

CHAPTER 11 – GLOSSARY AND LIST OF ACRONYMS

11.1 GLOSSARY

Ambient Noise	All-encompassing sound that is associated with a given environment, usually a composite of sounds from many sources near and far. Some of those sounds may be distinct because of proximity such as a dog barking or indistinct such as cicadas, existing industrial facilities, or local roads.
Area of Potential Effect (APE)	The study area for below ground or aboveground cultural resource impacts developed through consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer. Per 36 CFR 800.16(d), the APE is the “geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties. The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of an undertaking...”
Average Daily Traffic (ADT)	The average number of vehicles traveling a road during a 24-hour period, based on actual traffic counts and factors to account for seasonal and daily variations.
Benefited Receptor	The recipient of an abatement measure that received a noise reduction at or above the minimum threshold of 5 dBA, but not exceeding the highway department’s reasonableness design goal.
Best Management Practice (BMP)	A technique, process, activity, or structure used to reduce the pollutant content of a stormwater discharge. BMPs include simple nonstructural methods, such as good housekeeping and preventive maintenance. BMPs may also include structural modifications, such as the installation of bioretention measures.

Cumulative Impact	As defined by the Council on Environmental Quality(CEQ) “[t]he impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (federal or non-federal) or person undertakes such other actions.” Cumulative impacts include the direct and indirect impacts of a project together with the reasonably foreseeable future action of others.
Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)	The initial or “draft” version of the Environmental Impact Statement advertised in the Federal Register and available for public review.
Direct Impacts	As defined by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), direct impacts are “effects that are caused by the action and occur at the same time and place.”
Displacement	Home or business impacted/removed due to proposed construction project.
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)	A detailed document prepared as part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. A draft EIS (DEIS) (1) designates Preferred Alternative(s) and (2) is published to seek agency and public input. A final EIS (FEIS) adds (1) the comments and responses to the DEIS and (2) refines the preferred alternative.
Endangered Species Act (ESA)	Federal legislation that makes it unlawful to take a federally threatened or endangered animal without a permit. “Take” is defined as “harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect or attempt to engage in such conduct.”
Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)	The version of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that incorporates agency and public comments. It is prepared following the public hearing. In accordance with 23 U.S.C. 139(n), the FEIS is published with the Record of Decision (ROD).
Floodplain	Mostly level land along rivers and streams that may be submerged by floodwater. A “100-year floodplain” is an area subject to a 1 percent probability of a certain size flood occurring in any given year.

Floodway	The channel of a river or stream and those portions of the floodplain adjoining the channel that are reasonably required to efficiently carry and discharge the peak flow of the regulatory flood.
Forecast Year	A year that is 20 – 25 years into the future for which traffic forecasts are made. The design of any transportation facility must accommodate travel that would occur in the forecast year. For this study, the forecast year is 2045.
Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA)	The goal of this act is to minimize the extent to which federal programs contribute to the unnecessary and irreversible conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses by requiring the identification and addressing of adverse effects of their programs on the preservation of farmland, consideration of alternative actions to reduce adverse effects, and ensuring compatibility with other programs and policies that protect farmland.
Geographic Information System (GIS)	An information system that can store and analyze spatial data. These data can be generated and displayed to show their physical location. Each data set with a certain type of information (e.g., the location of wetlands) constitutes a “layer” in the GIS. GIS layers can be superimposed to show the relationship between the location of different items.
Grade Separation	Overpass or underpass.
Groundwater	The portion of water beneath the surface of the earth that can be collected with wells, tunnels, or drainage galleries, or that flows naturally to the earth’s surface via seeps or springs.
Impaired Stream	A stream listed in the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) 2014 303(d) List of Impaired Waterbodies. These streams do not meet Indiana water quality standards. Streams may be impaired due to chemical or biological contaminants.

