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Comments and Coordination

8.1 Advisory Task Force Meetings

At the outset of the project an Advisory Task Force (ATF) was created with the appointment by local governing boards of two people from each community. In addition, one person each from the RPC, SNHPC and NRPC served on the ATF. The ATF was established to assist the NHDOT in identifying issues and possible solutions regarding the project's purpose and need. Over time, the meetings evolved into largely public informational meetings involving ATF members, public officials and the general public, principally from the community within which the meeting was held. The dates, locations and topics of these ATF meetings were:

Meeting No.	Date/Location	Topics
1	Wednesday, March 22, 2000 Southern NH Planning Commission, Manchester	Kickoff Meeting - Role of Advisory Task Force and Scope of Project
2	Thursday, May 4, 2000 Londonderry Town Offices	Preliminary Overview of Rail Alternatives
3	Thursday, June 1, 2000 Fisk School, Salem	I-93 Engineering Concepts: Exit 1 and Exit 2
4	Thursday, June 22, 2000 Searles School, Windham	I-93 Engineering Concepts: Exit 3
5	Thursday, July 27, 2000 West Running Brook School, Derry	I-93 Engineering Concepts: Exit 4 to I-293
6	Thursday, September 14, 2000 McLaughlin Middle School, Manchester	I-93 Ridership, Rail, Bus, HOV
7	Thursday, October 12, 2000 Fisk School, Salem	HOV Ridership/Mode Options/ I-93 LOS
8	Thursday, November 9, 2000 West Running Brook School, Derry	Ridership Conclusions Reached; Exits 1-3 Design Concepts Recommendations
9	Thursday, March 29, 2001 Fisk School, Salem	Conceptual Designs-MA line through Exit 2

Meeting No.	Date/Location	Topics
10	Thursday, April 26, 2001 Windham Middle School, Windham	Conceptual Designs-Segment 2 of Phase III design (Exit 3 area)
11	Thursday, May 24, 2001 Matthew Thornton Elementary School, Londonderry	Conceptual Designs-Segment 3 of Phase III design (Exit 4 area)
12	Thursday, June 28, 2001 Londonderry	Conceptual designs-Segment 4 of Phase III design (Exit 5 area)

8.2 Resource Agency Meetings

Throughout the EIS process, a number of meetings were held with the various Federal and State resource agencies including USACOE, USEPA, USFWS, NHF&GD, NHDES, and NHDHR, to receive their guidance and feedback on issues related to the project. Following circulation of the DEIS several additional meetings were held with various resource agencies to discuss specific issues of concern. The dates, location and topics for these meetings are listed below:

Meeting No.	Date/Location	Topics
1	Wednesday, January 20, 2000 New Hampshire Department of Transportation, Concord	Project Overview
2	Wednesday, February 16, 2000 New Hampshire Department of Transportation, Concord	Project Status, Design Considerations – Exits 1 & 2
3	Wednesday, May 17, 2000 New Hampshire Department of Transportation, Concord	Review Conceptual Design Alternatives, Stateline through Exit 2
4	Wednesday, June 14, 2000 New Hampshire Department of Transportation, Concord	Review Conceptual Design Alternatives; Exit 2 through Exit 3 w/Park & Ride Lots
5	Wednesday, July 19, 2000 New Hampshire Department of Transportation, Concord	Review Conceptual Design Alternatives, Exit 4 to I-293
6	Wednesday, August 16, 2000 New Hampshire Department of Transportation, Concord	Ridership Options and Projections; Rail, Bus, HOV

