



August 9, 2011

Alan Woodmansey, P.E.  
Great Falls and Billings Districts Operations Engineer  
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)  
585 Shepard Way  
Helena MT 59602



Subject: Continued Validity of Statewide Programmatic Categorical Exclusion for Pavement Preservation Projects  
STPP 60-2(97)60  
Riceville Hill-Armington Jct.  
Control Number: 7463000

Dear Alan Woodmansey:

As the design of the subject project has progressed, revisions to the original scope of work are proposed. The revisions are to add the removal of guardrail and bituminous curb and add new guardrail and concrete curbing under the guardrail within the project limits. No guardrail was originally to be disturbed with this project. However, a slide has occurred within the project limits. A field review of the slide area indicated that damaged bituminous curb has concentrated runoff along the slope and has contributed to the surface sloughing. The new guardrail will be offset from the existing guardrail approximately one foot towards centerline and the concrete curbing will be placed under the rail.

The Montana Department of Transportation has reviewed the new information and concludes that the previously issued Statewide Programmatic Categorical Exclusion remains valid. The original Statewide Programmatic Categorical Exclusion was signed by MDT on June 7, 2011.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Eric Thunstrom at 444-7648. He will be pleased to assist you.

Sincerely,

Heidi Bruner, P.E.  
Environmental Services Bureau Engineering Section Supervisor

electronic copies:

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| Michael P. Johnson   | Great Falls District Administrator                           |
| Tom Martin, P.E.   | Environmental Services Bureau Chief                          |
| Heidi Bruner, P.E.   | Environmental Services Bureau Engineering Section Supervisor |
| Eric Thunstrom   | Environmental Services Bureau Project Development Engineer   |
| Paul Ferry, P.E.   | Highways Engineer  |
| Christie McOmber, P.E.   | Great Falls District Projects Engineer                       |
| Kevin Christensen, P.E.  | Construction Engineer  |
| Suzy Price   | Contract Plans Bureau Chief                                  |
| Dawn Stratton  | Fiscal Programming Section                                   |
| Montana Legislative Branch Environmental Quality Council (w/ PFR/SOW also) |  |
| File   | Environmental Services Bureau                                |

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