

Construction Industry/NDOT Advisory Committee

Materials Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes for October 27, 2009

Attendees:

Mike Douglas, Q and D Const.	Norm Davis, Sierra Nevada Const.
Mike Robinson, Kleinfelder	Derek Betts, Granite Const.
John Elkins, Granite Const.	Steve Blakely, Rd and Hghwy Builders
Ron Siegel, NDOT Geotechnical	Kevin Armstrong, Paramount Nevada
Parviz Noori, NDOT Materials	Darin Tedford, NDOT Materials
Steve Hale, NDOT Construction	Reid Kaiser, NDOT Materials
Larry Sharp, Las Vegas Paring Corp.	Gary Dion, Frehner Const Co.

Introductions were made around the room and Mr. Ron Siegel was introduced to the group. Mr. Siegel was promoted to Principal Geotechnical Engineer in the Materials Division and will help support NDOT's Geotechnical section. Ron has over 33 years of Geotechnical experience both in the private and public sector.

I. Approve Minutes

The minutes of our meeting July 28, 2009 were approved. Minutes on all the subcommittees have been posted at:

www.nevadadot.com/business/Liaison_Committee/MeetingAgendas.asp

II. Percent Within Limits Update

Percent Within Limits (PWL) update was given by Steve Hale. UNR has been awarded the contract to complete the research. The schedule is for UNR to use the first 6 months to review how other states/agency's are using PWL, the next 18 months will be used to develop recommendations and specifications on how NDOT could use PWL and finally the last 12 months will be to use these specifications in a project and evaluate if they were successful or not.

III. Material Pits

Nothing has changed since the last meeting regarding pit permitting. A change order request was sent to NDOT's Construction Division requesting that pits set up for use in contracts that are not being used be removed from the contract by change order. This will allow these pits to be used on other contracts.

We all have now gone through our first season using this new process and we are always looking for ways to make it better, so if anybody has any good ideas, please let Darin or Reid know.

IV. Asphalt Mix Designs for Bikepaths/Trails

How NDOT approaches asphalt mix designs for bike-paths and trails was presented by Darin Tedford. Darin advised that we do modify the specifications when the plantmix will be for a bike path/trail. When a mix design is submitted for a bike path, NDOT will usually bump the AC content up 1% so the mix will not dry out along with eliminating the coarse aggregate. Darin mentioned that when paving one of these locations and a contractor would like to propose a city mix design, we would consider it, but would have to take into account issues like what equipment would be driving on it, etc.

V. Slag

NDOT is in the process of writing concrete specifications that would allow the use of ground granulated blast-furnace slag in concrete. *Attached* are the proposed specifications. Slag is a co product of melting and cooling of scrap iron.

Concrete made with GGBS cement sets more slowly than concrete made with ordinary Portland cement, depending on the amount of GGBS in the cementitious material, but also continues to gain strength over a longer period in production conditions. This results in lower heat of hydration and lower temperature rises, and makes avoiding cold joints easier, but may also affect construction schedules where quick setting is required.

VI. MSE Backfill

Effective immediately NDOT is changing the tests methods required to measure the Resistivity and pH of Granular Backfill and MSE Backfill materials. We are replacing NV T235 and NV T238 test methods with AASHTO T 288 and AASHTO T 289, respectively. This is being done because we have determined that NDOT's test method over predicts material resistivity's. This has resulted in accelerated corrosion of metallic reinforcements in some of our existing MSE walls. We anticipate that fewer MSE Backfill material sources will be able to pass resistivity specifications as a result of this test change, especially in Southern Nevada. NDOT has researched possible testing labs that are capable of conducting the AASHTO tests and has found that there are numerous labs both in Northern and Southern Nevada (see attached list). We have also developed new MSE wall specifications to give contractor's the option to use Tensar's geogrid reinforced ARES MSE Wall System as an alternative to the existing metallic reinforced MSE wall systems on NDOT's QPL.

VII. Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement (RAP)

Bids were opened for contract 3399, which is the first NDOT project that would allow the use of Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement (RAP) in the plantmix. Work will begin in the spring.

VIII. It was noted that individuals who do not show up consistently will be dropped from the roster.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 19, 2010 in the NDOT Headquarters 3rd floor conference room and video-conferenced to the Las Vegas main conference room. In order to generate new topics, it is required that to attend a person needs to submit a topic (e-mail to Reid) to discuss at the meeting. Please submit these topics to Reid at rkaiser@dot.state.nv.us by January 5, 2010.