



INSPECTOR GENERAL ARRA REPORT

2010-11-0296

November 28, 2010

ARRA REVIEW OF THE SPENCER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Indiana Inspector General David O. Thomas, after an inspection and review by Special Agent Mike Mischler, reports as follows:

This report addresses an inspection and evaluation by Special Agent Mike Mischler regarding the progress of a project funded by money from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).¹ The ARRA intends to provide a stimulus to the United States economy by providing \$787 billion in program funding and tax credits.² Indiana is to receive over \$4 billion in ARRA funding.

The purpose of this report is to document a physical inspection of a project funded in whole or in part by ARRA funds.

The OIG's enabling statute provides that the OIG is responsible for addressing fraud, waste, abuse and wrongdoing in agencies. IC 4-2-7-2(b). The OIG is also to review and recommend policies and carry out other activities

¹ American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, P.L. No. 111-5, 123 Stat. 115 (2009).

² See: <http://www.recovery.gov>.

designed to deter, detect, and eradicate fraud, waste, abuse, mismanagement, and misconduct in state government. IC 4-2-7-3(2).

Based upon these authorities, random ARRA projects were selected from the Invest Indiana website map (<http://www.in.gov/gov/countyarra.htm>). This website specifies ARRA projects by county.

A physical inspection was then made of the selected project. The inspection was limited to a visual review of the work that had or was occurring.

In this case, Contract SB-28862-A was inspected. This is an ongoing Bridge Replacement project on US 231/67 over Meadow Brook Creek, 0.13 Mile South of SR 46, in Spencer, Owen County, Indiana. The contract on this project was let on February 24, 2010. The location of this project is approximately 0.13 mile south of SR 46 in Spencer, Indiana. The highway was closed at the intersection of US 231/67 and Franklin Street in the city limits of Spencer.

This project as of November of 2010 was still ongoing and causing vehicular traffic to be re-routed around US 231/67 in Spencer, but causing any vehicle over 26,000 pounds to be re-routed on SR 46 ending on SR 157 in Worthington. The old bridge has been removed and the new bridge is partially completed. It was observed that the construction of the bridge was in progress.

Photographs were taken of the project and are included in Exhibit A, attached hereto. It was observed, and is reflected in the photographs, that road closure signs, excavation and pavement construction were being done at the site. Construction equipment was also observed on site.

As the inspection revealed that the location and type of work to be

performed was in progress, this case will be closed.

Dated this 29th day of November, 2010.

APPROVED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David O. Thomas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

David O. Thomas, Inspector General

EXHIBIT A:

