

August 17, 2001

Dr. Kam Movassaghi, Secretary
Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

Dear Dr. Movassaghi:

This letter is to request a copy of the I-59 contraflow impact analysis study that was to have been conducted for the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LDOTD) in 2000. This study is to have provided information necessary to define the requirements needed on behalf of Mississippi to facilitate contraflow measures.

It is my understanding that, as of this date, Mississippi has not received a copy of this contraflow impact analysis study. The Assistant Director of the Louisiana Office of Emergency Preparedness stated during a Bi-state meeting held in June 2000 that such a study was being conducted by LSU. Mississippi's Emergency Management Agency was later advised that the study would be added to an existing project with a traffic consultant firm under contract with LDOTD and that the results would be provided to the Mississippi Department of Transportation's Engineering Division for review and recommendations. Mississippi state agencies would then be provided with the outcome of the study to determine the precise impact on state resources necessary to accommodate the contraflow implementation prior to Mississippi consenting to the Louisiana proposal.

Mississippi is committed to helping Louisiana as much as possible to resolve your dilemma without adversely impacting efforts to evacuate our Mississippi coastal residents. To accomplish this task, Mississippi agencies must be adequately prepared in advance to effectively manage both Louisiana and Mississippi evacuations and sheltering, if and when such an undertaking is warranted. Resolving this matter, however, requires recognition by all parties that the impact affects much more than the interstate transportation infrastructure and that the final solution depends on concurrence by affected state agencies.

Please provide a copy of the impact analysis study to Kelly Riley of my staff by Friday, August 31, 2001. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM:klr

Cc: The Honorable Mike Foster, Governor, State of Louisiana
Larry Brown, Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Transportation