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NCCN-09-10-08-NR

October 14, 2009

## **AECOM – DELCAN TO LEAD NEXT PHASE OF THE INTERPROVINCIAL CROSSINGS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STUDY**

**Canada's Capital Region** – The National Capital Commission (NCC), the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) and the Ministère des Transports du Québec (MTQ) today announced that Co-entreprise AECOM – Delcan will lead the first step of the next phase of the Environmental Assessment (EA) Study to identify a future interprovincial crossing in the National Capital Region. The three highest rated corridors (Kettle Island, Lower Duck Island and Gatineau Airport/McLaurin Bay) will be assessed in the Phase 2 Study.

In a revised process, the Study's funding partners divided the second phase into two steps:

- (i) Phase 2A will provide the framework for the EA Study and will ensure opportunities for public consultation; and
- (ii) Phase 2B will be the completion of the environmental assessment process.

Following a competitive procurement process led by NCC, in partnership with MTO and MTQ, and input from the City of Ottawa and Ville de Gatineau, Co-entreprise AECOM – Delcan was awarded the contract. They will carry out Phase 2A in accordance with the objectives and requirements of the Request for Proposal.

For Phase 2A, Co-entreprise AECOM – Delcan will be responsible for developing the following:

- A Summary Report on review and analysis of background data;
- A Summary Report on correspondence received from the public during the period between completion of the Phase 1 Study and the commencement of work on the Phase 2 EA Study;
- The EA Study Design Report, including public consultation report; and

- The Scoping Document under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* process: Scope of Project and Scope of Assessment Report, for posting on the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry.

Consistent with NCC's practice and the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, public consultations will be an essential feature of Phase 2A because they will shape the completion of the Environmental Assessment Study in Phase 2B. Public consultations for Phase 2A of the Study are scheduled to begin early in 2010.

Phase 2A is currently scheduled to be completed in June 2010.

For further information regarding the Interprovincial Crossings Environmental Assessment Study, the public may visit [www.canadacapital.gc.ca/crossings](http://www.canadacapital.gc.ca/crossings).

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