



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



PAUL R. LEPAGE  
GOVERNOR

PAUL MERCER  
COMMISSIONER

IN THE MATTER OF


MAINE TURNPIKE AUTHORITY	) APPLICATION FOR NATURAL RESOURCES
YORK TOLL PLAZA	) PROTECTION ACT PERMIT AND
YORK, YORK COUNTY	) WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION
L-27241-TG-A-N	) PUBLIC HEARING
	) FOURTH PROCEDURAL ORDER

A public hearing was held on this matter on May 22, 2017. At the conclusion of the hearing the record was closed; however, the parties were permitted to file post-hearing briefs on the motion filed by the Coalition for Responsible Toll Collection asking that the Maine Turnpike Authority (MTA) be requested to file an updated version of the 2014 CDM Smith model it produced in support of its application. After reviewing the briefs, the Department has determined that an update of the model will not be requested.

The 2014 CDM Smith model was designed to predict the toll increase and resulting traffic diversion to local roads that would be required in order to achieve financial parity between All-Electronic Tolling (AET) and Open Road Tolling (ORT) over a 10-year period, based on 2013 data. According to the MTA, the 2014 model projects what toll increases and traffic diversions would be required to achieve financial parity between AET and ORT over the ten-year period starting in 2015. Some new data is now available, including more current EZ Pass penetration rates and numbers of vehicles using the York toll plaza. However, an applicant can submit a proposal and evidence in support of it, and ask for a decision whether that proposal meets the statutory and regulatory criteria for a permit. The Department will judge this permit application based on the evidence and arguments put forth to date, and will not request further modeling from the MTA.

Closing briefs are due no later than by 5:00 P.M. on June 30, 2017. Each party filing a closing brief is required to follow the filing requirements set forth in Section I, Paragraph D (Filing Requirements with the Department) of the Preliminary Procedures for Conduct of Public Hearing.

Dated: 6.16.17

  
Marybeth Richardson, Presiding Officer

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