



# United States Department of the Interior



IN REPLY REFER TO:

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
Oklahoma-Texas Area Office  
Oklahoma City Field Office  
5924 NW Second Street, Suite 200  
Oklahoma City, OK 73127-6514

OK-AD  
2.2.3.18

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Oklahoma Turnpike Authority  
ACCESS Oklahoma Plan  
3500 N. Martin Luther King Ave.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73111  
info@accessoklahoma.com

Subject: South Extension Turnpike Proposed to Cross Norman Project Lands, Oklahoma

To Whom It May Concern:

The Bureau of Reclamation has learned through the media and communications from concerned citizens that the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority (OTA) proposes to construct the South Extension Turnpike as part of their ACCESS Long-Range Transportation Plan, and that based on the preliminary design presented on OTA's website, the proposed alignment passes across Federal lands at Lake Thunderbird.

The Norman Project (Project), which includes Lake Thunderbird, is a Federally-owned water resource project administered by the Bureau of Reclamation and operated by the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District and Oklahoma State Parks under contracts with Reclamation. Congress authorized the Project to provide municipal and industrial water to the cities of Norman, Midwest City, and Del City, as well as for flood control, recreation, and fish and wildlife benefits.

Any request to utilize Federally-owned lands associated with Lake Thunderbird would be subject to review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended, as well as all associated Federal environmental policies and regulations regarding protection of archeological resources, parks, wetlands, impaired water bodies, endangered species, etc. The NEPA document for a proposed turnpike across Federal lands at Lake Thunderbird would be required to disclose and evaluate the impacts of the proposed turnpike project. If the proposed turnpike project is determined to significantly affect the quality of the human and/or natural environment, then an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) could be required. Proposed project sponsors would generally be responsible for most costs incurred for NEPA compliance.

A map of the Federal boundary showing the current proposed South Extension Turnpike is enclosed, as is a .zip file containing Geographic Information System (GIS) data for the Federal

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OKLAHOMA, TEXAS

boundary, flowage easement parcels, Lake Thunderbird surcharge and flood pool elevations, and the alignments for the pipelines which convey water from Lake Thunderbird to the cities of Norman, Midwest City, and Del City.

Please feel free to contact me at (405) 470-4821 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeff Tompkins, Supervisor  
Resource Management Division

Enclosures – 2

cc: Mr. Kyle Arthur  
District Manager  
Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District  
12500 Alameda Drive  
Norman, OK 73026  
karthur@comcd.net

Mr. James Timberlake  
Director of State Parks  
Oklahoma Tourism & Recreation Department  
123 Robert S. Kerr, Suite 928  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102  
JamesRTimberlake@TravelOK.com

Ms. Carrie Rush  
Director of State Parks Business Services  
Oklahoma Tourism & Recreation Department  
123 Robert S. Kerr, Suite 928  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102  
carrie.rush@travelok.com

Ms. Susie Snider  
Park Manager  
Lake Thunderbird State Park  
13101 Alameda Dr.  
Norman, OK 73026  
susie.snider@travelok.com  
(w/encl to each)