Meeting No.	Date/Location	Topics
7	Wednesday, September 20, 2000 West Running Brook Middle School, Derry	Mode Options/Ridership Effects on I-93 Level of Service; South of Exit 4
8	Wednesday, October 18, 2000 West Running Brook School, Derry	General Conclusions Regarding Alternate Modes of Transportation
9	Wednesday, January 17, 2001 New Hampshire Department of Transportation, Concord	Presented ridership study results and conclusions and design concept plans prepared for Rationale Report
10	Wednesday, February 14, 2001 New Hampshire Department of Transportation, Concord	Discussed Rationale Report, Traffic LOS
11	Thursday, March 15, 2001 Windham	Field review of Castle Reach mitigation site
12	Wednesday, March 21, 2001 West Running Brook Middle School, Derry	Presented detailed design-MA line through Exit 2
13	Tuesday, April 10, 2001 Windham	Field review of Castle Reach mitigation site
14	Wednesday, April 18, 2001 West Running Brook Middle School, Derry	Presented detailed design-Segment 2 of Phase III design (Exit 3 area)
15	Wednesday, May 16, 2001 West Running Brook Middle School, Derry	Presented detailed design-Segment 3 of Phase III design (Exit 4 area)
16	Wednesday, June 20, 2001 West Running Brook Middle School, Derry	Presented detailed design-Segment 4 of Phase III design (Exit 5 area)
17	Wednesday, August 15, 2001 West Running Brook Middle School, Derry	Discussed Exits 1, 2, & 4
18	Thursday, September 19, 2001 West Running Brook Middle School, Derry	Exit 3 and 5 overview
19	Wednesday, October 17, 2001 West Running Brook Middle School, Derry	Discussed corridor resource impacts
20	Wednesday, November 21, 2001 NHDOT Design Conference Room	Discussed environmental matrix, wetlands quality, preferred alternative
21	Tuesday, January 8, 2002 I-93 Corridor	Field review of mitigation sites in Londonderry and Manchester
22	Wednesday, January 16, 2002 NHDOT Design Conference Room	Reported on the status of the wetland mitigation search process

Meeting No.	Date/Location	Topics
23	Monday, January 28, 2002 I-93 Corridor	Field review of mitigation sites in Salem, Windham and Derry
24	Wednesday, February 20, 2002 Londonderry, I-93 Corridor	Field review advanced mitigation sites (L8, L8 Ext., and L12) in Londonderry
25	Wednesday, February 20, 2002 Fisk School, Salem	Meeting with public to discuss wetland mitigation proposals
26	Thursday, July 18, 2002 I-93 Corridor	Field review of wetlands
27	Tuesday, December 3, 2002, VHB Bedford, NH Office	New England cottontail issue with USFWS and UNH
28	Thursday, December 5, 2002, NHDOT Bldg., Concord	Highway salt issues with EPA, plan 2002/3 collaborative winter sampling
29	Thursday, January 9, 2003, NHDOT Bldg., Concord	Cultural Resource Agency Meeting re: Prowse Bridge Determination
30	Tuesday, April 29, 2003, NHDOT Bldg.	Technical Assistance Program Organizational Meeting with NHOSP, NHDES, RPC's
31	Wednesday, May 21, 2003, NHDOT Bldg.	Technical Assistance Program Organizational Meeting with NHOSP, NHDES, RPC's
32	Wednesday, June 18, 2003, NHDOT Bldg.	Highway salt issue with USEPA, USGS, and NHDES
33	Wednesday, June 18, 2003, NHDOT Bldg., Concord	Technical Assistance Program outline with Resource Agencies including ACOE, NHDES, NHF&G, USFWS
34	Friday, June 20, 2003, NHDOT Bldg., Concord	Joint State Agency Memo
35	Thursday, June 26, 2003, NHDOT Bldg., Concord	Technical Assistance Program concepts with conservation work group (includes NHDES, USEPA, NHDF&G, SPNHF, NH Audubon, NH Lakes Assoc., NH Charitable Foundation, NH Sierra Club, UNH Cooperative Extension, CLF, Jordon Institute, NH Public Interest Research Group)
37	Thursday July 31, 2003, EPA Lab, Chelmsford, MA	Highway salt issue with EPA, USACOE, USFWS, NHDF&G, and NHDES

