



MEMO  
March 29, 2017

**To:** Heather Ashley Nguyen, P.E.  
RMA Liaison

**From:** Jon Geiselbrecht  
Environmental Section

**Subject:** CSJ 0014-02-104  
US 290 Direct Connectors @ SH 130  
Travis County

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On March 29, 2017, the above-referenced project was approved as a (c)-list Categorical Exclusions (CE) (22) by the Austin District Environmental Section. Attached is the CE Determination Form. Environmental permits, issues, and commitments (EPICs) associated with this project have been uploaded to ECOS and are to be included in the project plan set.

*Construction General Permit TXR150000*

Soil disturbance activities are greater than five (5) acres. The project shall comply with the construction general permit, a stormwater pollution prevention plan (SW3P) shall be developed and available on-site during construction, a construction site notice shall be posted, and a notice of intent (NOI) shall be filed with TCEQ.

*Migratory Bird Treaty Act*

The contractor's attention is directed to the fact that there is the possibility that migratory birds may be nesting in any woody vegetation or existing structures within the project limits. Contractors will not disturb, destroy, or remove active nests, including ground nesting birds, during the nesting season. The contractor shall remove all woody vegetation, and old migratory bird nests from any structures, between September 1 and January 31 while any nests are not occupied by a bird. In addition, the contractor must be prepared to prevent migratory birds from re-nesting on any structures between February 1 and August 31. Contractors will not collect, capture, relocate, or transport birds, eggs, young, or active nests without a permit. All methods must be approved by the Austin District Biologist well in advance of planned use.

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Receipt of this correspondence completes the environmental phase of project development. In addition, receipt of this correspondence indicates that the above-referenced date may be input as the actual date ending the NEPA Clearance and Receive Environmental Clearance milestone in P6.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 512-832-7218.

cc (electronically): Walter Barfield, P. E.  
Angela Gil  
Shirley Nichols  
Dwayne Halbardier, P.E.  
Elizabeth Ortego, P.E.  
Justin Word, P.E.  
Oscar Solis, P.E.  
Mike Sexton, P.E.  
Greg Blake, P.E.  
Ryan Hill  
Wayne Robertson

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**CE Determination**

Highway:

Main CSJ:

Project Limits From:

Project Limits To:

Select the CE list for the Main CSJ:

Criterion:

Are there any associated CSJs with the Main CSJ?

**Proposed CE Determination (This section is to be signed by a TxDOT staff member on behalf of the department delegate.)**

By my signature below, I confirm I have reviewed the project file and determined that

The project does not involve unusual circumstances leading to significant environmental impacts, including:

- Significant impacts to planned growth or land use for the area,
- Significant impacts on any natural, cultural, recreational, or other resource,
- Significant air, noise, or water quality impacts,
- Significant impacts on travel patterns,
- Other impacts that, individually or cumulatively, have significant environmental impacts.

The project does not involve substantial controversy on environmental grounds.

The project will not have a significant impact on properties protected by Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act or Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

The project does not involve any inconsistencies with any federal, state, or local law, requirement, or administrative determination relating to the environmental aspects of the action.

**Final CE Determination (The person with approval authority for the project completes this section.)**

Select the correct determination below:

**No portion of the proposed facility will be constructed outside of pre-existing ROW and permanent easements previously disturbed or maintained for a transportation purpose for any (c)(22) CSJ listed on this CE determination.**

**Determination of Categorical Exclusion for a Project Assigned to TxDOT by FHWA**

The State has determined that this project has no significant impact(s) on the environment and that there are no unusual circumstances as described in 23 CFR 771.117(b). As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement under the National Environmental Policy Act. The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

**Reviewer**

Reviewed By:

Title:

Signature:

Date:

**Approver**

Approved By:

Title:

Signature:

Date:

Last Updated By: Jon Geiselbrecht      Last Updated Date: 03/29/2017 08:37:05