

programs and activities apply to this program)

J. Stephen Guhin,

*Assistant Division Administrator,
Pennsylvania Division, FHWA.*

[FR Doc. 97-678 Filed 1-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-M

**Environmental Impact Statement:
Allegheny and Washington Counties,
Pennsylvania**

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 proposed transportation improvements between State Route 60 and US Route 22, known locally as a Southern Beltway Transportation Project and the Findlay Connector, in Allegheny and Washington Counties, Pennsylvania. This notice supersedes the Notice of Intent published in the Federal Register, Volume 58, No. 154, Page 43005, on August 12, 1993, for the Southern Beltway, and the Notice of Intent published in the Federal Register, Volume 56, No. 209, Pages 55707 and 55708 on October 29, 1991, for the Findlay Connector.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David W. Cough, District Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, 228 Walnut Street, Room 558, Harrisburg, PA 17101-1720, Telephone: (717) 782-3411; Daryl L. Kerns, Turnpike Liaison Engineer, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, 1113 Transportation & Safety Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120, Telephone: (717) 787-0185; or Paul A. Edmunds, Acting Chief Engineer, Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission, P.O. Box 67676, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7676, Telephone: (717) 939-9551.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on a proposal for a limited access toll highway in Allegheny and Washington Counties, west of Pittsburgh, PA. The proposed improvement would extend from an interchange on State Route 60 west of the Pittsburgh International Airport (24 kilometers [15 miles] west of Pittsburgh), southwesterly to U.S. Route 22. The improvement corridor is about 10 kilometers (6.2 miles) long and about 2 kilometers (1¼ miles) wide. The proposed improvement is considered necessary to provide direct access from the south and west to the Pittsburgh

International Airport area, and to provide improved access to planned development in the Airport area. Preliminary studies and public and agency input for the Southern Beltway Transportation Project and for the Findlay Connector have concluded that the project needs for both projects can be met with a single transportation project in the corridor between State Route 60 and U.S. Route 22. These studies also indicated that the project needs cannot be met by Transportation System Management activities, upgrading existing roadways or mass transit improvements. Alternatives now under consideration are various alignments for a new tolled expressway and taking no action.

Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments have been 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. A series of public meetings will be held in the project area during the development of the project. In addition, a public hearing will be held. Public notice will be given of the time and place of the meetings and hearings. The Draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing. A Scoping Meeting was held on August 18 and 19, 1993, in Washington, PA. Federal, state, regional, county, and municipal agencies attended and participated.

To insure 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.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 20.205, Highway Planning Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program)

J. Stephen Guhin,

*Assistant Division Administrator,
Pennsylvania Division, FHWA.*

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**Environmental Impact Statement:
Allegheny and Washington Counties,
Pennsylvania**

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 proposed transportation improvements between US Route 22 and I-79, known locally as a Southern Beltway Transportation Project, in Allegheny and Washington Counties, Pennsylvania. This notice supersedes the Notice of Intent published in the Federal Register Volume 58, Number 154, Page 43005, on August 12, 1993, for the Southern Beltway.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David W. Cough, District Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, 228 Walnut Street, Room 558, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101-1720, Telephone: (717) 782-3411; Daryl L. Kerns, Turnpike Liaison engineer, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, 1113 Transportation & Safety Building, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120, Telephone: (717) 787-0185; or Paul A. Edmunds, Acting Chief Engineer, Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission, P.O. Box 67676, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17106-7676, Telephone: (717) 939-9551.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on a proposal for a limited access toll highway in Allegheny and Washington Counties, southwest of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The proposed highway would extend from US Route 22, west of Pittsburgh, south easterly to Interstate 79, south of the Allegheny County-Washington County line, 24 kilometers (15 miles) southwest of Pittsburgh. The study corridor is about 19 kilometers (12 miles) long and up to 5.6 kilometers (3.5 miles) wide.

The proposed highway is considered necessary to improve the movement of people and goods in a rapidly growing area southwest of Pittsburgh. Preliminary studies and public and agency input have indicated that the project needs cannot be met by Transportation System Management (TSM) activities, upgrading existing roadways or mass transit improvements. Alternatives now under consideration are various alignments for a new tolled expressway and taking no action.

Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments have been 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. A series of public meetings will be held in the project area

during the development of the project. 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. A Scoping Meeting was held on August 18 and 19, 1993, in Washington, Pennsylvania. Federal, state, regional, county, and municipal agencies attended and participated.

To insure 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.

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

J. Stephen Guhin,

*Assistant Division Administrator,
Pennsylvania Division, FHWA.*

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Environmental Impact Statement; Elk County, Pennsylvania

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

ACTION: Withdrawal of Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared for a proposed highway project in Elk County, Pennsylvania.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David W. Cough, District Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, 228 Walnut Street, Room 558, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101-1720, Telephone: (717) 782-3461 or James R. Bathurst, P.E., Design Services Engineer, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, 1924-30 Daisy Street, Clearfield, Pennsylvania 16830, Telephone (814) 765-0437.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), will now prepare an Environmental Assessment and Engineering Basis Reports for a section of U.S. Route 219 in Elk County, Pennsylvania. Located in Johnsonburg, Pennsylvania, this two-mile project will improve the safety and relieve traffic congestion on this section of U.S. Route

219. The northern terminus and study area limits will be the existing two lanes of U.S. Route 219 just north of the Johnsonburg. The southern terminus and study area limits will be approximately one-half mile south of Pennsylvania Route 255.

Five alternatives are being evaluated during the course of the study. Based on existing and projected traffic volumes, all build alternatives will require a two-lane facility to accommodate the traffic volumes. The alternatives under consideration are upgrading the existing facility, transportation system management, two alternatives on new location west of existing U.S. Route 219, and the "NO BUILD" alternate. Mass transit and multi-modal design will not be considered on this project.

An active public participation program has been implemented on this project. A Citizens Advisory Committee has been actively involved throughout the design and environmental process. Public meetings have been held to ensure public input and participation.

The alternatives developed for this project have caused no public controversy on environmental grounds. Based upon the studies performed and consultation with both Federal and State Environmental Resource Agencies, an Environmental Assessment Evaluation will be performed to determine whether the subject project will have any significant impacts on the environment.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Name 20.205, Highway Research, Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding inter-government consultation on Federal Programs and activities apply to this program)

Manuel A. Marks,

Division Administrator,

Federal Highway Administration.

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National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket Nos. 96-102; Notice 2, 96-105; Notice 2, 96-107; Notice 2, 96-111; Notice 2, 96-112; Notice 2]

Decision that Certain Nonconforming Motor Vehicles are Eligible for Importation

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of decision by NHTSA that certain nonconforming motor vehicles are eligible for importation.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the decision by NHTSA that certain motor vehicles not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards are eligible for importation into the United States because they are substantially similar to vehicles originally manufactured for importation into and/or sale in the United States and certified by their manufacturers as complying with the safety standards, and they are capable of being readily altered to conform to the standards.

DATES: This decision is effective January 13, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George Entwistle, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, NHTSA (202-366-5306).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A), a motor vehicle that was not originally manufactured to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards shall be refused admission into the United States unless NHTSA has decided that the motor vehicle is substantially similar to a motor vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States, certified under 49 U.S.C. 30115, and of the same model year as the model of the motor vehicle to be compared, and is capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Petitions for eligibility decisions may be submitted by either manufacturers or importers who have registered with NHTSA pursuant to 49 CFR Part 592. As specified in 49 CFR 593.7, NHTSA publishes notice in the Federal Register of each petition that it receives, and affords interested persons an opportunity to comment on the petition. At the close of the comment period, NHTSA decides, on the basis of the petition and any comments that it has received, whether the vehicle is eligible for importation. The agency then publishes this decision in the Federal Register.

NHTSA received petitions from registered importers to decide whether the vehicles listed in Annex A to this notice are eligible for importation into the United States. To afford an opportunity for public comment, NHTSA published notice of these petitions as specified in Annex A. The reader is referred to those notices for a thorough description of the petitions. No comments were received in response to these notices. Based on its review of the information submitted by the