

Welcome to the Public Meeting for the proposed improvements to SH51 from Tahlequah east through Stilwell, OK to the State Line

June 13, 2006

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) is proposing improvements to SH 51 from Tahlequah east through Stilwell, OK to the State Line. This will include a new alignment in the Eldon Hill Area & the Intersection of US 62. Also included will be the replacement of the Barren Fork Creek Bridge.

Project Summary

NEED FOR PROJECT

- Barren Fork Creek Bridge is structurally deficient, functionally obsolete, and in need of replacement
- Horizontal and vertical corrections are necessary in Eldon Hill Area for safety reasons

PROPOSED PROJECT SCOPE

- Replace Barren Fork Creek Bridge
- Construct new alignment in Eldon Hill Area and at the intersection of US62
- Clear corridor for possible widening

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND ANALYSES

- A letter soliciting comments related to anticipated social, economic, and environmental effects was sent out to local cities, county and state, and federal agencies, organizations, and individuals
- Proposal consistent with local, state, and federal planning for the area
- Stakeholder meeting held to receive input
- Preliminary site visit conducted with Department personnel and all field survey specialists
- Issues currently under evaluation:
 - Cultural resources (archaeological, historical)
 - Biological resources (wetlands, threatened/endangered species habitat)
 - Hazardous wastes sites/underground storage tanks
 - Noise impacts
 - Air quality, water quality, construction, economic, social, farmland, and land use impacts
 - Section 4(f) impacts (park and recreational land)
 - Right of way and relocation impacts

DATES

2007	Approval of final environmental document by ODOT and FHWA
2008	Right-of-way plans, right-of-way acquisition, and utility relocations
2009	Begin construction (construction period—18-24 months) Every effort will be made to keep roadways open during construction

Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome Craig Moody, ODOT
2. Design Update..... Helene Murdock, Poe & Associates
3. Environmental Clearance Update..... Derek Blackshare, Cinnabar Environmental Services
4. Question and Answer SessionPoe, Cinnabar, and ODOT
5. Adjournment to Information and Small Groups.....Poe, Cinnabar, and ODOT

Representatives from Poe, Cinnabar, and ODOT will be available following the meeting to discuss the project further.

How to Submit Written Comments:

You may formally submit comments or concerns about this project in one of the three ways described below:

1. Written comments sheets are provided for your convenience and may be submitted at the sign-in table.
2. Written comments may be emailed to tracysimpson@cinnabar.cc
3. Written comments may be mailed to Tracy Simpson; Cinnabar Environmental Services; 5121 S. Wheeling Ave.; Tulsa, OK 74105

WRITTEN COMMENTS WILL BE RECEIVED UNTIL JUNE 23, 2006

