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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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U.S.169 erosion control project set to begin next week

On Tuesday, July 23, the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) plans to begin an emergency erosion control project on the new four-lane section of U.S.169 north of Coffeyville, starting at Montgomery County Road 3000 and continuing south for five miles, and also on U.S.166 from the Verdigris River Bridge east to County Road 5300.

The U.S.169 four-lane expansion was completed in January 2012. According to Luke Middleton, construction engineer at the Independence KDOT office, "Because of soil and climate conditions during the placement of permanent seed for this project, a lot of what was planted did not vegetate. A good portion of right-of-way on this project has been taken over by weeds. The new project will provide for corrective grading, stabilization and sediment control."

The project work will take place on the right-of-way and highway shoulders and is not expected to impact traffic. The county roads constructed within the overall expansion project will be seeded if necessary. KDOT awarded the erosion control contract of approximately \$950,000 to Seeders, Inc., of Wichita. The project should be finished by August 9.

Middleton reminds drivers to be alert for workers in the area and "Give 'Em a Brake!" Persons with questions about this or other KDOT projects may contact Middleton at (620) 331-3760 or Priscilla Petersen at 1-877-550-5368.

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