

# 2.1 Agency Meetings Summary

**Interstate 69  
Section of Independent Utility No. 14**

Louisiana State Project No. 736-99-1032  
Arkansas State Project No. 070212  
Federal Aid Project No. CBI-9901(516)

**Agenda**

**Louisiana Agency Meeting  
Preliminary DEIS**

March 8, 2005  
LaDOTD District 04 Headquarters  
Bossier City, Louisiana

and

**Arkansas Agency Meeting  
Preliminary DEIS**

March 9, 2005  
AGFC Hall of Fame Conference Room  
Little Rock, Arkansas

1. Introductions
2. Purpose of Meeting
3. Preliminary DEIS Report Findings
4. Agency Comments and Discussion
5. Project Schedule

## SECTION 2.1: Agency Meetings Summary

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**SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS  
LOUISIANA AGENCY MEETING  
Louisiana State Project No. 736-99-1032  
Arkansas State Project No. 070212  
F.A.P. No. CBI-9901(516)  
EIS for Section of Independent Utility No.14  
Junction 1-20 near Haughton, Louisiana  
To US 82 Near El Dorado, Arkansas  
Route I-69  
Bossier, Claiborne, Webster Parishes, Louisiana  
Columbia, Union Counties, Arkansas  
March 8, 2005  
Agency Meeting, 11:00 AM  
LaDOTD District 04 Headquarters  
Bossier City, Louisiana  
March 9, 2005  
Agency Meeting, 9:00 AM  
AGFC Hall of Fame Conference Room  
Little Rock, Arkansas**

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The following is a summarization of both the Louisiana Agency Meeting and Arkansas Agency Meeting. Mr. Kent Dussom with URS Corporation opened the meetings and provided direction for meeting proceedings. Mr. Scott Hoffeld with URS Corporation conducted a presentation of the Preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

### Introductions

Attendees made self introductions and attendance is supported by attached Sign-in Sheets for each meeting.

### Purpose of Meeting

The purpose of the meetings of representatives of Resource Agencies, State Boards, LaDOTD, AHTD, FHWA, URS, and Subconsultants for the project was to: present results of the Preliminary DEIS; discuss issues concerning the Draft EIS before completion of the document and to decide how these issues should be addressed; discuss key issues concerning selection of a preferred alternative; and determine mitigation needs and conduct early coordination on these issues.

### Preliminary DEIS Report Findings

A copy of the presentation that outlined of the design and development of alternatives, the effects and issues associated with all alternatives and a summary of effects of each alternative presented in the DEIS, is located in **Section 2.2**. Copies of a *Comparative*

## SECTION 2.1: Agency Meetings Summary

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Issues information sheet and *Summary of Effects* data sheet that were distributed and discussed are included in **Section 2.3**.

### Agency Comments and Discussion

Following the presentation, attendees discussed several issues and concerns related to the alternatives with the project team staff.

Comments and issues specific to the Louisiana meeting are summarized below:

- Discussion of the impact to spring-fed streams led to the conclusion that all Alternatives possess this type of involvement; however, the number of occurrences is greater in Alternative 4 and option 3.
- Keith Cascio, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Scenic River Coordinator, considers public comments as the “tie-breaker” if preliminary evaluations determine alternatives to be comparable.
- Discussion of the impact to the recorded archaeological site within Alternative 5.1 led to the decision that the site should be avoided if possible.
- USACE will look at the “big picture” before making a comment concerning a preferred alternative.

Comments and issues specific to the Arkansas meeting are listed below:

- The potential effects that each alternative could have upon wellhead protection areas needs to be addressed.
- Importance of the crossing of Dorcheat Scenic Stream was stressed.
- The coordination for 404 permitting needs to be addressed.
- USFWS concern was for endangered species, specifically RCW, wetlands and stream quality; and mitigation plans for these effects.
- Suggestion was made that all decision-making issues be displayed on one map.

### Project Schedule

The DEIS review period began with the Notice of Availability on April 8, 2005 continued with the distribution of the DEIS in late March and public hearings in May. Agency comments on Preliminary DEIS need to be received prior to March 11, 2005 to be included in the DEIS. Agency comments received after March 11, 2005 will be considered in the selection of a Preferred Alternative and the Final EIS. Public comments will be received through May 30, 2005.