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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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News contact: Priscilla Petersen, (620) 431-1000; Priscilla@ksdot.org

Update: U.S. 54 railroad bridge closure delayed

Owing to weather-dependent changes in the contractor's schedule, the Kansas Department of Transportation has delayed closing the U.S. 54 railroad overpass east of Yates Center. The closure had been planned for Monday, March 2. Depending on conditions the bridge closure will now occur later this week or early during the week of March 9-13.

The bridge spans the Union Pacific Railroad tracks. It is located 1½ miles east of the Yates Center city limits and 20½ miles west of Iola. KDOT will demolish the existing structure and replace it with a weathered steel span bridge.

After the bridge is closed the work zone will remain closed to through U.S. 54 traffic until the new bridge is completed this autumn. The signed detour on state highways for eastbound U.S. 54 traffic is as follows: from the U.S. 75/U.S. 54 junction at Yates Center proceed south on U.S. 75 to the U.S. 75/K-39 junction, continue east on K-39 to the K-39/U.S. 169 junction at Chanute, then travel north on U.S. 169 to the U.S. 169/U.S. 54 junction at Iola. Westbound U.S. 54 traffic will take the same route in the opposite direction.

KDOT awarded the construction contract of \$4.2 million to A.M. Cohron & Son of Atlantic, Iowa. This bridge replacement project has a calendar completion date of October 16, 2015. Persons with questions concerning the project may contact KDOT

Iola Area Construction Engineer Dayna Barlow at (620) 365-2161 or Southeast Kansas Public Affairs Manager Priscilla Petersen at 1-877-550-5368.

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This information can be made available in alternative accessible formats upon request. For information about obtaining an alternative format, contact the Bureau of Transportation Information, 700 SW Harrison St., 2nd FL West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.

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