

From: [LEW, DENNIS \(CTR\)](#)
To: [Poole, Andrea](#)
Cc: [David Johnson](#); [DOIRON, LYNN](#); [BROWN, MICHELLE L](#)
Subject: [External] RE: BPAM NEPA Mailbox / Puerto Verde Global Trade Bridge Project (Docket No. FD 36652) - Surface Transportation Board Request for Comment
Date: Monday, January 22, 2024 10:09:49 AM
Attachments: [image006.png](#)
[image011.png](#)
[image012.png](#)
[image013.png](#)
[image014.png](#)
[image015.png](#)
[image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

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Andrea,

The Field Operations Facilities Program Management Office (FOF PMO) has traditionally provided feedback for Presidential Permit applications. At the moment, however, they are severely short staffed, and I have been asked to provide assistance. A recent reorganization has landed all the CBP environmental planning staff, including what was formerly FOF Environmental, under the umbrella organization of the Energy and Environmental PMO (EE PMO) within the Enterprise Services (ES) organization of the Office of Facilities and Assets Management (OFAM). Part of the reason for the new organizational structure was to be able to have the flexibility to be provide additional support where needed across the traditional organizational “stovepipes.”

I had formerly been supporting FOF Environmental and have reviewed Presidential Permit applications as part of that support.

Let me know if you have any additional questions.

Thanks,

Dennis

Dennis J. Lew, REM (CTR)
Environmental Specialist | Environmental Section
Office of Facilities and Asset Management
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Cell: (202) 302-3302
dennis.lew@cbp.dhs.gov



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From: Poole, Andrea <andrea.poole@stb.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 8:12 AM
To: LEW, DENNIS (CTR) <dennis.lew@cbp.dhs.gov>
Cc: David Johnson <dcjohnson@vhb.com>
Subject: FW: BPAM NEPA Mailbox / Puerto Verde Global Trade Bridge Project (Docket No. FD 36652)
- Surface Transportation Board Request for Comment

Good Morning, Dennis,

I just wanted to check that you intended to provide my letter back to me in your response and not attach a letter from OFO. Can you confirm that CBP OFO office will be a cooperating agency for this analysis?

Many thanks, Andrea

Andrea
New Mobile Number: 202-934-3330

From: LEW, DENNIS (CTR) <dennis.lew@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2024 1:13 PM
To: Poole, Andrea <andrea.poole@stb.gov>
Cc: DOIRON, LYNN <lynn.doiron@cbp.dhs.gov>
Subject: FW: BPAM NEPA Mailbox / Puerto Verde Global Trade Bridge Project (Docket No. FD 36652)
- Surface Transportation Board Request for Comment

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Ms. Poole,

Please forgive the tardiness of this response.

CBP has reviewed this project and believe that the scope of the undertaking requires the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under NEPA for the construction, operation, maintenance, and repair of the facilities. The size and complexity of the project, especially involving dual crossings of the Rio Grande have the potential for significant environmental impacts.

This project would affect CBP operations by requiring additional Land Ports of Entry (LPOEs) and inspection facilities for both commercial vehicles and the rail crossing. The Office of Field Operations (OFO) and the Field Operations Facilities Program Management Office (FOF PMO) has developed design standards for such facilities that would need to be met. The additional structures across the Rio Grande could be potential pathways for illegal crossings, so the US Border Patrol would provide border security recommendations.

Please keep us informed about the progress of this project.

Dennis

Dennis J. Lew, REM (CTR)

Environmental Specialist | Environmental Section

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From: PETRILLA, JOHN <JOHN.P.PETRILLA@cbp.dhs.gov>

Sent: Monday, December 18, 2023 6:08 PM

To: DOIRON, LYNN <lynn.doiron@cbp.dhs.gov>; BROWN, MICHELLE L <michelle.l.brown@cbp.dhs.gov>

Cc: SMITH, TIMOTHY <timothy.smith@cbp.dhs.gov>; LEW, DENNIS (CTR) <dennis.lew@cbp.dhs.gov>; DEYOUNG, DONNA J. (CTR) <donna.j.deyoung@cbp.dhs.gov>; BRIGHT, RACHAEL S (CTR) <rachael.s.bright@associates.cbp.dhs.gov>

Subject: FW: BPAM NEPA Mailbox / Puerto Verde Global Trade Bridge Project (Docket No. FD 36652) - Surface Transportation Board Request for Comment

Hi Lynn and Michelle,

Please see below and attached from the Surface Transportation Board. In similar situations in the past, we have provided these requests to the affected Border Patrol sector/station leadership for their awareness and response. And then if it were determined that there was a CBP "action" involved, my team would handle the environmental review. But I think this project likely falls under OFO's purview. How would you like to handle this?

Regards,
John

From: BPAM NEPA <bpamnepa@cbp.dhs.gov>

Sent: Monday, December 18, 2023 9:36 AM

To: PETRILLA, JOHN <JOHN.P.PETRILLA@cbp.dhs.gov>; DEYOUNG, DONNA J. (CTR) <donna.j.deyoung@cbp.dhs.gov>

Subject: BPAM NEPA Mailbox / Puerto Verde Global Trade Bridge Project (Docket No. FD 36652) - Surface Transportation Board Request for Comment

Hi John and Donna,

Please see attached and the below email.

Regards,

[Rachael S. Bright](#)

From: Poole, Andrea <andrea.poole@stb.gov>

Sent: Monday, December 18, 2023 9:00 AM

To: BPAM NEPA <bpamnepa@cbp.dhs.gov>

Subject: FW: Puerto Verde Global Trade Bridge Project (Docket No. FD 36652) - Surface Transportation Board Request for Comment

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Mr. Petrilla,

I have identified U.S. Customs and Border Protection as a potential cooperating agency in the Surface Transportation Board (STB) environmental review for the subject project. The project includes the construction and operation of inspection facilities in Eagle Pass, Texas. The applicant submitted a Presidential Permit application in October 2023 that identifies the facilities would be operated by your agency. The STB has limited authorization related to the economic regulation of freight rail, and therefore our environmental reviews are somewhat streamlined by nature. I would like to talk with you in more detail about the project and your needs related to NEPA. Please reach out to set up a convenient time for a Teams meeting, or you can just give me a call.

Andrea E. Poole, PMP

Surface Transportation Board, Office of Environmental Analysis

New Mobile Number: 202-934-3330

From: David Johnson <dcjohnson@vhb.com>

Sent: Thursday, December 7, 2023 12:43 PM

To: bpamnepa@cbp.dhs.gov

Cc: Ian Leidner <ileidner@vhb.com>; Poole, Andrea <andrea.poole@stb.gov>

Subject: Puerto Verde Global Trade Bridge Project (Docket No. FD 36652) - Surface Transportation Board Request for Comment

Dear John Petrilla,

On behalf of the Surface Transportation Board's (Board) Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA), VHB (OEA's third party contractor) is sending a letter (attached) to inform you of a proposed international transportation corridor project between Eagle Pass, Texas, and Piedras

Negras, Mexico. Green Eagle Railroad/Puerto Verde Holdings is the project proponent. OEA is currently gathering information about the proposed project and is requesting your input to assist them in determining the appropriate scope and level of the environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act, related environmental laws, and the Board's environmental rules. We look forward to hearing from you!

Thanks,

David Johnson



David Johnson
Senior Environmental Scientist



P 202.739.9524
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Suite 1125

Washington DC 20001

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