

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E., District Engineer, Illinois Department of Transportation, District 4, 401 Main Street, Peoria, Illinois 61602-1111, Telephone: (309) 671-3333

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The FHWA, in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Transportation, will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on a proposal to improve existing Illinois 29 to a four-lane highway from Illinois 6 in Peoria County north to I-180 in Bureau County. The approximately 35-mile long project corridor is located west of and parallel to the Illinois River. The proposal is being considered to improve north-south highway access west of the Illinois River, enhance travel efficiency, and support economic development in the region. Alternatives under consideration include: (1) The No-Build Alternative, (2) improvements to the existing highway, and (3) possible bypasses at Chillicothe, Sparland, Henry and Putnam.

Alignment studies will determine one preferred alignment location and address the type of facility and preliminary interchange geometrics. Engineering and environmental conditions will be addressed in order to determine an alignment that meets the transportation needs of the region while minimizing the impacts to the environment. Potentially affected resources include agricultural land, archaeological sites, wetlands, woodlands, natural areas, State Conservation Areas, a nature preserve, historic structures, and residential and commercial property. Preliminary measures to minimize harm, probable construction cost estimates and estimated right of way requirements will be developed as part of the study.

The scoping process undertaken for this project will include distribution of a scoping informational packet, coordination with appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies, and review sessions as needed. An informational scoping packet may be obtained from one of the contact people listed above.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are addressed, and all substantive issues are identified, public involvement activities will be conducted as part of the study. Public information meetings, local government meetings, and newsletters will provide opportunities for public involvement. A public hearing will be held at the time that the Draft EIS is made available for comment. The project's Draft EIS will be available for public and agency review prior to the public hearing. The time and location of

the public information meeting and public hearing will be announced in local newspapers. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the Draft EIS should be directed to FHWA or the Illinois Department of Transportation at the addresses provided above.

(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: July 18, 2002.

**J.D. Stevenson,**  
*Environmental Programs Engineer,  
Springfield, Illinois.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Highway Administration

**Environmental Impact Statement:**  
**Peoria, Tazewell, Woodford,  
Livingston, Marshall, McLean, Putnam,  
Bureau and, La Salle**

**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 (EIS) will not be prepared for the study of a proposed four-lane Heart of Illinois Highway in north central Illinois. Three feasible corridors identified by Illinois DOT as part of an earlier study were to be the focus of the EIS.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Norman R. Stoner, P.E., Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, 3250 Executive Park Drive, Springfield, Illinois 62703, Phone: (217) 492-4600

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**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The FHWA, in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Transportation, issued a notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on a proposal to develop a four-lane divided highway, known as the Heart of Illinois Highway, between Peoria and the interstate freeway system either north or east of Peoria. Three feasible corridors previously identified by Illinois DOT were to be examined as part of the EIS. The notice of intent to

prepare an EIS for this project was published in the **Federal Register** on April 26, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 81).

Due to public opposition and lack of regional support, this project has been put on hold indefinitely. At this time there are no plans to prepare an EIS for this project.

Comments or questions concerning this notice should be directed to FHWA or the Illinois Department of Transportation at the addresses provided above.

(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 July 18, 0002.

**J.D. Stevenson,**  
*Environmental Programs Engineer,  
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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

[Docket Number: MARAD-2002-12891]

### Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Invitation for public comments on a requested administrative waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws for the vessel FREE SPIRIT.

**SUMMARY:** As authorized by Pub. L. 105-383, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a description of the proposed service, is listed below. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines that in accordance with Pub. L. 105-383 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388 (65 FR 6905; February 11, 2000) that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels, a waiver will not be granted.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before August 23, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2002-12891.