



# FEMA



January 20, 2012

Ohio Department of Transportation  
1980 West Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43223

Dear Ohio Department of Transportation,

Public Notice No. 2011-00646-OHR, issued on December 23, 2011 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Huntington District, states the Ohio Department of Transportation has proposed to construct approximately 3 miles of limited access highway northeast of the City of Portsmouth in Unincorporated Scioto County, Ohio with potential impacts on Long Run, Sweet Run, and the Little Scioto River.

Based on the information provided to this office it appears that the proposed project may occur within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) as depicted on the current effective Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for Scioto County, Ohio and Incorporated Areas, dated April 18, 2011. Accordingly, appropriate federal, state, and local permits should be obtained prior to work commencing within the SFHA and a discussion on compliance with Executive Order 11988 – Floodplain Management needs to be included in any environmental impact reports.

Participating communities in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) are required to permit all development in the SFHA. Please contact all affected communities' floodplain administrators to determine if your project is located in a SFHA and to ensure compliance with the community's local flood safety requirements. A list of local floodplain administrators in Ohio can be found here: <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/portals/7/floodpln/Communitylist.pdf>.

Furthermore, it may be necessary to obtain approval from FEMA prior to starting a project or after project completion in cases where projects impact FEMA FIRMs and Studies. Per 44 Code of Federal Regulations (44CFR) Part 65.3, a community must notify FEMA within 6 months of a base flood elevation (BFE) increase or decrease. Per 44CFR Part 65.12, when encroachments are permitted upon the floodplain or regulatory floodway that cause a BFE increase, conditional approval from FEMA must be obtained prior to the start of the project. Additional documentation and notification may be required. For further information, please contact the local floodplain administrator and the FEMA Mapping Information Exchange at 1-877-336-2627.

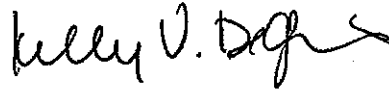
Finally, compliance with Executive Order 11988 – Floodplain Management is required for any federal monies involved in the project. The Responsible Federal Official must make a finding of no practical alternative to taking an action in a floodplain. If the floodplain areas cannot be

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avoided, E.O. 11988 calls for an eight step public mitigation review and reporting process be implemented (a summary of the process can be found here: <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/ehplaws/eo11988.shtm>). The potential for increased development and other unwise uses of the floodplains as a result of the proposed action should be carefully considered during the review process.

For questions regarding interagency permitting requirements, please contact Christopher Thoms, CFM, Program Manager for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Floodplain Management Program, at 614-265-6752. Floodplain management questions can be directed to Mr. Thoms or me at 312-408-4414.

Sincerely,



Kelly V. DeGuia, CFM  
Natural Hazards Program Specialist

cc: Christopher Thoms, CFM, ODNR Floodplain Program Manager  
Kendra Hobson, Scioto County Floodplain Coordinator