

August 9, 2005

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

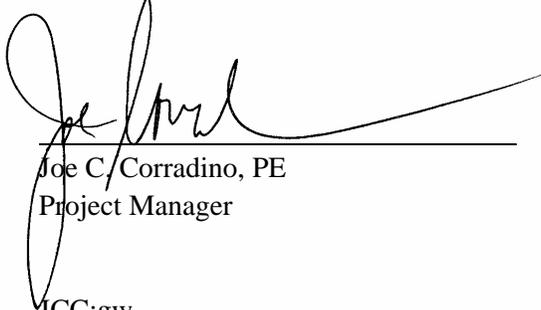
RE: DRIC EPE/EIS Project; Job N. 802330  
TCG Project No. 3600 - Invoice No. 7 Progress Report

Dear Mohammed:

Enclosed is the narrative progress report for the DRIC EPE/EIS Project. It supports Invoice No. 7 for July 2005. The invoice will be submitted under separate cover to Tonya Novach.

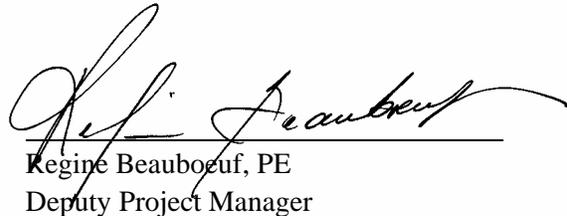
Please call if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely yours,



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Joe C. Corradino, PE  
Project Manager



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Regine Beauboeuf, PE  
Deputy Project Manager

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Attachment

**PROGRESS REPORT  
THE CORRADINO GROUP  
DRIC EPE/EIS PHASE  
JULY 1 THROUGH JULY 31, 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**

- Produced notes of the June 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> public meetings. Distributed them to the Local Advisory Council. Posted them on the Web.
- Met with U.S. Steel on July 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Met with BASF on July 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Met with the Core Team on July 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Met with the Local Agency Group on July 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Met with the Local Advisory Council on July 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Met with the Working Group on July 27<sup>th</sup>. Prepared meeting notes.
- Responded to e-mails (300+), comment forms (400+) and telephone calls (50+).
- Collected evaluation forms completed by the public (over 400) by July 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Responded to media requests (*Detroit Free Press*, *News Herald* and *Ile Camera*).
- Assisted in developing background information for Mohammed Alghurabi's appearance on Representative Kathleen Law's cable television show.
- Continued to discuss use of CommentWorks.
- Updated the draft scope for additional geotech work.
- Assisted in preparing two status reports (July 8<sup>th</sup> and July 22<sup>nd</sup>).
- Prepared monthly progress report.

**B. Products**

- Monthly progress report.
- Status reports (July 8<sup>th</sup> and July 22<sup>nd</sup>).
- Notes of meetings:
  - ✓ U.S. Steel on July 7<sup>th</sup>.
  - ✓ BASF on July 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - ✓ Core Team on July 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - ✓ Local Agency Group on July 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - ✓ Local Advisory Council on July 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - ✓ Working Group of July 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Preliminary talking points for cable television show.
- Updated proposal for additional geotechnical work.

**C. Task Evaluation**

- URS Canada's need for a Memorandum of Understanding to use CommentWorks is legally impossible for Corradino to execute.
- The discussion of proposed additional geotechnical work on risk assessment associated with brine well locations has been postponed because of scheduling issues. This meeting must be held shortly if work is to be done on a timely basis.
- While attendance at two of the four June public meetings was high (183 on June 28<sup>th</sup> and 1,200 on June 30<sup>th</sup>), it appears "word of mouth" rather than newspaper ads, radio ads, or mailings was the reason for the turnout.

**D. Upcoming Plans**

- Continue to respond to e-mails, comment forms and telephone hotline calls.
- Compile weightings of evaluation factors after the Technical Team's weightings are compiled.
- Meet on August 9<sup>th</sup> with Don Flynn, proponent of the Hennepin Point river crossing.
- Tour the U.S. Steel plant on August 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Tour Fighting Island with BASF at a date yet to be decided.
- Prepare for and participate in the Core Team meetings of August 9<sup>th</sup> and August 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Prepare for and participate in Working Group meetings on August 10<sup>th</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Prepare for and conduct on August 31<sup>st</sup> the scoping meeting which will be a combined meeting with the Local Agency Group and the Local Advisory Council as well as federal, state and local agencies. Public notice will be issued for the scoping meeting.

- Continue to respond to media inquiries.

