



U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Highway
Administration

Received

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State Highway
Administrator's Office

Office of the Administrator

May 14, 2009

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

In Reply Refer To: HEPI-20

W. F. Rosser, P.E.
State Highway Administrator
North Carolina Department
of Transportation
Raleigh, NC 27699-1536

Mr. Rosser:
Dear Mr. Rosser:

Through: *J.F. Sullivan III*
Mr. John F. Sullivan III *5/18/2009*
Division Administrator
Raleigh, NC

Thank you for your December 12, 2008, letter to Division Administrator John F. Sullivan requesting the 11.95-mile northwestern segment of the Charlotte Outer Loop from I-85 west of Charlotte northeast to I-77 be added to the Interstate System under the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 103(c)(4)(A).

The entire outer loop was designated a future Interstate under former 23 U.S.C. 139(b), first for the east and south portions in 1991 and then for the north and west portions in 1996. The route numbering for the entire loop as I-485 was approved by American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and Federal Highway Administration in 1988 and 1996. Around 45 miles of I-485, from I-85 east of Charlotte clockwise to I-85 west were added to the Interstate System in 1998 and 2005.

You note that the segment will alleviate congestion of both I-77 and I-85 through the Charlotte area. Our Division Office confirmed the segment has been completed to Interstate standards in accordance with our Section 139(b) agreement. Therefore, I find that the segment satisfies the requirements of Section 103(c)(4)(A) and designate it as part of the Interstate System.

I hereby formally concur in the numbering of the route as I-485. By copy of this letter, I am notifying the AASHTO which approved this numbering on October 5, 1996.

The route description for this 11.95-mile addition will read as follows:

I-485 From I-85 west of Charlotte clockwise to I-77.



Under 23 U.S.C. 119(a)(1)(B), these segments become eligible for Interstate Maintenance (IM) funds. Under 23 U.S.C. 104(b)(4), their lane miles and vehicle miles traveled will become eligible for inclusion in the IM funds apportionment formulas.

Should you have any questions, please direct them to Mike Neathery in the Office of Interstate and Border Planning at mike.neathery@dot.gov or (202) 366-1257.

Sincerely yours,



Jeffrey F. Paniati
Acting Deputy Administrator