

ARDOT JOB 100512

# WALNUT RIDGE – MISSOURI STATE LINE (FUTURE I-57)

CLAY, GREENE, LAWRENCE, & RANDOLPH COUNTIES

## FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT & RECORD OF DECISION



**OCTOBER 2023**



# WALNUT RIDGE – MISSOURI STATE LINE (FUTURE I-57)

ARDOT Job 100512

Federal-Aid Project NHPP-0076(178)

## Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision

### Submitted pursuant to:

The National Environmental Policy Act  
42 U.S.C. §4332(2)(c) and 23 C.F.R. §771

### Submitted by:

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION (FHWA)  
and  
ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ARDOT)

### In Cooperation with:

Missouri Department of Transportation, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,  
U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

### In Participation with:

Arkansas Division of Environmental Quality, Arkansas Game and Fish  
Commission, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, and Arkansas Natural  
Heritage Commission

### Prepared by:

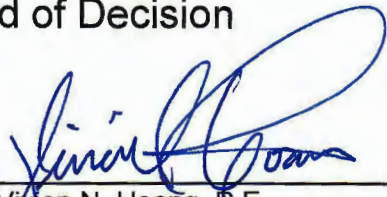
Garver, North Little Rock, Arkansas

FHWA and ARDOT propose to construct an interstate facility (future Interstate 57) from Walnut Ridge to the Missouri State line within Clay, Greene, Lawrence, and Randolph counties, Arkansas. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance connectivity and continuity of the National Highway System, provide a roadway more resilient to extreme weather events, and create increased opportunity for economic development in northeast Arkansas. The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) discusses the changes that have been made to the Preferred Alternative based on public and agency comments as well as from minor design refinements made after the release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). Based on these updates and after review of the potential impacts and mitigation measures, the Preferred Alternative detailed in the FEIS has been identified as the Selected Alternative for the project in the Record of Decision (ROD). FHWA is issuing a single document that consists of the FEIS and ROD pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 304a(b) [and 23 U.S.C. 139(n)(2)]. As a result, the 30-day waiting period between the FEIS and ROD, prescribed in 23 CFR 771.127(s), will not occur. FHWA intends to issue a Notice of Final Federal Agency Action on the ROD pursuant to 23 CFR 771.139, which notifies the public that one or more federal agencies have taken final action on permits, licenses, or approvals for this project. The estimated total cost to prepare both the DEIS and FEIS-ROD is \$2,939,134. Incorporation of costs incurred by participating agencies was not practicable.

The FEIS and ROD are available on the project website: <https://future57.transportationplanroom.com/> or on <http://www.ardot.gov/>. For additional information, contact:

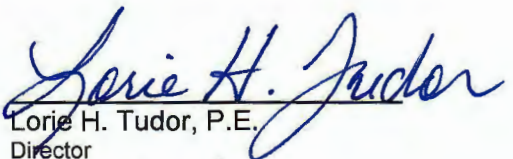
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Arkansas Division Office

10/24/2023  
Date of Approval

 U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration

  
Lorie H. Tudor, P.E.  
Director

10/24/23  
Date of Approval

 AR DOT Arkansas Department  
of Transportation

  
Dalton A. "Alec" Farmer, Jr.  
Chairman

10/24/2023  
Date of Approval

 Arkansas State Highway  
Commission



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