nd</sup> with MDOT and the Federal Highway Administration representatives to discuss the Purpose and Need Statement prepared during the Planning/Need & Feasibility Study. Updated the Purpose and Need Statement.
- Met February 2<sup>nd</sup> with MDOT and FHWA representatives to review the draft Streamlining Agreement. Updated the Streamlining Agreement.
- Met with the Modeling Task Force on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and February 10<sup>th</sup> to initiate the travel demand analysis work.
- Met February 3<sup>rd</sup> with MDOT to review the approach to the Community Inventory work.
- Met February 22<sup>nd</sup> with MDOT to review the cultural resources analysis approach.
- Met by teleconference with MDOT on February 22<sup>nd</sup> to review the potential contaminated sites and scope of work.
- Worked with the Canadian consultant to produce a composite paper on travel demand modeling.
- Took steps to reinitiate during April the work of the Air Quality Protocol Task Force.
- Submitted a draft public meeting mailer to MDOT for review.
- Reviewed with the Working Group on February 23<sup>rd</sup> preliminary graphics for the first round of public meetings. Revised the approach to the graphics.
- Assisted in preparing a PowerPoint presentation to brief the Michigan legislature on February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

- Finalized the location of the first round of public meetings for April 11<sup>th</sup>, April 12<sup>th</sup>, April 13<sup>th</sup> and April 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Assisted with the dissemination of the press release announcing the initiation of the DRIC environmental analysis phase.
- Drafted a set of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).
- Helped prepare the biweekly progress reports for MDOT management.
- Cooperated with the Canadian consultant to develop a division of responsibilities paper on the engineering work associated with the border crossing.
- Drafted letters to initiate the Public Agency Group and Public Sector Advisory Group meetings.

## **B. Products**

- Updated draft Purpose and Need Statement.
- Updated draft Streamlining Agreement.
- Input to a PowerPoint presentation for a briefing of the Michigan legislature.
- Draft of letters of invitation to the Public Agency Group and the Public Sector Advisory Group.
- Input to the biweekly status report to MDOT management.
- Paper on travel demand modeling.
- Paper on division of responsibilities in the engineering work associated with the border crossing.

## **C. Task Evaluation**

- The mailing of letters of invitation to the Local Advisory Council, the Public Sector Advisory Group, and the Public Agency Group has been delayed by weeks. Nevertheless, efforts are being made to conduct meetings with these groups in March in order to maintain the schedule.

## **D. Upcoming Plans**

- Conduct the first Public Agency Group meeting.
- Conduct the first Local Advisory Council meeting.
- Conduct the first Public Sector Advisory Group meeting.
- Make final preparations for the public meetings on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Cooperate with MDOT to disseminate through the media the announcement of the April round of public meetings.
- Assist, as appropriate, MDOT and FHWA in disseminating the draft Streamlining Agreement.
- Meet with MDOT in the areas of wetlands and threatened and endangered species for additional scope verification.

- Finalize preparations with the Air Quality Protocol Task Force to be reconvened in April.

## TASK 2 (2120) – PREPARE TRAFFIC ANALYSIS REPORT

### **A. Work Progress**

- Met twice with the Modeling Task Force.
- Prepared a working paper, in consultation with the Canadian team, on the modeling work.
- Initiated the modeling work.
- Requested of SEMCOG a series of data.
- Requested of MDOT additional traffic count data on freeways.
- Requested and received permission to use MDOT Reebie data.
- Received bridge count data to SEMCOG.
- Received bridge OD data from MDOT.
- Began to update international truck and auto trip tables.
- Began review of model network.

### **B. Products**

- A working paper developed, in consultation with the Canadian team, on the modeling work.
- Notes of the two Modeling Group meetings.
- PowerPoint presentation used in the February 10<sup>th</sup> Modeling Task Force Meeting.

### **C. Task Evaluation**

- The modeling work is proceeding at a slower pace than originally anticipated. However, no schedule impacts are expected.

### **D. Upcoming Plans**

- Convene the Modeling Task Force on March 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Continue to assemble data from MDOT (traffic counts) and SEMCOG.
- Establish baseline 2005 traffic volumes for the existing Ambassador Bridge from data files supplied by MDOT and SEMCOG.
- Distribute the travel demand modeling approach paper.
- Update the U.S. background traffic data from the SEMCOG model (pending delivery of SEMCOG's model data) and from the MDOT statewide model.
- Review 2030 forecasts from MDOT and SEMCOG and begin the update of the cross-border trip tables to 2035.

- Begin to develop a qualitative background paper on cross-border freight facilities, movements and commodities for truck, rail, water and air modes.

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

#### **A. Work Progress**

- Met on February 2<sup>nd</sup> with MDOT and FHWA representatives to review the Purpose and Need Statement developed during the Planning/Need & Feasibility Study. Updated the Purpose and Need Statement.