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

### **A. Work Progress**

- Calibrated the travel assignment on the U.S. job.
- Prepared an analysis of the Detroit-Windsor tunnel congestion on the U.S. side of the border to address SEMCOG's need for more information.
- Assisted in updating the travel demand paper.
- Prepared for the August 3<sup>rd</sup> modeling group meeting.
- Conducted travel assignments for three test alternatives.
- Participated in Border Wizard training.

### **B. Products**

- Analysis of congestion at U.S. entrance to Detroit-Windsor Tunnel.
- Calibrated travel assignment model.
- Travel assignments for three test alternatives.

### **C. Task Evaluation**

- Model indicates quality control is essential by both the U.S. and Canadian teams. A systemic error at this point in the process will be crippling later.
- Initial test model application is producing logical results. Ongoing adjustments to the models are not expected to affect that.

### **D. Upcoming Plans**

- Continue to test the numerous Illustrative Alternatives. Cooperate with MDOT to assure that the appropriate measures of effectiveness are included in the analysis.
- Respond to the requests for model refinements made at the August 3<sup>rd</sup> modeling meeting.

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

#### A. Work Progress

- Finalized the Streamlining Agreement.
- Finalized the project purpose statement and needs definition.

#### B. Products

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

#### C. Task Evaluation

- Six of 7 federal agencies (in addition to FHWA) have agreed to sign the Streamlining Agreement. The Department of Homeland Security has implied it will sign but has not confirmed that in writing.

#### D. Upcoming Plans

- Circulate the Streamlining Agreement for signature.
- React to scoping meeting input on the Purpose and Need Statement as well as other items of the project.

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

#### A. Work Progress

- Met on July 20<sup>th</sup> with the Local Agency Group and the Local Advisory Council to solicit further input on the Illustrative Alternatives.
- Collected over 90 percent of the data on plaza issues and interchange issues.
- Developed 3 detailed interchange layouts for the new alignments from S4 to tie to I-75.
- Examined the vertical alignment of I-75 in relation to the numerous route and interchange proposals.
- Continued to collect data on the illustrative route/alignment issues.
- Continued to collect data on the crossing issues.
- Prepared technical memo in reference to ability to secure tunnels vs. bridges, in case of incidents.
- Refined locations of crossings based on known locations of brine wells, constructability constraints associated with long span bridges and location of navigable channels.
- Measured, as a test, the performance of three Illustrative Alternatives for plaza/route/interchange configurations (N1/R1 – Conner; N1/R2 – St. James; and, C3/Dearborn).

- Prepared a Test Evaluation Report for the three Illustrative Alternatives noted above.
- Drafted a paper on the evaluations of crossings. Submitted it to MDOT and URS for comment.

## **B. Products**

- Data matrix on U.S. plazas.
- Data matrix on U.S. interchanges.
- Partial data matrix on route/alignments.
- Test Evaluation Report on three Illustrative Alternatives.
- Draft analysis process for river crossings.
- Detailed interchange layouts for 3 locations along I-75.
- Horizontal Alignment of edge of pavement and right-of-way lines for 3 routes connecting S4 to I-75.
- Technical memos on performance measures to be used when evaluating crossings and the constructability of the Alternatives.
- Technical memo on security concerns and challenges associated with bridges or tunnels.

## **C. Task Evaluation**

- Progress in assembling data on the U.S. side is significant. Early field work to establish a baseline has made the current work go smoothly.
- Progress on the evaluation of alternatives by the Canadians is difficult to measure. This is a concern this may affect the efficacy of the entire evaluation process.
- The Canadians at the Working Group level have indicated they will not have a position on governance until the end of 2006. This is different from what was heard at the February meeting of the Working Group.

## **D. Upcoming Plans**

- Complete the refined plaza data.
- Conduct the plaza evaluation on August 25<sup>th</sup>. Document it for presentation to the Working Group on August 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Complete the refined interchange data.
- Complete the Illustrative Alternatives route/alignment data.
- Conduct the evaluation of crossings by August 25<sup>th</sup>. Document for presentation to the Working Group on August 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Prepare for the route/interchange evaluation on the U.S. side to be conducted by mid-September.

- Prepare for meetings to develop end-to-end alternatives by the end of September.
- Coordinate with the Canadian Team on Design Specifications to be used for the design of a new crossing over the Detroit River.
- Coordinate with the Coast Guard and the Corps of Engineers on pier locations in the river for proposed crossing locations.
- Coordinate with the Canadian Team on a cross-section for the new crossing for the Practical Alternatives and present recommendations at an upcoming meeting to be determined with the Working Group and the Steering Committee.

