



May 16, 2013

Alan Woodmansey, P.E.
Great Falls and Billings Districts Operations Engineer
Federal Highway Administration
585 Shepard Way
Helena, MT 59601-9785

**MASTER FILE
COPY**

Subject: Continued Validity of CE Designation
NH 10-3(18)89
Box Elder-North
Control Number: 6814000

Dear Alan Woodmansey:

The Montana Department of Transportation has reviewed the subject project and concluded that the previously issued Statewide Programmatic Categorical Exclusion for Pavement Preservation Projects (CE) designation remains valid under the provisions of 23 CFR 771.129(c). The original CE was signed by the Environmental Services Bureau on July 21, 2009. The original CE analyzed the project area between Reference Post (RP) 89.5 to RP 111.148. The proposed project has changed and extends further south from RP 89.054 to RP 111.148.

Since three years has lapsed and due to the increased project limits since the CE was issued, MDT has reviewed the project for potential changes in NEPA/MEPA applicability and concludes that the proposed action will still not have a significant environmental impact, will still qualify as a CE under 23 CFR 771.117(d), and will still qualify as a CE under ARM 18.2.261.

In accordance with the Federal Highway Administration concurrence letter of April 15, 1999, this notification documents that this proposed action is still properly classified as a CE. If you have any questions, please contact Eric Thunstrom at 406-444-7648.

Sincerely,

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

electronic copies:

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|----------------------------|--|
| Dave Hand | Great Falls District Administrator |
| Steve Prinzing, P.E. | Great Falls District Preconstruction Engineer |
| Tom Martin, P.E. | Environmental Services Bureau Chief |
| Heidi Bruner, P.E. | Environmental Services Bureau Engineering Section Supervisor |
| Paul Ferry, P.E. | Highways Engineer |
| Robert Snyder, P.E. | Road Design Area Engineer |
| Robert Stapley | Right-of-Way Bureau Chief |
| Suzy Price | Contract Plans Bureau Chief |
| Tim Tilton | Contract Section Supervisor |
| Lisa Hurley | Fiscal Programming Section Supervisor |
| Tom Erving | Fiscal Programming Section |
| Montana Legislative Branch | Environmental Quality Council |
| Eric Thunstrom | Environmental Services Bureau Project Development Engineer |
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