



South Carolina
Department of Transportation

July 11, 2011

INSTRUCTIONAL BULLETIN NO. 2011-2

SUBJECT: Letting Procedure for Projects with Controlled Fill

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 1, 2011

SUPERSEDES: None

RE: Section 203 Borrow Material

Some projects require the use of Borrow Material - Controlled Fill (see attached). When a designer specifies this material, the SCDOT has agreed with the Carolinas Association of General Contractors (AGC) to allow sixty days for the advertisement of the project. The standard letting schedule allows only thirty days. The extension of the advertisement is to allow the contractor additional time to locate a source for the material prior to bidding.

In order to accommodate the Department's commitment to the AGC and to maintain the scheduled obligation, projects that require this material shall follow a project development schedule that maintains an obligation month and corresponding letting date consistent with the "Dates for Assembling Information..." chart. This is to ensure that the PS&E will be completed on time to obligate the funding.

When the project schedule reaches the "Letting Review Meeting", the Letting Preparation Engineer will request that the project be advertised for sixty days, and that the letting date be moved out one month to the next normal letting date. It will be the responsibility of the Contracts Office to produce the advertisement, and the Preconstruction Resource Management Office to adjust the letting date.



James W. Kendall, Jr.
Preconstruction Support Engineer

JWK

Attachment

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Mitchell Metts, Director of Preconstruction
Leland Colvin, Director of Construction
Brian Keys, Asst. Chief Engineer for P, L, & D
Matt Lifsey, RP Engineer - Lowcountry

Mike Barbee, RP Engineer - Pee Dee
Randall Young, RP Engineer - Midlands
Tony Fallaw, RP Engineer - Upstate



SECTION 203: BORROW EXCAVATION:

Section 203.2.1.8 of the Standard Specifications is amended as follows:

Ensure that all borrow material placed on embankments meet the following minimum requirements:

- Effective internal friction angle of xx degrees or greater as determined from either direct shear (AASHTO T236) or triaxial (AASHTO T297) testing on remolded specimens performed by the Contractor.
- Effective cohesion of xx psf or greater as determined by triaxial (AASHTO T297) testing on remolded specimens performed by the Contractor.

Remold all samples to 95 percent of the maximum dry density as determined by the Standard Proctor test (AASHTO T99) and test at normal/consolidation stresses of 2, 5, and 8 ksf. Conduct shear strength and soil classification testing (AASHTO M145) at the initial selection of the borrow pit, any subsequent changes in borrow pits, and for every 50,000 cy of materials placed. This testing is in addition to the normal embankment and borrow sampling and testing requirements for classification and compaction in accordance with Section 205 of the SCDOT Construction Manual that are used for daily acceptance.

Perform additional shear strength testing at no additional cost to the Department when the Department deems that the materials being placed appear to be different from those originally tested. Submit all test results to the RCE for approval prior to use in embankment construction. The RCE will also submit copies of the test reports to the Quality Assurance Engineer at the Office of Materials and Research. Use only qualified laboratories that are appropriately accredited by AASHTO to perform the test procedures required by this specification.

Do not use material derived from Unclassified Excavation to construct embankments unless that material meets the requirements for Borrow Material as stated above.