## TASK 5 (2160) – DEVELOP SCOPING DOCUMENT

### **A. Work Progress**

- Finalized the scoping document. Printed and sent over 300 copies to various federal, state and local governmental agencies as well as the Local Advisory Council.

### **B. Products**

- Scoping document.

### **C. Task Evaluation**

- Cobo Hall will be the venue for the scoping meeting to host the large group that is expected. The meeting will be noticed publicly but will not be a formal public meeting.

### **D. Upcoming Plans**

- Conduct the scoping meeting on August 31<sup>st</sup>.

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

### **A. Work Progress**

- ✓ Threatened and Endangered Species
  - Continued to develop GIS wetlands and habitat shape files and maps. Continued to prepare spreadsheet with habitat data.
  - Continued inland and over-water field surveys.
  - Continued data assembly for evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives.
  - Participated in Test Evaluation of three Illustrative Alternatives.
- ✓ Coastal Zone Management

- Continued to develop GIS shape files and maps.
- Continued inland and over-water field surveys.
- Continued data assembly for evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives.
- Participated in Test Evaluation of three Illustrative Alternatives.
- ✓ Cultural Resources
  - Gathered information and summarized historic context information for Scoping Document.
  - Continued developing “historic contexts.”
  - Participated in Test Evaluation of three Illustrative Alternatives.
- ✓ Agriculture
  - Extended base work to account for routes beyond I-75 and I-275.
  - Continued data assembly for evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives.
  - Participated in Test Evaluation of three Illustrative Alternatives.
- ✓ Air Quality
  - Received asthma data from the Department of Community Health through MDOT.
  - Continued data assembly for evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives.
  - Participated in Test Evaluation of three Illustrative Alternatives.
- ✓ Flooding/Water Quality
  - Continued to develop GIS shape files and maps.
  - Continued inland and over-water field surveys.
  - Continued data assembly for evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives.
  - Participated in Test Evaluation of three Illustrative Alternatives.
- ✓ Recreational Uses
  - Continued data assembly for evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives.
- ✓ Community Impact Assessment
  - Completed additional field verifications to account for possible southern alternatives.
  - Continued data assembly for evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives.
  - Participated in Test Evaluation of three Illustrative Alternatives.
- ✓ Title VI Issues

- Continued data assembly for evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives.
- Participated in Test Evaluation of three Illustrative Alternatives.
- ✓ Wetland Delineation/Assessment
  - Continued to develop GIS wetland and habitat shape files and maps.
  - Continued to conduct inland and over-water field surveys.
  - Continued data assembly for evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives.
  - Participated in Test Evaluation of three Illustrative Alternatives.

**B. Products**

- Additional field work to update the GIS and prepare spreadsheets.
- Data for evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives.
- Cultural historic context information, beyond that included in Scoping Document.
- Habitat shape files.
- Wetland shape files.
- Surface water shape files.

**C. Task Evaluation**

- Some SEE team members developed budgets with fewer than 15+ Illustrative Alternatives. This is being addressed internal to the team at the present time.

**D. Upcoming Plans**

- Continue field surveys for wetland and wetland functional assessments and GIS layers.
- Continue field surveys for T&E habitat and develop GIS layers.
- Continue field surveys for Coastal Zone issues.
- Continue field surveys of surface waters.
- Continue evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives plazas and crossing on August 25<sup>th</sup>.

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

**A. Work Progress**

- Completed DTM compilation of original project boundary.

**B. Products**

- DTM at 100 percent complete for original project boundary.

**C. Task Evaluation**

- DTM work is completed on original project boundary.

**D. Upcoming Plans**

- Completed at least 10 percent of additional DTM.

**TASK 8 (2330) – GEOTECHNICAL DATA**

**A. Work Progress**

- Assessed applicability of the seismic tomographic imaging method and in developing a new proposal for investigation of locations and extent of voids caused by the mining of salt using the brine well method.
- Updated proposed risk assessment scope to address brine well issues.
- Prepared memo on other construction over areas with major voids (brine wells and oil wells).

**B. Products**

- Updated Scope of Work to conduct risk assessment associated with location of brine wells.
- Preliminary memo on construction over areas with underground voids.

**C. Task Evaluation**

- Task is to be affected by additional work dealing with brine well risk assessment covered under Task 25.

**D. Upcoming Plans**

- Support evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives.

