

**Heartland Corridor – Clearance Project**  
 FHWA Quarterly Status Report  
 July 24, 2007

<b>Project Description:</b> The Heartland Corridor Clearance Project will enable double-stacked international maritime and domestic containers to be transported by rail between the Hampton Roads region of Virginia and locations in the Midwest by increasing tunnel clearances and modifying other overhead obstructions in western Virginia, West Virginia, and through to Columbus, Ohio.	<b>Background:</b> The Project is described twice in Public Law 109-59, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). At Section 1301(m)(2) it is described as: "Heartland Corridor Project including multiple intermodal facility improvements and improvements to facilitate the movement of intermodal freight from VA to OH." At Section 1702, Project No. 5072, it is described as: "Double stack clearance of tunnels on the Norfolk and Western Mainline in Virginia located on the Heartland Corridor."
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Critical Issues:

- FY 2007 Section 1702 funds, High Priority

Budget/Costs Status: The Estimate to Complete has increased slightly due to additional PE costs. The project is continuing to progress and the estimate to complete will be adjusted as final designs are completed and the first construction contracts are awarded later in the summer.

<b>Federal Participation</b>							
Location	January - 07 Baseline Budget	Estimate to Complete	Expended to Date (6/30/07)	Federal Share (80%)	Federal \$ Expended	Total Fed \$ Available	Federal \$ Remaining
VA	17,465,826	17,432,826	437,088	349,670	90,679	4,320,000	4,229,321
WV	127,804,875	127,045,875	4,249,746	3,399,797	2,033,487	77,316,107	75,282,620
FHWA/ States	1,000,000	1,000,000	200,200	200,200	200,200	1,000,000	799,800
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>146,270,701</b>	<b>145,478,701</b>	<b>4,887,034</b>	<b>3,949,667</b>	<b>2,324,366</b>	<b>82,636,107</b>	<b>80,311,741</b>
<b>No Federal Participation</b>							
VA	3,024,314	2,925,314	219,467				
OH	1,103,968	1,248,968	217,891				
KY, WV, & Misc	9,284,288	10,293,467	1,108,757				
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>13,412,570</b>	<b>14,467,749</b>	<b>1,546,115</b>				
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$159,683,271</b>	<b>\$159,946,450</b>	<b>\$6,433,149</b>				

Reasons for difference between Baseline Budget and Estimate to Complete:

4/19/07 - \$1,108,179 was removed on a prorated basis from both the VA and WV federal participating and WV non-participating rows. This amount was for the planning work completed prior to the MOA and is now included in the Misc. amount. This was done to better correspond with Norfolk Southern's project accounts. Estimate to Complete total is \$263,179 higher than the January 2007 baseline due to higher actual costs for planning and higher estimates for the preliminary engineering for the Ohio bridge work.

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Work Completed:

- ✓ *Project Funding:* In a Letter of Authorization from EFLHD dated May 31, 2007, Norfolk Southern was authorized Section 1301 funds in the amount of \$6,644,000 for the Federal share of construction engineering work in West Virginia and Section 1702 funds in the amount of \$402,400 for the Federal share of construction engineering work in Virginia.

In a Memorandum from FLH Director, Office of Program Development dated June 6, 2007, Section 1301 funds for fiscal year 2007 were allocated to EFLHD for the Heartland Corridor in the amount of \$20,716,107.

- ✓ *Preliminary Engineering:* Final plans and specifications were completed in June by the Railroad and approved by EFL for the Roderfield, Laurel, and Gordon Tunnels in West Virginia and Cowan Tunnel in Virginia.
- ✓ *Construction Engineering:* A contract was signed with STV / Ralph Whitehead Associates on April 10, 2007 to perform the construction management and construction inspection for the Clearance Project.
- ✓ *Contractor Pre-Qualification:* A selection panel met on April 30, 2007 to review qualification statements and determine which contractors are qualified and will be given the opportunity to bid on the tunnel work. Nine contractors were determined to be qualified from the first Request for Pre-Qualification.

The Request for Pre-Qualification for the second group of tunnels was posted on the West Virginia DOT web site on May 15, 2007. Contractor qualification statements were due June 15, 2007. A selection panel reviewed qualification statements and on July 17, 2007 determined that one new contractor was qualified and will be given the opportunity to bid on the tunnel work in addition to the previous nine.

- ✓ *NEPA Compliance:* EFL completed the Categorical Exclusion for the Heartland Corridor Clearance Project on June 13, 2007.
- ✓ *Initial Financial Plan:* The initial Financial Plan was completed and signed on May 22, 2007. A copy of the plan was posted on the EFL project website.

Work-In-Progress:

- *Project Funding:* EFL has requested from Federal Lands Highway Headquarters an allocation for the FY 2007 Section 1702 funds to be used in Virginia. At this time, HQ has not received an allotment for these funds. These funds can be used as soon as they are received.
- *Preliminary Engineering:* 95% plans and specifications for Antler No. 1 & 2, Twin Branch No. 1 & 2, and Vaughan tunnels in WV have been completed. The 95% plans and specifications were distributed May 22, 2007 and comments have been received. Final plans

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are scheduled for the end of July. HMM is continuing to make progress on the remaining tunnels and bridges.

- *Construction:* Bid documents for the first group of tunnels were distributed on June 29, 2007 to the pre-qualified contractors. Pre-bid meetings and site visits were held on July 9-10, 2007. The due date for proposals is August 2, 2007.
- *Historical Preservation:* EFL has coordinated with the West Virginia, Virginia, Ohio, and Kentucky State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPO) regarding the Clearance Project. The SHPOs and FHWA have agreed that the Norfolk Southern mainline between Cowan, VA and Bull, WV is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and that the proposed undertaking may have an adverse effect on elements contributing to the corridor. The mitigation measures for these adverse affects have been agreed to by all parties and a Memorandum of Agreement has been finalized and is being distributed for signature. The MOA is anticipated to be signed by all parties by mid August.

One element of the mitigation is the cultural resource documentation. EFLHD has contracted with TRC Solutions to complete this cultural resource documentation. This work is starting before the MOA is signed to ensure that all field work is completed prior to the scheduled start of construction.

### Contracts:

Preliminary Engineering:	Hatch Mott MacDonald (NS)
Construction Engineering:	STV / Ralph Whitehead Associates (NS)
Cultural Resource Documentation:	TRC Solutions (EFLHD)

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Project Schedule/Status: Project is generally on schedule. The Transportation Department of Norfolk Southern has reviewed the schedule to ensure that both the project and train operations are maximized. This review resulted in the acceleration of the design of the second group of tunnels. This will result in three phases of construction instead of four and is anticipated to reduce the overall duration of the project.

Milestones:

Activity	Planned	Actual
Advertisement of PE Contract:		June 29, 2006
PE Pre-Bid Meeting:		July 6, 2006
MOA w/ States Signed		July 11, 2006
PE Selection Panel		August 2, 2006
MOA w/ Railroad Signed		August 8, 2006
Award of PE Contract		Sep 29, 2006
EFLHD Receipt of FY 05 & 06 Funding	Nov-06	Feb 1, 2007; Mar 27, 2007
Advertisement of CE Contract:	Dec-06	Feb 1, 2007
EFLHD Receipt of FY07 Funding	Jan-07	June 6, 2007
Award of CE Contract	Mar-07	April 10, 2007
Completion of NEPA Document	Apr-07	June 13, 2007
EFLHD Receipt of FY08 Funding	Jan-08	
EFLHD Receipt of FY 09 Funding	Jan-09	
<b>Ohio Bridges</b>		
Final Design Completed	Apr-07	July 20, 2007
Award of Construction Contract	Jul-07	
Completion of Construction	Dec-07	
<b>Cowan Tunnel</b>		
70% Design Completed	Mar-07	March 5, 2007
Final Design Completed	Apr-07	June 20, 2007
Award of Construction Contract	Jul-07	
Completion of Construction	Apr-08	
<b>Eggleston 1&amp;2, Pembroke (by NS forces)</b>		
Final Design Completed	Jun-07	
Completion of Construction	Dec-07	
<b>Roderfield, Laurel, and Gordon</b>		
70% Design Completed	Apr-07	March 5, 2007
Final Design Completed	May-07	June 20, 2007
Award of Construction Contract	Aug-07	
Completion of Construction	Jul-08	
<b>Antler 1&amp;2, Twin Branch 1&amp;2, Vaughan</b>		
70% Design Completed	Sep-07	April 20, 2007
Final Design Completed	Nov-07	
Award of Construction Contract	Feb-08	
Completion of Construction	Jul-09	
<b>Cooper</b>		
70% Design Completed	Apr-07	March 5, 2007

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Final Design Completed	May-07	
Award of Construction Contract	Aug-07	
Completion of Construction	Apr-08	
2008 Tunnels and Bridges		
70% Design Completed	Sep-07	
Final Design Completed	Nov-07	
Award of Construction Contract	Feb-08	
Completion of Construction	Jul-09	
2009 Tunnels and Bridges		
70% Design Completed	Jul-08	
Final Design Completed	Sep-08	
Award of Construction Contract	Dec-08	
Completion of Construction	Jun-10	

Conclusion: The project continues to gain momentum with the solicitation of construction bids and more designs being completed. There continues to be good cooperation between all parties involved.

<i>Contacts:</i>	
<i>Project Director</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>
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<i>Project Web Site:</i> <a href="http://www.efl.fhwa.dot.gov/special_projects/heartland-corridor-clearance-project/">www.efl.fhwa.dot.gov/special_projects/heartland-corridor-clearance-project/</a>	