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## **Bidding Period Extended for First Phase of CSVT**

**Montoursville** – In response to a request by the construction industry, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) has extended the bidding period for the first phase of the Central Susquehanna Valley Transportation (CSVT) Project an additional two weeks. Bids for the construction of the project's nearly mile-long bridge over the West Branch Susquehanna River are now planned to be opened on September 11, 2015.

PennDOT advertised project construction plans and specifications to prospective bidders on July 2, 2015. Bids were originally planned to be opened on August 27, 2015, providing an advertisement period typically sufficient for most large-scale transportation improvement projects. However, the state's construction industry indicated that an extension is necessary for the CSVT Project's river bridge due to the project's complexity, its schedule, and the alternative bridge components allowed to be proposed by bidders.

The extension will allow contractors to more thoroughly prepare bids and should ultimately result in enhanced competition and cost savings for the Commonwealth.

The two-week extension will not affect the anticipated overall schedule for the CSVT Project, which includes completion of the entire 13-mile, four-lane limited access highway by 2024. The construction contract for the new river bridge between Winfield and Point Township will be the first of seven contracts planned for the entire project. Work under that contract is anticipated to begin this fall.

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