

Technical Memorandum Update

Appendix 8

Coastal Zone Consistency

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On November 30, 2010, the project sponsor requested a project determination from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) for the Section B corridor. Based on a review of the 5-mile transit corridor project completed by VDEQ in 2006, the agency responded that The Commonwealth's response to the 2006 federal consistency certification remains valid, provided there are no significant changes to the scope or alignment of Section B." Email correspondence with VDEQ is provided as Attachment 1.

Attachments:

Attachment 1: VDEQ Project Determination: Concurrence e-mail from VDEQ dated 11/30/2010.

Hachey, Alan

From: Fisher, John (DEQ) [John.Fisher@deq.virginia.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2010 3:36 PM
To: Hachey, Alan
Cc: Anderson, Susan; Irons, Ellie (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Crystal City/Potomac Yard Transit Improvement Project (Alexandria, VA)

Mr. Hachey:

The Commonwealth's response to the 2006 federal consistency certification remains valid, provided there are no significant changes to the scope or alignment of Section B that would result in impacts to any of the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program not described in 2006. If significant changes are proposed, please submit additional information to Ms. Ellie Irons, the federal consistency point-of-contact in Virginia, for a determination of whether further review is required.

Thank you for your inquiry.

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From: Hachey, Alan [<mailto:Alan.Hachey@aecom.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2010 1:16 PM
To: Fisher, John (DEQ)
Cc: Anderson, Susan
Subject: Crystal City/Potomac Yard Transit Improvement Project (Alexandria, VA)

Hello Mr. Fisher:

I work as a transportation planning consultant for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) in Arlington. I am writing to inquire about the duration of the validity of the attached Federal Consistency Certification review document for a project previously reviewed by VDEQ. VDEQ completed a review of the Documented Categorical Exclusion in November 2006 for the proposed 5-mile alignment of the Crystal City/Potomac Yard transit corridor between Arlington and Alexandria, VA.

The proposed transitway would connect Crystal City in Arlington and the Braddock Road Metro Station in Alexandria. Attached is a map of the project alignment and the project website is located here:

<http://www.ccpytransit.com/index.htm>

We are specifically analyzing Section B (referred to as Segment B on the Map) of the alignment over the next few months. The NEPA analysis for Sections D and E of the transit alignment in Arlington was approved by the FTA in April 2007. The VDEQ coordinated review was helpful to determine regulatory efforts, e.g. Section 106 and project consistency with the Coastal Zone Management Act.

Since the time of the VDEQ review, the City of Alexandria has secured TIGER grant funding for Section B which is now included in the region's TIP and has been modeled for air quality conformity.

The project team expects only an incremental update to the NEPA analysis as your department previously reviewed the NEPA study which included Section B. Our goal is to complete a Documented Categorical Exclusion for Section B of the alignment within the next two months. We do need to confirm that VDEQ's previous findings are still valid, or alternatively how long it would take for a new project review. Thank you in advance for your assistance and please contact me if you have any questions.

Alan Hachey



Alan S. Hachey, AICP

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