Indirect Impact	Defined by CEQ Regulations as “effects which are caused by the action and are later in time or farther removed in distance but are still reasonable and foreseeable. Indirect effects may include growth inducing effects and other effects related to induced changes in the pattern of land use, population density or growth rate...” For this project, an example of an indirect impact would be farmland bought by a developer to build a service station at an interchange associated with the undertaking.
Interchange	A grade separated crossing with entrance and exit ramps to allow access to and from the route crossed.
Intermittent Streams	Streams that flow from springs during or after large rainfall events (often seasonal), and that support some aquatic life.
Invasive Species	A species that invades a natural community and displaces one or more species.
Jurisdictional Wetland	A wetland regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a “water of the United States” under the Clean Water Act. Impacts to jurisdictional wetlands must be mitigated (e.g., recreated, restored, or enhanced).
Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative (LEDPA)	Pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, the alternative which is the Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative is the only alternative that may be permitted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
Level of Service (LOS)	A measure of operational conditions on transportation facilities. Levels of service range from A to F, with LOS A indicating free-flowing traffic and LOS F indicating the highest level of congestion/delay.
Managed Land	A land that is actively managed by federal, state, and local agencies; or private land trusts. Lands include natural areas, city parks, nature and wildlife preserves, refuges, forests, fish, and wildlife areas, river access sites, and historic sites.
Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)	A written document describing a cooperative relationship between two parties wishing to work together on a project or to meet an agreed upon objective. An MOA serves as a legal document and describes the terms and details of the partnership agreement.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)	The forum for cooperative transportation decision-making for a metropolitan area. Title 23 USC Section 134 requires that (1) an MPO be designated for each Urbanized Area containing 50,000 or more persons based on the latest U.S. Census, and (2) the metropolitan area has a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process.
Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA)	Federal legislation that makes it unlawful to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, attempt to take, capture or kill, possess, offer for sale, sell, ship, transport or otherwise be involved with any migratory bird, part, nest, egg or product.
Mitigation	In the context of the NEPA process, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) defines mitigation as avoiding an impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action; minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation; rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment; reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; or compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments. The mitigation of impacts must be considered whether or not the impacts are significant.
National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)	Federal standards that establish allowable concentrations and exposure limits for ozone (O ₃), carbon monoxide (CO), and coarse particles (PM ₁₀).
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)	Legislation passed by Congress in 1969 that requires preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) for federal actions that may significantly impact the environment.
National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)	The official list of the nation's historic places worthy of preservation. Authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect America's historic aboveground and archaeological resources.

National Wetland Inventory (NWI)	A national geospatial data product maintained by the USFWS that is accessed through Wetlands Mapper. Wetlands Mapper integrates digital map data with other resource information to provide current information on the status, extent, characteristics and functions of wetlands, riparian, and deep water habitats.
Noise Abatement	Any positive action taken to reduce the impact of highway traffic noise.
Noise Barrier	Typically, a solid wall-like structure located between the noise source (traffic) and the impacted receiver (human activity area) to reduce noise levels. The construction of a noise barrier is one of the abatement measures that must be considered when a traffic noise analysis indicates that a highway project will result in a noise impact.
Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM)	The line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as a clear, natural line impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas.
Palustrine	Pertaining to or living in a marsh or swamp.
Perennial Stream	Streams that are generally free-flowing year-round and support a wide variety of aquatic life.
Phase I Environmental Site Assessment	The practice established by the American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) E 1527 that constitutes all appropriate inquiries into the previous ownership and uses of a property consistent with good commercial and customary practice as defined at 42 U.S.C. 9601(35)(B). A Phase I ESA provides the user with an understanding of the potential or existing hazardous materials/waste liabilities of a property. A Phase I ESA consists of a records review, site reconnaissance, interviews, and an evaluation. The Phase I ESA may include a recommendation for a subsequent Phase II ESA.

Prime Farmland	Land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops.
Recognized Environmental Conditions (REC)	Presence or likely presence of any hazardous substances or petroleum products in, on, or at a property due to (1) any release to the environment; (2) under conditions indicative of a release to the environment; or (3) under conditions that pose a material threat of a future release to the environment. <i>De minimis</i> conditions are not recognized environmental conditions.
Record of Decision (ROD)	The ROD, the final step in the EIS process, identifies the Selected Alternative, presents the basis for the decision, identifies all the alternatives considered, specifies the “environmentally preferable alternative,” and provides information on the adopted means to avoid, minimize, and compensate for environmental impacts. The ROD for the I-69 ORX project will be issued in combination with the FEIS.
Relocation	The purchase of private property (land and/or structures) for a public purpose, such as a transportation facility. The purchase price includes the costs of relocating residents or businesses. Also referred to as a displacement.
Riparian	Of, or pertaining to, rivers or streams and their banks.
Section 4(f)	A section of the US Department of Transportation Act of 1966 that prohibits the approval of any federal program or project that requires the use of any publicly owned park, recreation area, or wildlife or waterfowl refuge, or any land from a historic site of national, state, or local significance unless: (1) there is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use, and (2) all possible planning to minimize harm resulting from such use is included.
Section 6(f)	A section of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act of 1965 that provides funding and matching grants to protect important natural areas, acquire land for outdoor recreation, and develop or renovate public outdoor recreation facilities. Section 6(f) of the act prohibits the conversion of LWCF lands to other purposes unless the National Park Service approves a replacement property of reasonably equivalent usefulness and location and of at least equal fair market value.

