From: Ken Lassman
To: Marx, Joshua A NWK;
Subject: Edgerton (Gardner) Kansas Intermodal Hub comment
Date: Saturday, August 08, 2009 5:14:31 PM

August 8, 2009
emailed to: joshua.a.marx@usace.army.mil

Dear Sir,
I live south of Lawrence, north of Highway 56 and east of Highway 59, so you may be asking why I am concerned about the impact of the proposed BNSF intermodal hub, located to my southeast. May I list my reasons below:

1) I am very concerned that the existing environmental assessment has taken too narrow of a scope of study and not taken into consideration the much larger impact that this project will have on the region. Specifically, I am very concerned about the overflow truck traffic that will not be restricted to I-35 and not only will impact the number of trucks on Highway 56, but also on Highway 59 and what happens to that traffic once it hits the K10 bypass around Lawrence, which is tied up in potential litigation on the eastbound leg, and is not funded for more than one lane of westbound traffic to I-70.

2) I am very concerned not only on the impact on the pollution attainment status of metropolitan Kansas City; Douglas County, Kansas has managed to keep itself out of the metro KC air equation, and I strongly feel that on congested days, the collateral truck traffic that will leave I-35 from points south or from the hub will come up highway 59 and negatively impact the air quality of Douglas County to the point that it will no longer be exempt from the greater metropolitan complex. Once again, this requires a larger scope than was provided by the EA that was done.

3) I am also concerned that a myriad of issues surrounding urban sprawl that will be triggered by this hub has been downplayed. The Midwest Governor's compact that has set goals of 20 percent reduction of greenhouse gases by 2020 and 80% reduction by 2050 using 2005 emission volumes has not been addressed in any significant way by the existing EA, and it seems that there has been no consideration of these goals in the creation of this hub.

Considering that the hub is the potential recipient of a large number of federal stimulus dollars, and considering the strong commitment that the federal government has made to reduce greenhouse gases while stimulating the economy, it is patently clear that the current permit needs to be re-evaluated with a full Environmental Impact Statement and Health Risk Assessment. Other hubs have triggered such studies and this hub in these times cries out for a

similar level of study that considers and addresses these and many, many other issues.

Thank you,

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