**Transportation Pooled Fund Program**

**Quarterly Progress Report**

**TPF-5(201) New England Transportation Consortium (V)**

**July 1 – September 30, 2011**

**Background:** This is a transportation research program, where research projects are conducted primarily by the Land Grant Universities of the six New England states. This study was preceded by TPF-5(168), SPR-3(089), SPR-3(029), and SPR-3(009). The objective is to pool the financial, professional, and academic resources of the region and to use them to research and develop improved methods of dealing with common problems in the planning, design, construction, maintenance, rehabilitation, reconstruction, and operation of transportation systems in the participating states. The program is intended to supplement, not to replace, on-going state and federal research activities and other national programs such as the Cooperative Research Programs of the National Academies.

In 2008 the existing Lead State Coordinator (Connecticut DOT) announced they were no longer in a position to act as the lead due to state contractual issues dealing with out-of-state universities. In early 2009 in an effort to maintain the existing program the FHWA CT-Division Office offered to take over the NETC program and assume duties as the lead entity. As such the CT-Division Office initiated Project TPF-5(201).

**Progress This Quarter:**

• Received and reviewed the 4th Quarter Report for NETC Project 06-1, New England Verification of NCHRP 1-37A Mechanistic-Empirical Pavement Design Guide with Level 2&3 Inputs.

 • Received and reviewed the 4th Quarter Report for NETC Project 03-6, Fix it First: Utilizing the Seismic Property Analyzer and MMLS to Develop Guidelines for the Use of Polymer Modified Thin Lift HMA vs. Surface Treatments.

 • ReceivedFinal Report forNETC Project No. 02-6 (Phase 2), Sealing Of Small Movement Bridge Expansion Joints – Phase 2: Field Demonstration And Monitoring – currently under review.

 • As of September 30, 2011, the final 3 out of 7 projects still under FHWA Agreements, NETC Projects 03-6 (UMass), 05-5 (URI) and 06-1 (UNH), have been completed and have draft Final Reports at various stages of development for NETC Committee and FHWA-CT review and approval.

• Reviewed Final Invoice for NETC 05-1, and made recommendation for payment to HQ Contracting Officer.

 • Received e-mail from Project Manager for NETC Project 05-5, Measurement of Adhesion Properties between Topcoat Paint and Metalized /Galvanized Steel with Surface Energy Measurement Equipment, stating a draft final report is in progress.

• Worked with our CT Finance Unit and FHWA HQ to try and resolve the co-mingled funds issues with TPF-5(201), the USGS Study and SPR 3(089).

• The FHWA CT-DIV office will still assist with studies officially started by the previous NETC lead state agency (CT DOT) that for various reasons are not yet finished but for contractual reasons, could not be given time extensions by the state of Connecticut. To date the FHWA CT-DIV, working closely with contracting at FHWA HQs has initiated 7 research studies in this category. The funding to complete these 7 studies is presently reserved in SPR-3 (089).

**Products Delivered This Quarter:**

• Reviewed several Progress and Final Vouchers and recommended approval for payment to the HQ Contracting Officer.

**Planned Activities Next Quarter:**

 • The FHWA CT-DIV Office will continue to work with the NETC Advisory Group and the VT DOT in assisting them in assuming duties as the new lead coordinator.

• The FHWA CT-DIV Office will continue to work with FHWA HQ to reconcile the comingled funds issue and closeout TPF-5(201).

• The FHWA CT-DIV Office will continue to work with the NETC Coordinator to review and approve the Final Reports for the final 3 FHWA-led contracts.