

The minutes reflect the writer's impressions of the discussion and are not intended to imply or announce policy or directives. Refer to the contract to determine MDT requirements.

May 6, 2015

MCA-MDT Technical Committee Meeting Minutes

SPECIFICATIONS

- 1. 103.09.5 Release of Bid Documents to the Department**
- 2. 105.08 Grade Checking**
- 3. 105.17.2 Final Acceptance**
- 4. 106.05 Field Laboratory**
- 5. 106.09 Domestic Materials**

A Contractor asked what products this change refers to. The Department responded that generally anything we pre-inspect is covered by this portion of the specification. Contractors mentioned concerns that MDT's standards regarding Buy America are more stringent than the other states. Other states should be held to the same standard, this is how the local FHWA office accepted our inspection requirements.

FHWA stated that they like Montana's Specifications regarding Buy America and that other states are starting to realize getting documentation can be a challenge. A lot of other states have larger state programs to work with than we do. FHWA mentioned that the Department always has the option to ask to modify our inspection requirements.

- 6. 108.07.5 Extensions**

Contractor asked if work is deleted on a project, would the Department decrease the number of days. It could be possible depending on the schedule submitted. The Department maintained that generally time is extended due to extra work, but there have been instances when it was agreed to delete days.

One contractor voiced concern regarding completion date contracts and how crucial those milestone dates are to a contractor's scheduling for other projects. It was noted that the same process for extending or deleting contract time would be followed. The process must have the proper conversations and documentations and be executed with a Change Order.

- 7. 109.07 Stockpiled Materials**
- 8. 208 Water Pollution Control**

The Department stated that this change incorporated the MPDES and NPDES special provisions into the standard. This allows changes to go through the spec comment process. The Department stated that the only additional language that hasn't been in specials previously is that requiring the use of DEQs inspection form.

- 9. 301.02.4 Aggregate Treatment**

There was discussion about the use of aggregate treatment and when it is appropriate. Contractors have seen projects where it was deleted or not used even though it was bid. The Department stated that they see a definite benefit and doesn't know why it wouldn't be used.

- 10. 401.03.23(A) Ride Specification**

The minutes reflect the writer's impressions of the discussion and are not intended to imply or announce policy or directives. Refer to the contract to determine MDT requirements.

11. 401.03 PMS Construction

The Department stated that we have changed our process for taking Hamburg tests. Contractors will likely see more Hamburg samples. Contractors asked if the Department would still be taking on at the end of startup mix. Yes, there will still be a Hamburg test at that point.

Contractors asked about the timeframe to get results. The Department responded that there should be a timeframe, they would look into it.

Contractors asked if this was a step towards eliminating the mix design verification. At this point, no. However, there are additional Hamburg machines in the state now.

12. 403.02(B) Backer Rod

13. 407.03.3 Application of Emulsified Materials

One supplier voiced concern that his operation would not be able to meet this requirement due to existing plant set up. The supplier asked about the testing requirements, which MDT stated that the product will then be required to be on the QPL and that the viscosity will be conducted on undiluted SS-1, while the diluted material will be sampled in the field and tested for residue.

Contractors mentioned that if this was the direction MDT wanted to go, then maybe it would be best to add SS-1 as a bid item rather than including the price in other items. MDT acknowledged that it will require further review and discussion.

MDT NEW BUSINESS

1. BMP Manual

The Department mentioned the new BMP Manual is now posted on the internet. This replaces the one from 2004. There will be pilot projects before full scale implementation. It is available at the following link. <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/publications/docs/manuals/env/bmp-manual-jan15.PDF>

2. Legislative Review

The CMGC bill was discussed. This will be a priority for the Department during the next legislature as well.

The bill allowing fines double through the entire construction zone didn't pass either. This bill had support from a plethora of groups. It didn't seem that there was any opposition but it still didn't pass.

One issue the Legislators mentioned through the review of these bills was construction zones. Both MCA and the Department mentioned that, as a group we need to do a good job with our traffic control in construction zones so the traveling public has confidence in us.

The bill to require an interim study on transportation needs didn't pass either. MCA mentioned that we should get together and do an unofficial study to be prepared for the next legislative session. The Department mentioned their lack of funding in the future.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Glass Bead

Contractor asked for any resolution on the process of sampling glass beads. MDT explained that the procedure will still be to have inspectors sample from the gun.

2. DBE Usage

MDT briefly discussed the current DBE percentage (4.66).

The next MCA-MDT Highway Technical Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 17, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. at the MCA Office in Helena.