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16591 6 MAY 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE D05PN-03-2024

All interested parties are notified that an application dated February 14, 2024, has been received from the North Carolina Department of Transportation by the Commander, Fifth Coast Guard District, for approval of the location and plans for replacement of an existing highway drawbridge over a navigable waterway of the United States.

<u>WATERWAY AND LOCATION</u>: Alligator River, Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, mile 83.5, between Alligator and East Lake, Tyrrell County and Dare County, NC.

<u>CHARACTER OF WORK</u>: The proposed project is to replace the existing 2.83-mile long, 2-lane swing span drawbridge with two-lane, high-rise, fixed bridge on a new alignment approximately 2,000 feet north of the existing bridge. The existing swing-span drawbridge will be removed in its entirely. The purpose of the project is to replace a structurally deficient bridge experiencing substantial deterioration, due to its age, and to avoid the need to perform extensive maintenance on the obsolete operating machinery.

MINIMUM NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES:

<u>Existing</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Vertical Clearance:	Vertical Clearance:
Open – Unlimited	65 feet above ordinary high water
Closed - 14 feet above ordinary high water	
Horizontal Clearance: (normal to axis of the channel)	Horizontal Clearance: (normal to axis of the channel)
100 feet on each side of the 200-foot swing span.	140 feet between the bridge pilings

North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88) (Existing and Proposed bridges)

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is the lead Federal agency for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The FHWA is acting on behalf of the U. S. Coast Guard (USCG) for all applicable environmental control laws and Executive Orders. The FHWA approved a Categorical Exclusion (CATEX) on August 31, 2021. The USCG has tentatively determined that the documentation approved by the FHWA is adequate for USCG bridge permitting purposes and intends to prepare a memorandum to fie to document a USCG CATEX.

The bridge is located in the floodplain. The 100-year flood level is +7.2 feet from datum and low steel of the bridge in the navigation span is +65.46 feet from datum.

A water quality certificate was issued by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality via Certification No. WQC006059 dated October 20, 2023, and USACE STIP HB-0001 dated February 9, 2024.

The bridge construction site lies inside of a designated Coastal Zone Management area. The applicant provided the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality and Coastal Resources Commission with the project location information and a certification of consistency. The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality issued a finding on November 30, 2023, that the project is consistent with the state's Coastal Zone Management Plan.

Comments received in response to this notice concerning environmental control laws and Executive Orders will be forwarded to FHWA as lead Federal Agency.

SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS:

Mariners are requested to provide navigational information, such as the sizes and types of vessels presently owned and operated on the waterway and nature of navigation (including the extent of nighttime navigation) on the waterway. Mariners are requested to comment on the navigational clearances and need for bridge protective systems, clearance gauges, and navigational lighting on the proposed bridge. Please submit the attached response form.

Interest parties are requested to express their views, in writing, on the proposed bridge project, giving sufficient detail to establish a clear understanding of their reasons for support of, or opposition to, the proposed project. Comments will be received for the record at the office of Commander (dpb), Fifth Coast Guard District, 431 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, VA 23704-5004 through **07 JUNE 2024**.

HAL R. PITTS Bridge Program Manager By direction

Attachments: (1) Response Form

(2) Location/Vicinity Maps and Plan Sheets

Lindsey C. Warren Bridge (Tyrrell Count Bridge No.70 across Alligator River, Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, mile 83.5, between Alligator and East Lake, Tyrrell County and Dare County, NC

Public Notice D05PN-03-2024

Response Form

It is requested that anyone having an interest in this proposed project, from the standpoint of navigation, submit vessel information, comments, and recommendations on this form to the office of Commander (dpb), Fifth Coast Guard District, 431 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, VA 23704-5004 by <u>07 JUNE 2024</u>.

Vessel Information	Please provide all requested information:
Vessel Type	
Use – Commercial and/or Recreational	
Vessel Height	
Draft	
Length	
Beam	
Tonnage	
Mooring Location	
Name (Optional):	
Address (Optional):	
Phone (Optional):	
Comments and Recommendations:	