#### **B. Products**

- Updated Purpose and Need Statement.

#### **C. Task Evaluation**

- The Purpose and Need Statement is now available, in draft form, for review with a host of federal and state agencies to further advance it for use in the scoping process.

#### **D. Upcoming Plans**

- Assist FHWA and MDOT in dissemination of the draft Purpose and Need Statement.

### TASK 4 (2140) – DEVELOP/REVIEW ILLUSTRATIVE ALTERNATIVES

#### **A. Work Progress**

- Participated in the first training session of QUANTM.
- Assembled aerial data for submission to QUANTM for use in the training and for subsequent analysis.
- Assembled the GIS data for use in the QUANTM training and subsequent analysis.
- Collaborated with the Canadian team to review and determine the level of engineering being performed at the border crossing by each consulting team.
- Provided information in the preparation of a memorandum to define the scope differences between the two consulting teams for the border crossing.
- Devised the Project Operations Plan and a QA/QC plan for the engineering work.
- Continued to set up CADD project standards and file naming conventions for use in GEOPACK, and Project Wise.

- Continued to participate in discussions with the Canadian team to determine and reconcile the level of engineering work to be performed during preparation of design plans for the Recommended Alternative.
- Participated in review and directing work on a draft geotechnical report for the evaluation of potential border crossing locations.
- Participated in the development of the evaluation criteria working paper.
- Sent, on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2005, a letter to the Coast Guard to determine the requirements of the navigation channel in the Detroit River (location of the channel, horizontal and vertical clearances, for a new crossing).

## **B. Products**

- A paper dealing with the evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives. Presented to the Working Group on February 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- A paper dealing with the preliminary assessment of geotechnical conditions of the river for the initiation of Illustrative Alternatives.
- Revised project operations plan and QA/QC plan for engineering work.
- Step-by-step scope of services related to the work to be performed to arrive at a decision on a crossing location and type. This identifies any differences in work between the U.S. and Canadian teams and reconciles among the two teams the work to be done at the crossing to receive a 50/50 sharing of the work.
- Letter to the U.S. Coast Guard.

## **C. Task Evaluation**

- The paper on Illustrative Alternatives will be revised based upon Working Group input.
- The Working Group will take under consideration the paper and the need to divide the border crossing work among the two consulting teams.

**D. Upcoming Plans**

- Begin the application of QUANTM.
- Meet with Canadian team to define the detailed performance measures to be calculated in the evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives.
- Continue developing and documenting the design criteria for use in developing Illustrative Alternatives.
- Secure a list of As-Built plans from MDOT of the arterials and freeways within the five crossing corridors.
- Determine the best use of the geotechnical information for structure location and structure type for the border crossing's Illustrative Alternatives and houses.
- Evaluate project requirements from lessons learned at the Peace Bridge. Conduct an internal consultant team meeting in March 2005 on this issue.

**TASK 5 (2160) – DEVELOP SCOPING DOCUMENT**

**A. Work Progress**

- Met on February 2<sup>nd</sup> with MDOT and FHWA representatives to review the Purpose and Need Statement developed during the Planning/Need & Feasibility Study.
- Updated the Purpose and Need Statement based upon the input provided by MDOT and FHWA.
- Met with MDOT and FHWA representatives on February 2<sup>nd</sup> to review the draft Streamlining Agreement. Updated the document.

**B. Products**

- Updated Purpose and Need Statement.
- Updated the Streamlining Agreement.

**C. Task Evaluation**

- This effort is proceeding on schedule.

**D. Upcoming Plans**

- Meet, as appropriate, with MDOT/FHWA in advancing the Purpose and Need Statement and the Streamlining Agreement.

**TASK 6 (2310) – CONDUCT SEE TECHNICAL STUDIES**

**A. Work Progress**

- Began assembling the GIS databases and conducting preliminary work in the following areas:
  - ✓ Threatened and Endangered Species.
    - Conducted literature review.
    - Began developing base maps and aerials for use in the field.
    - Developed schedule for T & E assessments.
    - Obtained T & E information from MDNR and MNFR.
  - ✓ Coastal Zone Management.
    - Began GIS mapping.
  - ✓ Archaeology.
    - Continued gathering information on recorded sites.
    - Began developing USGS base mapping.
    - Met with MDOT for scope verification.
  - ✓ Architecture.
    - Continued gathering information on recorded sites.
    - Met with MDOT for scope verification.
  - ✓ Agriculture.
    - Began GIS mapping.
  - ✓ Air Quality.
    - Set April meeting for reactivation of Air Quality Protocol Task Force.
  - ✓ Flooding.
    - Began GIS mapping.
  - ✓ Recreational Uses.
    - Began GIS mapping.
  - ✓ Community Impact Assessment.
    - Conducted scope verification with MDOT.
    - Began GIS base mapping.
    - Organized the field work.
  - ✓ Title VI Issues.
    - Began analysis and mapping of U.S. Census data.
  - ✓ Wetlands Delineation/Assessment.
    - Conducted search for available information. Reviewed literature.
    - Began development of base maps and aerials for use in the field.

