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Symmes, BrianBrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov  
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**Subject:** FOX Carolina inquiry

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Hello Chaney and Brian,

My name is Sarah Danik and I'm with FOX Carolina in Greenville. I'm reaching out to you about a story I'm working on. It's a follow up to a story Adrian Acosta did back in May, about a large number of the lights along I-85 in Greenville County that were out. He had asked the Governor about what was being done to fix the issue, so that there wouldn't be safety concerns for drivers, law enforcement, etc.

From my understanding, the Governor had followed up with the SCDOT, and they had said they were going to put together a plan to fix the issue. We followed up with the SCDOT last week, and while some of the lights \*have been fixed since May, there are still a good amount that are not.

Part of the issue seems to be manpower, and other fixes to things like traffic signals, that take precedence over the highway lighting, pull people away from repairing the lights. Also, the fix is expensive (interstate traffic has to be stopped to do some of the repairs, there are major wiring issues, etc).

I wanted to follow up with the Governor's Office to see if there are updates on your end, and to see if there is any other way the Governor is able to help with the issue. I also wanted to see if money in the new roads bill could pay for some of the costs of repairing the lights.

The goal is to run our follow up story next week. Any sort of interview opportunity or information would be much appreciated. Thank you!

Here are the numbers I was given by the SCDOT about the number of lights that are still out along the Greenville stretch of I85.

**I-85 Lighting:**

High Mast – 66 total with 80% working

Shoulder Mount – 31 total with 57% working

Barrier Wall (center of roadway) dual mount – 80 total with 33 % working

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