



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

REGION FOUR

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Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

October 21, 1991

Mr. Thomas J. Harrelson  
Secretary  
North Carolina Department  
of Transportation  
Raleigh, North Carolina

Dear Secretary Harrelson:

Subject: Proposed Use of Highway Advisory Radio to Transmit  
Trucking Data by DMV

Recently, we have been involved in several meetings with Division of Highways (DOH), Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and the Governor's Highway Safety Program (GHSP) staff to discuss the placement of low power AM-radio transmitters within Interstate highway right of way. The 8 transmitters, placed near state lines, would be used to provide information on permits, license and other trucking information. The transmitters could also provide information on adverse weather conditions, incidents (accidents), and work zone location information. As such, this concept has tremendous potential to provide not only information of use to truckers, but to all motorists.

This concept is a natural complement to the comprehensive public information work zone campaign being implemented during the past several years. The proposed 8 permanent transmitter sites would be in addition to the 4 portable transmitters recently placed in the Charlotte area. Two were placed on the I-77 project corridor and two were placed on the I-85 project corridor. These transmitters were added to the active Federal-aid construction projects on each of these routes (R-211HA and I-302BB) and will be used to broadcast information on work zone location, delay, alternate routes and incident (accident) information.

Enclosed is a copy of our December 26, 1989 letter to Mr. J. M. Lynch concerning the usage criteria for highway advisory radio (HAR). This letter describes the criteria in depth to be followed when implementing HAR systems including appropriate signing and the requirement to have a statewide policy to address HAR usage. Since it has been several years, we thought it would be appropriate to reissue this information. We think the combined coordinated efforts of DOH, DMV, GHSP and others such as the Highway Patrol or Emergency Management will result in the greatest benefit to the public.