UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

MAR 29 2010

Mr. David Gedeon
Project Manager
Federal Highway Administration
Central Federal Lands Highway Division
12300 West Dakota Avenue
Lakewood, CO 80228

Subject: Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS) for Saddle Road (State Route 200), Mamalahoa Highway (State Route 190) to Milepost 41, Hawai`i County, Hawai`i (CEQ # 20100048)

Dear Mr. Gedeon:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the document referenced above. Our comments are provided pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) and our NEPA review authority under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act. EPA submitted comments on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) for this project on January 6, 2010. We rated the SDEIS as Lack of Objections (LO).

In 1999 the FHWA published a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for Saddle Road, from Mamalahoa Highway to Milepost 6. Following our review of the FEIS, EPA had no objections to proposed improvements on Saddle Road between Mamalahoa Highway and Milepost 41. In 2006, The U.S. Army Garrison, Hawai`i, acquired the Keamuku parcel which is traversed by the proposed western section of Saddle Road (W-3). The FSEIS evaluates a new western alignment alternative for Saddle Road to maximize army training opportunities on the parcel and minimize conflict with the traveling public.

Upon review of the FSEIS, EPA continues to have a lack of objections to the proposed project. We recommend that the Record of Decision (ROD) include commitments to mitigation measures listed in the FSEIS, particularly the implementation of stringent dust control and construction equipment emission control measures in order to reduce temporary impacts to air quality.

We appreciate the opportunity to review the FSEIS. When the ROD is released for public review, please send a copy to the address above (mail code: CED-2). If you have any

questions, please contact me (415-947-4161) or Clifton Meek, the lead reviewer for this project. Clifton can be reached at 415-972-3370 or meek.clifton@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Connell Dunning, Transportation Team Supervisor
Environmental Review Office
Communities and Ecosystems Division

CC: Ken Tatsuguchi, Hawaii Department of Transportation
Melissa Dickard, Federal Highway Administration
Pat Phung, Federal Highway Administration