

## **RESOLUTION 9-93**

### **RESOLUTION OF THE WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS**

#### **Regarding**

#### **FLEXIBILITY AND INTERPRETATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS AND FACILITIES**

**WHEREAS**, the WASHTO member states are confronted with a myriad of environmental legislative acts which are subject to divergent interpretations by different federal agencies and within each agency; and

**WHEREAS**, the WASHTO states are affected by delays of transportation projects and the loss of safety and service to the traveling public; and

**WHEREAS**, the WASHTO states are concerned with the cost and effectiveness of implementing these rules and regulations and in particular alarmed by the cost disbenefits of implementation of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System, the Clean Air Act with amendments, the Emergency Wetlands Resources Act with executive orders, and the environmental provisions of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the WASHTO member states request AASHTO to embark on a course to:

- (1) Ensure that rules and regulations are consistent with the intent of the law and encourage uniform application by federal agencies by suggesting that federal agencies designate a lead agency to coordinate environmental regulations and requirements;
- (2) Promote increased flexibility and the use and acceptance of programmatic mitigation and documentation; and
- (3) Petition appropriate Congressional committees to require economic impact studies on all pending legislation and pursue the deletion of the permitting process for items listed in paragraph 3 of this resolution.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Boards and Commissions of the WASHTO states request the WASHTO member departments to distribute this resolution to AASHTO, the other regional associations, and the Congressional delegations of each member state.

The Policy Committee adopted this resolution in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on June 26, 1993.

This Resolution was signed by  
Arnold Oliver, Date unknown

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Arnold W. Oliver,  
President