



Illinois Department of Transportation

2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois/62764

May 12, 1992

Posting & Closure of Local Agency Bridges

COUNTY ENGINEERS/SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS
MAYORS
MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS

#92-10

The proper posting/closure of local agency bridges is a continuing concern. The department has monitored compliance for several years and has regularly notified the responsible local agency to correct deficiencies. As you are aware, the dynamic nature of the problem makes compliance very difficult to maintain.

Current information in the Illinois Structure Inventory System (ISIS) indicates there are 2584 bridges that require posting or closure. Of these, 146 are not properly marked for posting/closure. These structures are the responsibility of the agency whose road directs traffic over them. However, the department also has some responsibility. The Illinois Vehicle Code (Chapter 95 1/2, Section 15-317) states in part that the department shall cause or permit suitable signs be erected and maintained stating the maximum weight limit at a structure that cannot carry a legal load. Because of this department responsibility, a new procedure will take effect immediately to help ensure that all bridges are properly posted or closed.

The department will annually inspect for compliance all structures listed in the ISIS to be posted or closed. Findings of non-compliance will be brought to the attention of the local agency. We expect that most of these cases will be resolved in response to these notifications. However, when satisfactory progress is not made, the department will take the action necessary to bring the location into compliance. The local agency having jurisdiction of the roadway will be billed for the department's expenses.

If you have any questions or need clarification, please contact your District Engineer of Local Roads and Streets.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Sunley".

William T. Sunley, P.E.
Engineer of Local
Roads and Streets