



5.19 Irreversible and Irrecoverable Commitment of Resources

The US 31 Plymouth to South Bend project will involve a commitment of many resources. Some of these resources include land, construction materials, and manpower. Land used in the construction of the proposed project is considered an irrecoverable resource.

The main resources in the study area that are irrecoverable include farmland, sand, and gravel. Not only does the roadway make these resources irrecoverable; the indirect impacts that may follow from the construction of the roadway do as well. Indirect impacts may result from development of businesses and residential areas along the roadside of the new facility. These indirect impacts would result in the taking of more land that contains mineral resources and prime farmland.

The use of these resources is warranted in this project because the construction of this roadway will produce an overall improved transportation system.