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Deb Miller, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

## Kansas Department of Transportation news release

November 14, 2011

11-114

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **KDOT traveler information map to have final pre-winter testing**

While the weather forecast for Tuesday to Thursday this week does not predict any winter weather, the 511 Traveler Information map ([511.ksdot.org](http://511.ksdot.org)) may once again look like a blizzard is covering the state as KDOT conducts the final pre-winter testing for the site.

The 511 map will undergo live simulation testing from approximately 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 15, and intermittently from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 16-17 to test its ability to handle a large number of information requests when the entire state highway system has snow and ice conditions.

In preparation for the testing, the 511 map will not display road condition or construction information from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. on Tuesday morning. While the map is unavailable, travelers can access information by calling

5-1-1.

During the test, travelers will still be able to see real construction/incident information; however, this information may not display as the stress point of information is approached. Users may turn off the snow and ice condition colors by un-checking “Roadway Weather Conditions” in the legend on the left side of the map. The real highway information will be available in the “Driving

Conditions List" link at the top of the map and will be listed separately from the simulated snow and ice conditions.

While testing, the weather information won't be updated on the 511 phone system. The last reported conditions prior to the test period will be reported throughout the test period. Travelers who call the 511 system will be informed of the test and reporting of road conditions during the test by an introductory message. Current road work activities and incidents will be reported on 511 as these reports won't be affected by the test. Travelers can access the 511 phone system by calling 5-1-1 from anywhere in Kansas or 1-866-KDOT (5368) from anywhere in the U.S.

KDOT apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause; however, the testing is necessary to test new enhancements to the site and for reliable service during winter inclement weather.

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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., 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.

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