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**WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Division of Highways**

**1900 Kanawha Boulevard East • Building Five • Room 110  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0430 • 304/558-3505**

**Joe Manchin III  
Governor**

**May 4, 2009**

**Mr. Kevin Wickey  
State Conservationist  
United States Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
75 High Street, Room 301  
Morgantown, West Virginia 26505**

**Dear Mr. Wickey:**

**Thank you for your letter, dated April 1, 2009, regarding your proposed flood control/water supply dam on Lower Cove Run at Lost City in Southern Hardy County.**

**We have reviewed the Draft Supplemental Work Plan and Second Draft Environmental Impact Statement. It does not appear that the footprint of the project will directly affect our facilities but the project will cause changes in the drainage patterns that may impact WV 59 and WV 259.**

**WV 59 follows Lower Cove Run. The crest of the proposed dam will be at a higher elevation than WV 59 in an area approximately 1.1 to 1.5 miles from WV 259. This will increase the risk of flood damage to the road and create a potential hazard to the traveling public. We believe the roadway should be relocated to raise it above the elevation of the top of the dam.**

**The outfall from the emergency spillway will flow to an unnamed tributary of Lost River that goes through a culvert under WV 259 on its way to the river. If this unnamed tributary overflows its banks, the water may enter Lost River upstream of the bridge that carries WV 259 over Lost River. The culvert or the bridge, or both, may have to be upgraded to accommodate the potential increase in flow from the emergency spillway. Also, we are planning to replace the WV 259 bridge over Lower Cove Run. Your flood control project will change the flow at this bridge that may affect the design of the new bridge. Please send us the hydraulic and hydrologic data from your project that is relevant to our roads and bridges.**

Mr. Kevin Wickey  
May 4, 2009  
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Again, thank you for writing and sharing your concerns. We look forward to working with NRCS on this project, as we have on previous flood control projects. Should you require any additional information, please contact Mr. Doug Kirk, Hydraulics Unit Leader with our Engineering Division, at (304) 558-9756.

Sincerely,



Paul A. Mattox, Jr., P. E.  
Secretary of Transportation/  
Commissioner of Highways

PAM:Bc