**B. Products**

- Extensive GIS base mapping as input to QUANTM and to support field analysis.

**C. Task Evaluation**

- Work in this area is proceeding according on schedule.

**D. Upcoming Plans**

- Continue GIS base mapping.
- Continue to research for available information.
- Initiate or continue field work.

**TASK 7 (2320) – AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY**

**A. Work Progress**

- Completed two-thirds of the ORTHO production.

**B. Products**

- Additional ORTHO photos.

**C. Task Evaluation**

- Work is proceeding according to schedule.

**D. Upcoming Plans**

- Advance the completion of the ORTHO photos.

## TASK 8 (2330) – GEOTECHNICAL DATA

### A. Work Progress

- Prepared a preliminary assessment on the viability of crossings of the Detroit River. Presented that information to the Working Group on February 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Continued collecting existing geotechnical information.

### B. Products

- Draft paper on the geological conditions encountered in crossing the Detroit River.

### C. Task Evaluation

- Work is moving ahead of schedule.

### D. Upcoming Plans

- Continue the information search.
- Begin set-up cost estimating procedure.

## TASK 9 (2340) – PRACTICAL ALTERNATIVES

### A. Work Progress

- Work in this task has not been initiated.

## TASK 10 (2360) – PREPARE DEIS

### A. Work Progress

- Work in this task has not been initiated.

## 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**

- Conducted a teleconference with MDOT to verify the scope of this task.
- Continued assembling data to assist in the analysis of Illustrative Alternatives.

**B. Products**

- None, as none required.

**C. Task Evaluation**

- Work is proceeding according to schedule.

**D. Upcoming Plans**

- Continue preliminary records search.

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**

- Identified areas not covered by previous mapping. Produced a proposed approach to completing the mapping, if and when necessary.

**B. Products**

- Proposed plan for completing the mapping of areas not covered by previous mapping, if and when needed.

**C. Task Evaluation**

- Additional mapping may be needed if, particularly, a route in the southern part of the study area proves viable and extends to I-275 or beyond to I-94.

**D. Upcoming Plans**

- Discuss with MDOT possible need for additional aerial topo mapping.

**TASK 19 (3320) – CONTROL SURVEY FOR AERIALS**

**A. Work Progress**

- Work has not been initiated on this task.

**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

- Work in this task has not been initiated.

## TASK 26 (3710) – REQUIRED MITIGATION

### A. Work Progress

- Work in this task has not been initiated.

## D. UPDATE OF PREVIOUSLY APPROVED SCHEDULE (ATTACHED)

The first round of public meetings has been moved to mid-April from late March based upon the different “spring breaks” affecting the constituencies in the project area.

## E. ITEMS NEEDED FROM MDOT

- A review, in cooperation with the Working Group, of the evaluation factors of Illustrative Alternatives paper.
- A review, in cooperation with the Partnership Working Group, of the division of engineering work on the border crossing.

## F. SUBSTANTIVE VERBAL CONTACTS WITH MDOT (ATTACHED)

- Attended meetings on:
  - ✓ February 1<sup>st</sup> with the Steering Committee.
  - ✓ February 2<sup>nd</sup> with MDOT and FHWA on the draft Purpose and Need and draft Streamlining Agreement.
  - ✓ February 3<sup>rd</sup> and February 10<sup>th</sup> with the Modeling Task Force.
  - ✓ February 22<sup>nd</sup> with MDOT at its monthly coordination meeting.
  - ✓ February 23<sup>rd</sup> with the Partnership Working Group.
- Daily contact by phone and e-mail with the MDOT Project Manager.

## 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 <sup>1</sup>	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

<sup>1</sup> Revised based upon the occurrence of various overlapping spring breaks.

## ATTACHMENT

### H. CONTACT RECORDS

- Daily e-mail and conversations with MDOT.
- Monthly progress report.
- Meetings of:
  - ✓ February 1<sup>st</sup> with the Steering Committee.
  - ✓ February 2<sup>nd</sup> with MDOT and FHWA on the draft Purpose and Need and draft Streamlining Agreement.
  - ✓ February 3<sup>rd</sup> and February 10<sup>th</sup> with the Modeling Task Force.
  - ✓ February 22<sup>nd</sup> with MDOT at its monthly coordination meeting.
  - ✓ February 23<sup>rd</sup> with the Partnership Working Group.

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