**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**

- Work in this task has not been initiated.

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**

- Continued DTM compilation.

**B. Products**

- DTM at 100 percent complete on original boundary area.

**C. Task Evaluation**

- DTM of original boundary area is complete.

**D. Upcoming Plans**

- Begin DTM on additional area.

TASK 19 (3320) – CONTROL SURVEY FOR AERIALS

**A. Work Progress**

- Continue QA/QC on 50 check points.

**B. Products**

- None as none required.

**C. Task Evaluation**

- QA/QC is proceeding appropriately.

**D. Plans for Next Reporting Period**

- Provided test results of 50 check points.

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**

- Refined Brine Well Investigation Plan.
- Developed spreadsheet for ranking Illustrative Alternatives from geotech standpoint.
- Prepared memo of other construction over areas with voids like brine wells/oil wells.

**B. Products**

- Updated draft scope of work to conduct risk assessment associated with location of brine wells.

**C. Task Evaluation**

- Additional work in this area will depend on MDOT's review of proposed scope.

**D. Plans for Next Reporting Period**

- Cooperate with MDOT to advance the brine well risk assessment.

- Support evaluation of Illustrative Alternatives.

## TASK 26 (3710) – REQUIRED MITIGATION

### **A. Work Progress**

- Work in this task has not been initiated.

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

While a schedule adjustment is not necessary, a change order has been offered to provide additional aerial photography to enhance the analysis west of I-75 in the Downriver corridor. MDOT action on this proposal is important to maintaining the project schedule.

MDOT has also been notified that a significant change order needs to be considered to conduct a detailed risk analysis of the location of brine wells and their effects on the placement of piers for a final Practical Alternative bridge. Additionally, that change order will include adjustments dealing with the communications logistics that are now significantly different than anticipated at the outset of the study because of the very large attendance at one set of public meetings in the Downriver area. The review by MDOT to formally submit such a change order is still ongoing and is needed as soon as possible. It is anticipated that the work included in the proposed change order will be initiated in the fall and concluded in the winter allowing the Practical Alternative to have considerable definition of the potential engineering/geotechnical risks as well as to continue to the public meetings with a full complement of advertising and logistics as in the past.

### **E. ITEMS NEEDED FROM MDOT**

- A review of the division of engineering work on the border crossing facilities.
- As-built plans for:
  - ✓ M-39 from M-85 to US 12 in Wayne County.
  - ✓ I-75 from Gibraltar Road to Clay Street in Wayne County.
  - ✓ I-375 in Downtown Detroit.
  - ✓ US 12 from Van Horn to US 12.
  - ✓ US 24 from Van Horn to US 12.
  - ✓ US 24 connector from US 24 to I-75.
  - ✓ I-275 from Willow Road to US 12.
  - ✓ M-85 from King Road to Oakland Boulevard.

- Review of a proposed change order dealing with additional aerial photography and geotechnical tasks.

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

- Attended the following meetings on:
  - ✓ July 7<sup>th</sup> with U.S. Steel.
  - ✓ July 12<sup>th</sup> with BASF.
  - ✓ July 19<sup>th</sup> with Core Team.
  - ✓ July 20<sup>th</sup> with Local Agency Group.
  - ✓ July 20<sup>th</sup> with Local Advisory Council.
  - ✓ July 27<sup>th</sup> with Working Group.
- Upcoming meetings:
  - ✓ August 9th with Core Team.
  - ✓ August 9th with Mr. Flynn, proponent of the Hennepin Point crossing.
  - ✓ August 10th U.S. Steel tour.
  - ✓ August 10th with Working Group.
  - ✓ August 11th with Steering Committee.
  - ✓ August 30th with Core Team.
  - ✓ August 31st with Working Group.
  - ✓ August 31st scoping meeting.

## 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 by phone with MDOT.
- Monthly progress report.
- Two bi-weekly status reports.
- Meetings of:
  - ✓ June 2<sup>nd</sup> with the Canadian Automotive Partnership Council.
  - ✓ June 14<sup>th</sup> with the NBEST Committee of the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce.
  - ✓ June 17<sup>th</sup> with State agencies.
  - ✓ June 20<sup>th</sup> with the MDOT project program review board.
  - ✓ June 20<sup>th</sup> with the MDOT DRIC Core Team.
  - ✓ June 20<sup>th</sup> with the Local Agency Group.
  - ✓ June 20<sup>th</sup> with the Local Advisory Council.
  - ✓ June 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> with the general public.
  - ✓ June 29<sup>th</sup> with the Working Group.

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