

Transportation Pooled Fund Program Quarterly Progress Report

TPF-5(201) New England Transportation Consortium (V)

January 1 – March 31, 2011

Background: This is a transportation research program, where research projects are conducted primarily by the Land Grant Universities of the six New England states. This study was preceded by TPF-5(168), SPR-3(089), SPR-3(029), and SPR-3(009). The objective is to pool the financial, professional, and academic resources of the region and to use them to research and develop improved methods of dealing with common problems in the planning, design, construction, maintenance, rehabilitation, reconstruction, and operation of transportation systems in the participating states. The program is intended to supplement, not to replace, on-going state and federal research activities and other national programs such as the Cooperative Research Programs of the National Academies.

In 2008 the existing Lead State Coordinator (Connecticut DOT) announced they were no longer in a position to act as the lead due to state contractual issues dealing with out-of-state universities. In early 2009 in an effort to maintain the existing program the FHWA CT-Division Office offered to take over the NETC program and assume duties as the lead entity. As such the CT-Division Office initiated Project TPF-5(201).

Progress This Quarter:

- As previously reported in the last few quarters, FHWA CT-DIV Office cannot continue to be the lead of this study and has been working closely with the NETC Advisory Committee to have another organization lead this initiative. The Vermont DOT in cooperation with their FHWA VT-DIV Office has volunteered to serve as the NETC lead starting in 2011. As such, the VT DOT has initiated a new Pooled Fund Project, TPF-5 (222).
- The FHWA CT-DIV office will still assist with studies officially started by the previous NETC lead state agency (CT DOT) that for various reasons are not yet finished but for contractual reasons, could not be given time extensions by the state of Connecticut. To date the FHWA CT-DIV, working closely with contracting at FHWA HQs has initiated 7 research studies in this category; three of which have been completed as of December 31, 2010 and a forth pending completion. The funding to complete these 7 studies is presently reserved in SPR-3 (089).
- The CT-DIV Office Financial Team is presently working closely with FHWA HQs to reconcile unexpended funds in TPF-5 (201).

Products Delivered This Quarter:

- The fourth of seven research studies being led by the FHWA CT-DIV Office was finalized March 31, 2011 (NETC 05-1 Develop Base Resistance Load Displacement Curves for the Design of Drilled Shaft Rock Sockets).

Planned Activities Next Quarter:

- The FHWA CT-DIV Office Coordinator and associated duties will change to Mrs. Eloise Powell.
- The FHWA CT-DIV Office will continue to work with the NETC Advisory Group and the VT DOT in assisting them in assuming duties as the new lead coordinator.
- The FHWA CT-DIV Office will take steps necessary to reconcile and closeout TPF-5(201).