BDE PROCEDURE MEMORANDUM

NUMBER: 17-14
SUBJECT: BDE Manual Revision – Chapters 24, 25, and 26
DATE: September 21, 2017

Chapters 24, 25, 26, and Appendix A of the BDE Manual have been updated regarding the approval of the Mahomet Sole Source Aquifer Memorandum of Understanding. Please see the BDE Manual on-line to view the revisions.

Background

On March 11, 2015 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) designated a portion of the Mahomet Aquifer system as a sole source aquifer (SSA) for Illinois. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed on August 28, 2017 between the Department, FHWA, and USEPA, which discusses procedures to comply with the USEPA’s SSA designation. These procedures have been incorporated into Chapters 24, 25, and 26 and a copy of the signed MOU placed in Appendix A of the BDE Manual.

Specifically,

- Section 24-3.02(e)9 was updated.
- Section 25-3.08(k) was updated.
- Section 26-22.04(b)7 was revised to include the Department’s procedures for complying with approved Mahomet SSA MOU.

In summary, these procedures exempt Categorical Exclusions (CEs) from the USEPA’s review process. The USEPA does reserve the right to review exempt projects upon written notice to FHWA and the Department. Environmental Assessments and Environmental Impact Statement are required to be reviewed for impacts to the Mahomet SSA.

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