

Issued in Memphis, Tennessee on October 28, 1996.

LaVerne F. Reid,

Manager, Airports District Office, Southern Region.

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Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement: Imperial County, CA

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an environmental impact statement will be prepared for a proposed highway project in Imperial County, California.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: C. Glenn Clinton, District Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, 980—9th Street, Suite 400, Sacramento, CA 95814-2724.

TELEPHONE: (916) 498-5037.

INTERNET ADDRESS:

C. Glenn.Clinton@FHWA.DOT.GOV

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) on a proposal to construct approximately 19.9 km (12.4 miles) of State Routes 78 and 111 in Imperial County and near the City of Brawley from 0.8 km (0.5 miles) south of Baughman Road on State Routes 86 and 78 to 0.5 km (0.3 miles) north of Mead Road on State Route 111. The project is proposed as a four-lane expressway on new location.

Improvements to the corridor are considered necessary to provide the final link in continuous four-lane highway access between Interstate 8 in Imperial County and Interstate 10 in Riverside County. This project is part of the primary North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) corridor between the mainland of Mexico and the City of Los Angeles. These improvements are also considered necessary to relieve local congestion and highway safety concerns in the City of Brawley along existing State Routes 78 and 111 which are currently burdened with extensive commercial traffic. Alternatives under consideration include (1) taking no action; (2) constructing a divided four-lane, controlled access expressway on new location; (3) alignment variations as appropriate to minimize environmental effects of the project.

Within the limits of the study area for this project, various environmental

resources and issues are known to exist and include but are not limited to: wetlands, floodway and floodplain, wildlife habitat, prime farmlands, growth inducement, economic, home and business relocation, noise, changes to vehicle traffic patterns, regional air quality, seismic exposure, land use planning, hazardous waste, and irrigation/drain systems.

Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments will be sent to appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies, and to private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed or are known to have interest in this proposal. At least one public meeting will be held in Imperial County to solicit input from the local citizens on alternatives. In addition, a public hearing will be held. Public Notice will be given of the time and place of the meetings and hearing. The draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA at the address provided above. The views of agencies having knowledge about historic resources potentially affected by the proposal or interested in the effects of the project on historic properties are solicited

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Issued on: October 18, 1996.

C. Glenn Clinton,
Chief, District Operations—South
Sacramento, California.

[FR Doc. 96-28068 Filed 10-31-96; 8:45 am]

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Research and Special Programs Administration

[Notice No. 96-22]

International Standards on the Transport of Dangerous Goods; Public Meeting

AGENCY: Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice is to advise interested persons that RSPA will conduct a public meeting in preparation for the nineteenth session of the United Nation's Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (UNCOE) to be held December 2-11, 1996 in Geneva, Switzerland.

DATE: November 22, 1996 at 9:30 a.m.

ADDRESS: Room 6244-6248, Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20590.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Frits Wybenga, International Standards Coordinator, Office of Hazardous Materials Safety, Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590; (202) 366-0656.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The primary purpose of this meeting will be to prepare for the nineteenth session of the UNCOE and to discuss U.S. positions on proposals submitted to the nineteenth session of the UNCOE. Topics to be covered during the public meeting include matters related to restructuring the UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods into a model rule, international harmonization of classification criteria, review of intermodal portable tank requirements, review of the requirements applicable to small quantities of hazardous materials in transport (limited quantities), classification of individual substances, requirements for bulk and non-bulk packagings used to transport hazardous materials, infectious substances and criteria for environmentally hazardous substances.

The public is invited to attend without prior notification.

Documents

Copies of documents submitted to the nineteenth session of the UNCOE meeting may be obtained from RSPA. A listing of these documents and copies of U.S. proposals is available on the Hazardous Materials Information Exchange (HMIX), RSPA's computer bulletin board. Documents may also be ordered by contacting RSPA's Dockets Unit (202-366-5046). For more information on the use of the HMIX system, contact the HMIX information center; 1-800-PLANFOR (752-6367); in Illinois, 1-800-367-9592; Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Central time. The HMIX may also be accessed via the Internet at hmix.idis.anl.gov.