

# MEMORANDUM

# ORIGINAL

**To:** Office of the Secretary  
**From:** Rich McGuire, FERC staff  
**Date:** October 14, 2004  
**Subject:** MassHighway Letter Response of October 13, 2004, Weaver's Cove L  
Project, CP04-36-000

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Please place the attached letter in the public file for Docket No. CP04-36-000. This is a non-reportable off-the-record communication under Rule 2201.



Office of the Commissioner

Mitt Romney  
Governor

Kerry Healey  
Lt. Governor

Daniel A. Grabauskas  
Secretary

John Cogliano  
Commissioner

October 13, 2004

Mr. Richard Hoffmann, Director  
Division of Gas – Environment and Engineering  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20426

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Dear Mr. Hoffmann:

Thank you for your letter of September 22, 2004 regarding the Brightman Street Bridge project in the City of Fall River and the Town of Somerset. The answers to your questions, in the order in which you relayed them, are as follows:

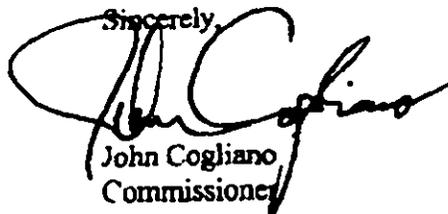
1. The project is divided into five separate contracts, and the current estimated completion date is 2010.
  - a. Contract one consisted of earth work and fill operations in preparations for future contracts. This contract was completed in 1999.
  - b. Contract two involves the construction of the bridge substructure (excluding the two main bascule piers), fender system, and all protection cells. This work is currently ongoing and is scheduled for completion by late 2005.
  - c. Contract three involves construction of the two main bascule piers. This work is also ongoing and is scheduled for completion by late 2005.
  - d. Contract four is scheduled to be advertised sometime in 2005. Work involved in this contract will be the construction of the main superstructure, including completion of the bascule piers greater than 18 feet above sea level, control house and all electrical/mechanical equipment required for the bridges operation.
  - e. Contract five is the final phase of the project, which includes all approaches to the bridge (construct highway work, roadway, bike and walkways, grading, erosion control, drainage, utilities, retaining wall construction, etc). This contract also includes the demolition of the existing Brightman Street Bridge and dredging (+/- 31,000 CY) in the vicinity of the old bridge to widen and straighten the existing channel.
2. The award date for contract five is unknown at this time. The demolition of the existing bridge will be one of the last construction activities, therefore it is estimated that the demolition would also occur some time in 2010.
3. The Coast Guard permit and DEP water quality certificate have no expiration dates. The Army Corp permit for dredging is due to expire in June of 2005. The department is currently working on an extension for this permit.

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4. The existing piers on the old bridge will be excavated to a minimum elevation of 41.6 feet below sea level, or 5 feet below the existing river bottom (the lower of the two). The final design elevation beneath the proposed bridge will vary from 40 to 45 feet below seal level.

I appreciate your interest in this important transportation initiative. If you have further questions or concern, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,



John Cogliano  
Commissioner