



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CHICAGO DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
111 NORTH CANAL STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60606-7206

RECEIVED
NOV - 4 2010
ILLINOIS
DIVISION

October 25, 2010

Technical Services Division
Regulatory Branch
LRC-2010-00518

SUBJECT: NEPA/404 Merger Process Response to the Request for Concurrence for the Alternatives to be Carried Forward for the Illinois Route 131 Project from Russell Road to Sunset Avenue, Lake County, Illinois

Matthew Fuller
Federal Highway Administration
3250 Executive Park Drive
Springfield, Illinois 62703

Dear Mr. Fuller:

This letter is in response to your request that the Department of the Army (Corps) review the Illinois Route 131 Project from Russell Road to Sunset Avenue and provide concurrence with the Alternatives to be Carried Forward for the project. This letter supersedes the previous letter dated October 6, 2010 which erroneously identified the Illinois Route 131 project as project LRC-2010-267.

Various Federal and state agencies are providing a concurrent review of the project under the terms and conditions as set forth in the "Statewide Implementation Agreement National Environmental Policy Act And Clean Water Act Section 404 Concurrent NEPA/404 Processes For Transportation Projects in Illinois".

The Corps previously issued its concurrence for Purpose & Need on June 11, 2010. Following a thorough review of the project documents, this office has determined that it **cannot concur** with the Alternatives to be Carried Forward for the proposed project due to the following:

- a. The Alternatives to be Carried Forward are not reasonable and/or practicable. Please provide an alternative with open swale and a shared-use path. We do not feel that it is a viable option to propose the shoulder for bicycle use along this roadway;
- b. Please provide any available wetland information for the project area;

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Soren Hall of the Regulatory Branch by telephone at (312) 846-5531 or by email at Soren.G.Hall@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathy G. Chernich". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small mark above the final letter.

Kathy G. Chernich
Chief East Section
Regulatory Branch

Copy Furnished:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Norm West)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Shawn Cirton)
U.S. Department of Natural Resources (Steve Hammer)