SH-20 opening to traffic at Keetonville Hill ahead of schedule

SH-20 at Keetonville Hill in Rogers County will be open to traffic by 6 p.m. tonight. The roadway has been closed since April 10, 2008, after a landslide caused by heavy rains damaged both the pavement and the hillside.

A $5 million emergency repair contract was awarded to Muskogee Bridge Co., Inc., and work began on April 29 to secure up to one-half mile of slope and replace around four-tenths mile of pavement. The 110 day contract has two incentives in place to expedite the work, showing ODOT’s commitment to opening this roadway as quickly as possible.

The first incentive was to have the roadway open to traffic within 60 days from the start of the project. The contractor can earn a bonus of up to $18,000/day under this provision, for each day it is opened to traffic before 60 days. This portion of the work has finished 22 days ahead of schedule.

The second incentive is to have substantial completion of the project within 90 days from the start of the project. The contractor can also earn a bonus of up to $9,000/day under this provision, for each day of substantial completion before 90 days. The roadway is expected to remain open while the remainder of the work is finished. However, drivers should be aware that crews will still be working in the area until final completion of the project.

Information on the project can be found at www.okladot.state.ok.us.

(Editors and News Directors: There is limited parking at the worksite. Please call Kenna Mitchell at 918-691-1848 to coordinate interviews at the site.)