Meeting No.	Date/Location	Topics
38	Wednesday, August 6, 2003, NHDF&G Department Building	Hognose snake issue with NHF&G Nongame Office
39	Wednesday August 6, 2003, Audubon Headquarters, Concord, NH	Highway salt issue with EPA, USFWS, NH Audubon and CLF
40	Thursday, August 14, 2003, NHDES Bldg, Concord	Technical Assistance Program concepts with conservation work group
41	Wednesday, September 3, 2003, NHDOT Bldg., Concord	Technical Assistance Program Organizational Meeting with NHOSP, NHDES, RPC's
42	Thursday, September 11, 2003, NHDOT Bldg., Concord	Cultural Resource Agency meeting re: Prowse Bridge avoidance alternatives
43	Tuesday, September 30, 2002, NHDOT Bldg., Concord	Highway salt, water quality issue with NHDES, USEPA
44	Wednesday, October 1, 2003, NHDOT Bldg., Concord	Prowse Bridge Mitigation with DHR
45	Friday, October 3, 2003, NHDOT Bldg., Concord	Meet with NHDES I-93 project team, coordination on issues
46	Thursday, October 9, 2003, NHDOT Bldg, Concord	Water Quality awareness education, coordination with NPDES II with NHDES, USEPA
47	Wednesday, October 15, 2003, NHDOT Bldg., Concord	Discuss project mitigation with Natural Resource Agencies including ACOE, NHDES, NHF&G, USFWS
48	Thursday, October 16, 2003, NHDOT Bldg., Concord	Technical Assistance Program Organizational Meeting with NHOSP, NHDES, RPC's; Technical Assistance Program organization and public outreach
49	Wednesday, November 12, 2003, NHDOT Bldg., Concord	Highway salt/water quality, planning collaborative 2003/4 winter sampling
50	Tuesday, November 18, 2003, NHDES Bldg., Concord	Technical Assistance Program organizational structure with conservation workgroup
51	Wednesday, December 17, 2003, NHDOT Bldg. Concord	Discussion of project mitigation and LEDPA with Natural Resource Agencies

8.3 Local Public Officials and Public Informational Meetings

As part of the Public Participation Program, informational meetings were regularly held with officials and the general public in the five communities affected by the project. Several meetings with second tier communities were held subsequent to the Public Hearings. The dates, location, and topics were as follows:

Meeting No.	Date/Location	Topics
1	Thursday, March 9, 2000 Town Offices, Londonderry	Public Officials Meeting: Project Purpose, Issues, Range of Alternatives, Schedule
2	Tuesday, March 13, 2000 Town Offices, Windham	Public Officials Meeting: Project Purpose, Issues, Range of Alternatives, Schedule
3	Thursday, March 16, 2000 Gerrity Community Center, Derry	Public Officials Meeting: Project Purpose, Issues, Range of Alternatives, Schedule
4	Wednesday, March 29, 2000 McLaughlin Middle School, Manchester	Public Officials Meeting: Project Purpose, Issues, Range of Alternatives, Schedule
5	Thursday, March 30, 2000 Town Offices, Salem	Public Officials Meeting: Project Purpose, Issues, Range of Alternatives, Schedule
6	Tuesday, November 28, 2000 McLaughlin Middle School, Manchester	Public Officials Meeting: Project Status, Ridership Study Conclusions, Alternatives to be carried forward, Schedule
7	Wednesday, November 29, 2000 Londonderry High School, Londonderry	Public Officials Meeting: Project Status, Ridership Study Conclusions, Alternatives to be carried forward, Schedule
8	Thursday, November 30, 2000 Windham Middle School, Windham	Public Officials Meeting: Project Status, Ridership Study Conclusions, Alternatives to be carried forward, Schedule
9	Thursday, December 7, 2000 West Running Brook Middle School, Derry	Public Informational Meeting: Presented ridership study results and conclusions and design concept plans prepared for Rationale Report.

Meeting No.	Date/Location	Topics
10	Wednesday, December 13, 2000 Fisk School, Salem	Public Informational Meeting: Presented ridership study results and conclusions and design concept plans prepared for Rational Report.
11	Monday, July 30, 2001 Salem High School, Salem	Public Informational Meeting: Salem-Exit 1 and 2
12	Tuesday, August 7, 2001 Windham Town Hall, Windham	Public Informational Meeting: Exit 3 revised concepts
13	Thursday, August 16, 2001 West Running Brook Middle School, Derry	Public Informational Meeting: Discuss area from Windham/Derry Town line through Exit 4 to Stonehenge Rd.
14	Tuesday, August 28, 2001 Windham Town Hall, Windham	Public Informational Meeting: Discuss area from Salem/Windham Town line to Windham/Derry Town line
15	Thursday, August 30, 2001 Londonderry High School	Public Informational Meeting: Discuss area from Derry/Londonderry Town line to Londonderry/Manchester Town line
16	Thursday, September 6, 2001 McLaughlin Middle School, Manchester	Public Informational Meeting: Discuss area from Exit 5 to Londonderry/Manchester Town line
17	Thursday, November 15, 2001 Salem High School Cafeteria	Public Informational Meeting: Identified the Department's preferred alternative through Salem
18	Monday, November 19, 2001 West Running Brook Middle School, Derry	Public Informational Meeting: Identified the Department's preferred alternative through Derry
19	Tuesday, November 20, 2001 Windham Middle School	Public Informational Meeting: Identified the Department's preferred alternative through Windham
20	Tuesday, November 27, 2001 Londonderry High School Cafeteria	Public Informational Meeting: Identified the Department's preferred alternative through Londonderry
21	Wednesday, November 28, 2001 McLaughlin Middle School, Manchester	Public Informational Meeting: Identified the Department's preferred alternative through Manchester
22	Tuesday, June 25, 2002 McLaughlin Middle School, Manchester	Public Informational Meeting: Overview of Preferred Alternative through Manchester

