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May 21, 2015

Mr. J. Michael Bowen, P.E. Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration 6111 SW 29<sup>th</sup> Street Topeka, KS 66614

Attention Karen Gilbertson, ITS/Traffic Operations Engineer

Dear Mr. Bowen:

In support of the current pooled fund solicitation #1400, "Minimizing Cracking in Bridge Decks Supported by Precast Prestressed Concrete Girders," the Kansas DOT is requesting the waiver of the non-Federal funding match for State Planning and Research Funds for use on the proposed project. Kansas DOT will serve as the lead agency, and the approximate level of funding required to complete the research is \$750,000. The Estimated duration of the project is five years and the estimated number of partners will be 5-6 including the lead agency.

Studies of cracking in bridge decks have focused on steel girder bridges under the assumption that cracking in decks supported by steel girders will be worse than in decks supported by precast prestressed concrete girders. The objectives of the proposed five-year study are to survey reinforced concrete decks on precast prestressed concrete girder bridges to obtain an accurate evaluation of deck performance, compare their performance with the performance observed for similar steel girder bridges, and use the results to develop design procedures to minimize cracking in bridge decks supported by precast prestressed concrete girders.

If you have any questions, please call Susan Barker at 785-291-3847.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Kreider, Jr., P.E., Chief Research

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c: Rod Montney