Section 7 Consultation	Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 requires federal agencies to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) on all federal actions that may affect a federally listed species to ensure that their actions do not jeopardize listed species or destroy or adversely modify critical habitat.
Section 106 Consultation	Consultation between a federal agency and consulting parties, including the State Historic Preservation Officer, regarding potential impacts of a federal action on historic properties and mitigation measures to reduce impacts. This consultation and review process is required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.
Section 404	Section 404 of the Clean Water Act establishes a program to regulate the discharge of dredged and fill material into “waters of the U.S.,” or WOTUS, including wetlands. Activities in “waters of the U.S.” that are regulated under this program include fills for development, water resource projects (such as dams and levees), infrastructure development (such as highways and airports), and conversion of wetlands to uplands for farming and forestry.
State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)	Person who administers the National Historic Preservation Program at the state level, reviews National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nominations, maintains data on historic properties that have been identified but not yet nominated, and consults with federal agencies during the Section 106 process. In Indiana, the Director of the Department of Natural Resources serves as the SHPO. In Kentucky, the Executive Director of the Kentucky Heritage Council serves as the SHPO.
State Implementation Plan (SIP)	A plan for achieving and/or maintaining National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for pollutants that are considered harmful to the public health and environment, such as particulate matter (PM), sulfur dioxide (SO ₂), carbon monoxide (CO), ozone (O ₃), oxides of nitrogen (NO _x), and lead (Pb). The SIP establishes emission budgets (not to be exceeded) for “nonattainment” areas (i.e., an area that does not meet the NAAQS for one or more pollutants) and “maintenance” areas (i.e., an area that was formerly in nonattainment and now meets the NAAQS).

Threatened and Endangered Species	Species that are recognized by federal and state agencies as being in danger of extinction (endangered) throughout all or a significant portion of their range or are likely to become endangered (threatened) within the foreseeable future, either nationally or in a state.
Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ)	One of many small areas within a larger geographical study area that has been subdivided for purposes of obtaining socioeconomic and traffic data in a manageable fashion.
Travel Demand Model	A computerized representation of the population, employment, socio-economic characteristics, and transportation network of a region. Travel on the transportation network is forecasted as a function of population, employment, and socio-economic characteristics. If proposed projects can be added to the transportation network, the model can forecast the effects of that proposed project.
Volume-to-Capacity (V/C) Ratio	The ratio of volume of traffic on a roadway to the capacity of that roadway. As the volume approaches the capacity, the roadway becomes congested.
Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS)	Navigable waterways, tributaries to navigable waterways, wetlands, lakes and ponds that are regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and state environmental agencies under Sections 404 and 401 of the Clean Water Act.
Wellhead Protection Area (WHPA)	The surface and subsurface area which contributes water to a public water supply well and through which contaminants are likely to move through, and reach, the well over a specified period of time. A wellhead protection area may be delineated by a fixed radius, hydrogeological/geomorphic mapping, analytical, semi-analytical, or numerical flow/solute transport methods.

11.2 ACRONYMS

AASHTO	American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
ACs	Affected Communities
ACHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
ACS	American Community Survey
ADT	Average Daily Traffic
AHTD	Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department
APE	Area of Potential Effects
AVE	Area of Visual Effect
BA	Biological Assessment
BO	Biological Opinion
BMP	Best Management Practice
BTU	British Thermal Unit
CAA	Clean Air Act
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CIF	Construction in a Floodway
CO	Carbon Monoxide
COC	Community of Comparison
CP	Consulting Party
CPIX	Commercial Property Information Exchange
CRF	Critical Rate Factor
CT	Census Tract
CT	Central Time
CTBG	Census Tract Block Group
CWA	Clean Water Act
dB	Decibel
dB(A)	A-Weighted Decibel
DEIS	Draft Environmental Impact Statement
DHHS	Department of Health and Human Services
DHPA	Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology
DOC	U.S. Department of Commerce
DOT	Department of Transportation
ECHO	Enforcement and Compliance History Online
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EJ	Environmental Justice
EMPO	Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization
EO	Executive Order
EPZ	Evansville Promise Zone
ESA	Endangered Species Act
ESA	Environmental Site Assessment
EWSU	Evansville Water and Sewer Utility
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration

