

APPENDIX I

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

COORDINATION

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY
AND
TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Dan Flowers
Director
Phone (501) 569-2000 Fax (501) 569-2400



P.O. Box 2261
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261
WWW.ARKANSASHIGHWAYS.COM

June 28, 2006

Mr. Calvin L. Trice
State Conservationist
Federal Building 3416
700 West Capitol Ave
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Re: AHTD Job Number R60101
Hwy. 67- I-40 West
Pulaski County

Dear Mr. Trice:

The Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department is preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the referenced project. A map illustrating the project corridor is enclosed along with a copy of Form NRCS-CPA-106, the Farmland Conversation Impact Rating.

Please complete the form and we also ask that you make an analysis of significance of impacts to prime farmland on all of the corridors illustrated on the map. A 300-foot right-of-way should be used to calculate prime farmland conversion.

Should you have questions or require additional information, please contact John Baber of my staff at (501) 569-2281.

Sincerely,

Lynn P. Malbrough
Division Head
Environmental Division

LPM:JB:trb

Enclosures

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
Room 3416, Federal Building
700 West Capitol Avenue
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-3225

Mr. John Baber
Environmental Section
Arkansas Highway Department
P.O. Box 2261
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261

Dear Mr. Baber:

This letter is in response to your request for adjustments on AHTD Job Number R60101, Hwy. 67-I40 West Project in Pulaski County, Arkansas. Attached are forms CPA-106 which contain information on Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance in the area.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please call me at (501) 301-3172.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edgar P. Mersiofsky".

EDGAR P. MERSIOFSKY
Assistant State Soil Scientist

Attachments

Helping People Help the Land

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Natural Resources Conservation Service

NRCS-CPA-106
(Rev. 1-91)

FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING
FOR CORRIDOR TYPE PROJECTS

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)		1. Date of Land Evaluation Request		2. Sheet 1 of _____	
1. Name of Project North Belt Loop		5. Federal Agency Involved Ark. Highway Dept			
2. Type of Project Highway Corridor		6. County and State Pulaski County, Arkansas			
PART II (To be completed by NRCS)		1. Date Request Received by NRCS 8/15/06		2. Person Completing Form Edgar Merslovsky	
3. Does the corridor contain prime, unique statewide or local important farmland? (If no, the FPPA does not apply - Do not complete additional parts of this form.)		YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		4. Acres Irrigated Average Farm Size 22,195 206 ac	
5. Major Crop(s)		6. Farmable Land in Government Jurisdiction Acres: 268,093 % 51.9		7. Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres: 256,729 % 49	
8. Name Of Land Evaluation System Used SCS-LESA		9. Name of Local Site Assessment System		10. Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS 9/1/06	

PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)		Alternative Corridor For Segment			
		Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly		703.74	712.59	842.10	
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly, Or To Receive Services					
C. Total Acres In Corridor		703.74	712.59	842.10	0

PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information					
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland		139	48	108	
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland		0	0	0	
C. Percentage Of Farmland In County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted		0.05	0.04	0.04	
D. Percentage Of Farmland In Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value		100	100	100	

PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information Criterion Relative Value of Farmland to Be Serviced or Converted (Scale of 0 - 100 Points)

PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Corridor Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(c))		Maximum Points				
1. Area in Nonurban Use		15	5	5	5	
2. Perimeter in Nonurban Use		15	5	5	5	
3. Percent Of Corridor Being Farmed		30	5	5	5	
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government		20	0	0	0	
5. Size of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average		10	0	0	0	
6. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland		25	0	0	0	
7. Availability Of Farm Support Services		5	5	5	5	
8. On-Farm Investments		20	0	0	0	
9. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services		25	0	0	0	
10. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use		10	0	0	0	
TOTAL CORRIDOR ASSESSMENT POINTS		150	0	0	0	0

PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)					
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)		100	145	12.7	10.2
Total Corridor Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)		150	020	020	020
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)		250	0345	032.7	030.2

1. Corridor Selected:	2. Total Acres of Farmlands to be Converted by Project: See Part V	3. Date Of Selection: 10/2/06	4. Was A Local Site Assessment Used? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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5. Reason For Selection:

Signature of Person Completing this Part: John Bell DATE: 10/2/06

NOTE: Complete a form for each segment with more than one Alternate Corridor

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Natural Resources Conservation Service

NRCS-CPA-108
(Rev. 1-97)

**FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING
FOR CORRIDOR TYPE PROJECTS**

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)		3. Date of Land Evaluation Request	4. Sheet 1 of _____
1. Name of Project North Belt Loop		5. Federal Agency Involved Ark. Highway Dept	
2. Type of Project Highway Corridor		6. County and State Pulaski County, Arkansas	
PART II (To be completed by NRCS)		1. Date Request Received by NRCS 8/15/06	2. Person Completing Form Edgar Merslovsky
3. Does the corridor contain prime, unique statewide or local important farmland? (If no, the FPPA does not apply - Do not complete additional parts of this form) YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		4. Acres Irrigated 22,195	Average Farm Size 206 ac
5. Major Crop(s)	6. Farmable Land in Government Jurisdiction Acres: 268,093 % 51.9	7. Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres: 256,729 % 49.7	
8. Name of Land Evaluation System Used SCS-LESA	9. Name of Local Site Assessment System	10. Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS 9/1/06	

PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)	Alternative Corridor For Segment			
	Alt A seg a	Alt B seg a	Alt B seg b	Alt B seg ba
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly	716.80	716.12	727.76	724.60
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly, Or To Receive Services				
C. Total Acres In Corridor	716.80	716.12	727.76	724.60

PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information				
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland	111	97	110	114
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland	0	0	0	0
C. Percentage Of Farmland In County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04
D. Percentage Of Farmland In Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value	100	100	100	100

PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information Criterion Relative value of Farmland to Be Serviced or Converted (Scale of 0 - 100 Points)	13.1	11.9	12.7	13.1
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PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Corridor Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(c))	Maximum Points				
1. Area in Nonurban Use	15	5	5	5	5
2. Perimeter in Nonurban Use	10	5	5	5	5
3. Percent Of Corridor Being Farmed	30	5	5	5	5
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government	20	0	0	0	0
5. Size of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average	10	0	0	0	0
6. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland	25	0	0	0	0
7. Availability Of Farm Support Services	5	5	5	5	5
8. On-Farm Investments	20	0	0	0	0
9. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services	25	0	0	0	0
10. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use	10	0	0	0	0
TOTAL CORRIDOR ASSESSMENT POINTS	160	0 20	0 20	0 20	0 20

PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)					
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)	100	13.1	11.9	12.7	13.1
Total Corridor Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)	160	0 20	0 20	0 20	0 20
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)	260	0 33.1	0 31.9	0 32.7	0 33.1

1. Corridor Selected:	2. Total Acres of Farmlands to be Converted by Project See Part V	3. Date Of Selection: 10/2/06	4. Was A Local Site Assessment Used? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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5. Reason For Selection:

Signature of Person Completing this Part: *John Bell* DATE: **10/2/06**

NOTE: Complete a form for each segment with more than one Alternate Corridor