Meeting No.	Date/Location	Topics
23	Thursday, June 27, 2002 Salem High School	Public Informational Meeting: Overview of Preferred Alternative through Salem
24	Monday July 1, 2002 Windham Center School	Public Informational Meeting: Overview of Preferred Alternative through Windham
25	Tuesday, July 9, 2002 Londonderry Middle School	Public Informational Meeting: Overview of Preferred Alternative through Londonderry
26	Wednesday, July 10, 2002 West Running Brook Middle School, Derry	Public Informational Meeting: Overview of Preferred Alternative through Derry
27	Wednesday, September 25, 2002 Town Offices, Windham	Windham Planning Board, Conservation Committee Meeting: design issues/planning at Exit 3
28	Tuesday, October 22, 2002 Chester Multi Purpose Room	Public Information Meeting: Secondary Impact
29	Wednesday, October 23, 2002, Town Office, Salem	Salem Conservation Commission Meeting: Mitigation
30	Monday, November 4, 2002 Concord Rundlett Middle School	Public Information Meeting: Secondary Impacts
31	Thursday, November 21, 2002 Auburn Village School Cafeteria	Public Information Meeting: Secondary Impacts
32	Tuesday, November 26, 2002 Milford Town Hall Auditorium	Public Information Meeting: Secondary Impacts
33	Tuesday, November 26, 2002, Town Offices, Windham	Windham Officials Meeting: Mitigation
34	Wednesday, December 11, 2002 Goffstown High School Auditorium	Public Information Meeting: Secondary Impacts
35	Thursday, January 30, 2003 Candia Town Offices	Public Information Meeting: Secondary Impacts
36	Monday, May 5, 2003, Town Hall, Windham	Windham Selectmen's Meeting; Exit 3 design configuration
37	Monday, May 12, 2003, Town Offices, Salem	Salem Selectmen's Meeting: Water Quality issues at Canobie Lake

Meeting No.	Date/Location	Topics
38	Monday, May 19, 2003, Town Offices, Londonderry	Londonderry Town Council Meeting; Mitigation
39	Tuesday, June 18, 2003, McLaughlin Middle School, Manchester	Regional Smart Growth Meeting; Technical Assistance Program
40	Thursday, June 26, 2003, Community Resource Room, Concord	Regional Smart Growth Meeting; Technical Assistance Program
41	Friday, August 8, 2003, NHDOT Offices, Concord	Windham Conservation Commission, Town Manager; Mitigation
42	Wednesday, September 24, 2003, Town Offices, Londonderry	Londonderry Conservation Commission meeting; Mitigation
43	Thursday, October 23, 2003, Town Offices, Windham	Windham Conservation Commission Meeting; Mitigation

8.4 Public Hearing

After circulation of the DEIS, a formal Public Hearing was held over two evenings on November 12 and November 14, 2003, at the Salem High School and at the McLaughlin Middle School in Manchester, respectively. The Public Hearing was held jointly with the USACOE and NHDES. Comments on the preferred project alternative, DEIS and related issues were received at the Hearing. A summary of the Hearing comments are contained in Volume 3 of the FEIS and in more detail in the Commissioner's Report included in Appendix I.

8.5 Comments on the DEIS

Written comments on the DEIS were received for a 90-day period following distribution of the document. These comments were received from Federal and State agencies, local officials, regional planning agencies and organizations, private organizations and citizens. All of these comments and the official response to each of them are provided in a separate Volume 3 of this FEIS.