FAST	Fixing America’s Surface Transportation
FEIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
FPPA	Farmland Protection Policy Act
FTA	Federal Transit Authority
FY	Fiscal Year
GARVEE	Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicles
GIS	Geographical Information System
GOLD	Governor’s Office for Local Development
GRSF	Green River State Forest
HART	Henderson Area Rapid Transit
HCM	Highway Capacity Manual
HEI	Health Effects Institute
HIS	Highway Information System
HPR	Historic Properties Report
IAC	Interagency Advisory Committee
IBBA	Indiana Breeding Bird Atlas
IBCF	Imperiled Bat Conservation Fund
ICF	Index of Crash Frequency
IDEM	Indiana Department of Environmental Management
IDNR	Indiana Department of Natural Resources
IDNR-DHPA	Indiana Department of Natural Resources – Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology
IGWS	Indiana Geological and Water Survey
INDOT	Indiana Department of Transportation
IPaC	Information for Planning and Conservation
IRIS	Integrated Risk Information System
ISTEA	Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act
KBBA	Kentucky Breeding Bird Atlas
KCREA	Kentucky Commercial Real Estate Alliance
KDEP	Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection
KDFWR	Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
KDLG	Kentucky Department for Local Government
KDOW	Kentucky Division of Water
KEEC	Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet
KGS	Kentucky Geological Survey
KHC	Kentucky Heritage Council
KNLT	Kentucky Natural Lands Trust
KORA	Kentucky Open Records Act
KPDES	Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
KSNPC	Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission

KYNDLE	Kentucky Network for Development, Leadership, and Engagement
KYTC	Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
LEA	Local Educational Agencies
LEDPA	Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative
LEP	Limited English Proficiency
LOS	Level of Service
LWCF	Land and Water Conservation Fund
MAP-21	Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
METS	Metropolitan Evansville Transit System
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOVES	Motor Vehicle Emissions Simulator
MPH	Mile Per Hour
MSATs	Mobile Source Air Toxics
MSL	Mean Sea Level
NAACP	National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NABCI	North American Bird Conservation Initiative
NAC	Noise Abatement Criteria
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NHS	National Highway System
NO ₂	Nitrogen Dioxide
NOI	Notice of Intent
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPS	National Park Service
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NWI	National Wetlands Inventory
O ₃	Ozone
OHWM	Ordinary High Water Mark
ORB	Ohio River Bridges
ORSANCO	Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission
ORX	Ohio River Crossing
OSA	Office of the State Archaeologist
OSRW	Outstanding State Resource Water
OWJ	Official with Jurisdiction
PE	Preliminary Engineering
PM	Particulate Matter
RCAC	River Cities Advisory Committee
REC	Recognized Environmental Condition
ROD	Record of Decision
ROW	Right-Of-Way

SAFETEA-LU	Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users
SIP	State Implementation Plan
SIU	Section of Independent Utility
SCC	Southern Conservation Corp
SHAARD	State Historic Architectural and Archaeological Research Database
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SMS	Short Message Service
SNP	State Nature Preserve
SO ₂	Sulfur Dioxide
SSA	Sole Source Aquifer
SSC	Species of Special Concern
STIP	Statewide Transportation Improvement Program
STRAHNET	Strategic Highway Network
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
TAZ	Traffic Analysis Zone
TBD	To Be Determined
TDM	Travel Demand Model
TEA-21	Transportation Equity Act for the 21 st Century
THPO	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
TIF	Tax Increment Finance
TIFIA	Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act
TIP	Transportation Improvement Program
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
TNM	Traffic Noise Model
UA	Urbanized Area
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USCG	U.S. Coast Guard
USEPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USDHS	U.S. Department of Homeland Security
USDOC	U.S. Department of Commerce
USDOI	U.S. Department of Interior
USDOT	U.S. Department of Transportation
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
USDHS	U.S. Department of Homeland Security
USHUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
USI	University of Southern Indiana
UST	Underground Storage Tank
V/C	Volume-to-Capacity
VFC	Virtual File Cabinet
VIA	Visual Impact Assessment

VMT	Vehicle Miles Traveled
VPD	Vehicles Per Day
WATS	Warrick Area Transit System
WHPA	Wellhead Protection Area
WOTUS	Waters of the U.S.
WQC	Water Quality Certifications
WRP	Wetlands Reserve Program