Mn/DOT Noise Policy
for
Type I Federal-aid Projects
as per 23 CFR 772

Mn/DOT Environmental Stewardship Workshop
Linking Planning, Process & Stewardship
April 21, 2011
Today’s presentation will cover:

- Formation of the Noise Policy Review Committee
- Updates to 23 CFR 772
- New Requirements of 23 CFR 772
- Mn/DOT Noise Policy Updates
- Training and Implementation
- Additional Resources
- Contact Information
- Questions
Formation of the Noise Policy Review Committee

- URS, Minneapolis & San Diego Offices
- Local Public Agencies
  - 2 Cities
  - 3 Counties
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Phil Forst, FHWA Minnesota Division Office
- Mn/DOT Staff
  - Ombudsman and Chief Counsel
  - State Aid Division
  - Operations Division
  - Engineering Services
  - Metro District (OES)
  - Environmental Stewardship (OES)
Updates to 23 CFR 772

- Clarification of Noise Abatement Criteria Activity Categories
- Clarification of “undeveloped land” definition
- Refined definition of Type I project
- Added definition for Type III project
- Removed the use of TNM look-up tables for project screening
New Requirements of 23 CFR 772

- Feasibility Analysis: one receptor/barrier must receive 5 dB(A) reduction
- Reasonableness Analysis: noise reduction design goal of 7 dB(A) at one receptor/barrier
- Reasonableness Analysis: Solicit viewpoints of benefited receptors
- Must include a “Statement of Likelihood”
- Third Party Funding: not allowed to meet feasible and/or reasonable requirements on a Type I or II project
Mn/DOT Noise Policy Updates

- Reasonableness Analysis: Cost effectiveness value changed to $43,500/benefited receptor
- Project-wide averaging will not be utilized
- Includes guidance on selecting noise analysis locations, field measurements, documentation, public involvement and soliciting viewpoints of benefited receptors
Training & Implementation

- Training scheduled for May 11th, 2011 and May 18th, 2011 (if needed), at Mn/DOT’s Training & Conference Center.

- Implementation is triggered by the start of the NEPA process.
  Start of NEPA on or after June 1, 2011: Use the new Noise Policy.
  Start of NEPA prior to June 1, 2011: Grace period granted for start of noise analysis\(^1\) until July 13, 2011\(^2\); if noise analysis is started after July 13, 2011, then use the new Noise Policy.
Additional Resources

• Highway Project Development Process Manual updated to reflect the new Noise Policy (work in progress)

• OES Website: http://www.dot.state.mn.us/environment/noise

• FHWA Highway Traffic Noise: Analysis & Abatement Guidance
Contact Information

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Questions???