

APPALACHIAN CORRIDOR I-66

From US 23 in Pike County Kentucky to the King Coal Highway in Mingo County West Virginia

Final Environmental Impact Statement

Submitted Pursuant to: 42 USC 4332(2)(c); by

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION - FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET
WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Cooperating Agencies

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

3-19-03
Date of Approval

David M. Waldner
For Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

11/1/02
Date of Approval

Fred Van der ...
For West Virginia Division of Highways

March 20th, 2003
Date of Approval

[Signature]
For Federal Highway Administration

The following people may be contacted for additional information concerning this document:

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This project consists of a proposal to construct approximately 53 kilometers (33 miles) of four-lane, median-divided, controlled access, interstate highway from US 23/119 south of Pikeville, KY. eastward to the King Coal Highway southeast of Matewan, WV. This study evaluates the social, economic, and environmental impacts which may be associated with this undertaking.

Comments on this FEIS must be received by MAY 27, 2003, and should be sent to:

Mr. Keith Damron, P.E., I-66 Project Manager
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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
[ER-FRL-6639-6]

Environmental Impact Statements; Notice of Availability

Responsible Agency: Office of Federal Activities, General Information (202) 564-7167 or <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/>. Weekly receipt of Environmental Impact Statements filed April 14, 2003, through April 18, 2003, pursuant to 40 CFR 1506.9.

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EIS No. 030172, Final EIS, FTA, NC, South Corridor Light Rail Project to Provide Light Rail Service between the Town of Pineville and Downtown Charlotte, City of Charlotte, Charlotte-Mecklenburg County, NC, Wait Period Ends: May 19, 2003, Contact: Alex McNeil (404) 562-3511. The above FTA EIS should have appeared in the 04/18/03 Federal Register. The 30-day Wait Period is Calculated from 04/18/2003.

EIS No. 030173, Final EIS, FRC, ID, Bear River Hydroelectric Project, Application for a New License (Relicense) for Three Existing Hydroelectric Projects: Soda (FERC No. 20-019), Grace-Cove (FERC No. 2401-007) and Oneida (FERC No. 472-017), Bear River Basin, Caribou and Franklin Counties, ID, Wait Period Ends: May 27, 2003, Contact: Susan O'Brian (202) 502-8449. This document is available on the Internet at: <http://www.ferc.gov>. [EXIT disclaimer](#)

EIS No. 030174, Final EIS, FHW, RI, Sakonnet River Bridge Rehabilitation or Replacement Project, Portsmouth & Tiverton, Newport County, RI, Wait Period Ends: May 27, 2003, Contact: Daniel J. Berman (401) 528-2503.

EIS No. 030175, Final EIS, FHW, WV, KY, Appalachian Corridor I-66 Highway Construction, US 23/119 south of Pikeville, KY eastward to the King Coal Highway southeast of Matewan, Funding and U.S. Army COE Section 404 Permits Issuance, Pike County, KY and Mingo County, WV, Wait Period Ends: May 27, 2003, Contact: Jose Sepulveda (502) 223-6720.

EIS No. 030176, Final EIS, FHW, NY, U.S. 219 between Springville to Salamanca, Improvements from NY 39 to NY 17, PIN 5101.53, Funding and U.S. Army COE Section 404 Permit, Erie and Cattaraugus Counties, NY,

ATTENTION

IN ACCORDANCE WITH FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY T 6640.8A, SECTION VI. B., THIS DOCUMENT UTILIZES THE *CONDENSED FINAL EIS OPTION*. THE COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REGULATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT PLACE HEAVY EMPHASIS ON REDUCING PAPERWORK, AVOIDING UNNECESSARY WORK, AND PRODUCING DOCUMENTS WHICH ARE USEFUL TO DECISIONMAKERS AND TO THE PUBLIC.

TOWARD THIS END, THE CONDENSED FINAL EIS APPROACH USED IN THIS FEIS AVOIDS REPETITION OF MATERIAL FROM THE DRAFT EIS BY INCORPORATING, BY REFERENCE, THE DRAFT EIS, WHICH IS INCLUDED IN APPENDIX D. THIS FEIS IS A SHORTER DOCUMENT THAN UNDER THE TRADITIONAL APPROACH; HOWEVER, IT AFFORDS THE READER A COMPLETE OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT AND ITS IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT.

THIS CONDENSED FEIS PROVIDES REFERENCES TO AND SUMMARIZES INFORMATION FROM THE DRAFT EIS. THE DRAFT EIS WAS APPROVED ON JANUARY 24, 2002. THIS CONDENSED FEIS FOCUSES DISCUSSION ON THE PROJECT DECISIONS MADE SINCE DISTRIBUTION OF THE DRAFT EIS AND ON NOTEWORTHY CHANGES IN THE PROJECT, ITS SETTING, IMPACTS, TECHNICAL ANALYSIS, AND MITIGATION THAT HAVE OCCURRED SINCE INITIAL DEIS CIRCULATION. THIS CONDENSED FEIS ALSO IDENTIFIES THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE, EXPLAINS THE BASIS FOR ITS SELECTION, DESCRIBES THE PROJECT COORDINATION EFFORTS WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE, AND INCLUDES AGENCY AND PUBLIC COMMENTS. RESPONSES TO THESE COMMENTS AND ANY REQUIRED FINDINGS OR DETERMINATIONS ARE ALSO INCLUDED.