



Deval L. Patrick, Governor  
Timothy P. Murray, Lt. Governor  
Jeffrey B. Mullan, MassDOT Secretary & CEO  
Richard A. Davey, General Manager  
and Rail & Transit Administrator



**To: Reviewers and Other Interested Parties**

**Re: South Coast Rail Project  
Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Draft Environmental Impact  
Report (EEA File #14346; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory File No.  
NAE-2007-00698)**

**Date: March 18, 2011**

Enclosed is the *Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Draft Environmental Impact Report* (DEIS/DEIR) for the South Coast Rail Project for public review in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) regulations. The DEIS has been prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and subsequently accepted as the DEIR by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, and submitted to the MEPA Office pursuant to the Certificate issued by the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs after MEPA review of the Environmental Notification Form (ENF).

As part of the combined MEPA and NEPA review and to ensure that the public will have adequate opportunity to comment, MassDOT has requested that the statutory 30-day DEIR MEPA public comment period be extended. The public comment period for the DEIS/DEIR will begin on March 23, 2011, with the publication of the next *Environmental Monitor*, and will end on May 27, 2011. The federal review period will also close on May 27, 2011.

The DEIS/DEIR is available for viewing at the public libraries listed on the attached sheet. Additionally, the DEIS/DEIR has also been posted on MassDOT's website: [www.mass.gov/southcoastrail](http://www.mass.gov/southcoastrail). The Corps has also posted the DEIS/DEIR on its website: <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/projects/ma/SouthCoastRail/southcoastrail.htm>. The Executive Summary, a DVD, or print copy are also available upon request by calling or sending an email to Charlie Patton, 617-357-6772 or [cpatton@reginavilla.com](mailto:cpatton@reginavilla.com).

The Corps of Engineers will hold two public hearings, as follows:

1. Wednesday, May 4, 2011, 7 p.m., Qualters Middle School, 240 East Street, Mansfield, MA
2. Thursday, May 5, 2011, 7 p.m., Keith Middle School, 225 Hathaway Blvd., New Bedford, MA

Registration for each hearing will begin at 6 P.M. on the dates and locations listed above.

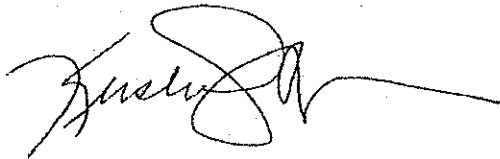
Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority  
Ten Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116  
[www.mbta.com](http://www.mbta.com)

The Corps will provide complete, certified copies of public hearing transcripts to the MEPA Office. However, in order to be considered by both the Corps and MEPA Offices, any written comments must be submitted to both agencies at the following addresses:

Secretary Richard Sullivan  
Executive Office of Energy  
and Environmental Affairs  
Division  
Attn: MEPA Office  
Aisling O'Shea, EEA No. 14346  
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900  
Fax: 617-626-1181  
Email: [aisling.o'shea@state.ma.us](mailto:aisling.o'shea@state.ma.us)

Mr. Alan Anacheke-Nasemann  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
New England District, Regulatory  
696 Virginia Road  
Concord, MA 01742-2751  
Fax: 978-318-8303  
Email: [SCREIS@usace.army.mil](mailto:SCREIS@usace.army.mil)

Sincerely yours,



Kristina Egan  
Director, South Coast Rail  
MassDOT



Frank DePaola  
Assistant General Manager  
MBTA

## Libraries with hard copies of DEIS/DEIR

State Transportation Library of  
Massachusetts

Russell Memorial Library, Acushnet

Attleboro Public Library

Berkley Public Library

Boston Public Library, Central Library

Thayer Public Library, Braintree

Canton Public Library

Dedham Public Library

Ames Free Library, Easton

Fall River Public Library

Boyden Library, Foxborough

James White Memorial Library, Freetown

Lakeville Public Library

Mansfield Public Library

Milton Public Library

New Bedford Free Public Library

Norton Public Library

Thomas Crane Public Library, Quincy

Turner Free Library, Randolph

Raynham Public Library

Sharon Public Library

Stoughton Library

Taunton Public Library

West Bridgewater Public Library