

ORIGINATION FORM

THE INFORMATION BELOW IS TO BE PROVIDED BY THE ORIGINATOR (The person who receives or originates the issue and needs to forward the issue for action.)

Specification: 4-3.9.6
Subject: Conditions of Acceptance for Major Design Modifications of Category 2 Bridges

Origination date: June 10, 2009

Originator: David Amato
Office/Phone: Structures Design/414-4298

Problem statement: As currently written article 4-3.9.6 does not adequately specify the requirements and intent of Independent Peer Reviews for Value Engineering Change Proposals involving major design modifications of category 2 bridges. As a result, the Independent Peer Review which is intended to be a comprehensive verification of the original work, often times becomes a cursory review of design calculations.

Proposed solution: Proposed language for article 4-3.9.6 specifies the intent of the Independent Peer Review and clarifies the requirements of the Independent Review Engineer. In addition to the modified specification language, chapter 26 of the plans preparation manual will be modified to provide further guidance on the requirements of the Independent Peer Review.

Information source: Tom Andres

Recommended Usage Note:

Estimated fiscal impact, if implemented: The fee for Independent Peer Reviews could possibly increase.

Implementation of these changes, if and when approved, will begin with the January 2010 letting.



Florida Department of Transportation

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M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: June 22, 2009

TO: Specification Review Distribution List

FROM: Rudy Powell, Jr., P.E., State Specifications Engineer

SUBJECT: Proposed Specification: 0040309 Scope of Work – Value Engineering Incentive

In accordance with Specification Development Procedures, we are sending you a copy of a proposed specification change.

This change was proposed by David Amato to specify the intent of the independent peer review and to clarify the requirements of the independent review Engineer.

Please share this proposal with others within your responsibility. Review comments are due within four weeks and should be sent to Mail Station 75 or to my attention via e-mail at ST986RP or rudy.powell@dot.state.fl.us. Comments received after **July 20, 2009**, may not be considered. Your input is encouraged.

RP/dt
Attachment

**SCOPE OF THE WORK – VALUE ENGINEERING INCENTIVE
(REV 6-12-09)**

SUBARTICLE 004-3.9.6 (pages 28-29) is deleted and the following substituted:

4-3.9.6 Conditions of Acceptance for Major Design Modifications of

Category 2 Bridges: A VECP that proposes major design modifications of a category 2 bridge, as determined by the Engineer, shall have the following conditions of acceptance:

All bridge plans shall ~~be reviewed~~ *undergo an independent peer review conducted* by a single independent engineering firm (the independent *review* Engineer) not involved in the VECP design, *and* pre-qualified in accordance with ~~Chapter 14-75 Rule 14-75, Florida Administrative Code. The independent peer review is intended to be a comprehensive, thorough verification of the original work, to assure~~ *giving assurance* that the design is in compliance with all Department requirements. The independent *review* Engineer's comments, along with the resolution of each comment, shall be submitted to the Department. The independent *review* Engineer shall sign and seal a cover letter stating that all ~~of the independent Engineer's~~ comments have been adequately addressed and the design is in compliance with the Department requirements. If there are any unresolved comments the independent *review* Engineer shall specifically list all unresolved issues in the signed and sealed cover letter. *The independent p*Peer review will be funded by the Contractor.

The Contractor shall designate a primary engineer responsible for the VECP design and as such will be designated as the Contractors Engineer of Record for the VECP design. The Department reserves the right to require the Contractor's Engineer of Record to assume responsibility for the entire structure.

~~The Contractor shall have all permanent engineering work affected by the VECP, peer reviewed by an independent engineer other than the engineer initially performing the work. Engineering work includes but is not limited to: requests for acceptance for noncompliant work, repair procedures, shop drawing review, or design and review of activities affecting public safety. If the Specialty Engineer and Contractor's Engineer of Record are separate entities, either party may initiate the action; the other shall check and certify the work as being complete and correct prior to submittal to the Engineer. If the Specialty Engineer and Contractor's Engineer of Record are the same entity, the Specialty Engineer/Contractor's Engineer of Record will initiate the action of the independent firm contracted to prepare these requests and the Specialty Engineer/Contractor's Engineer of Record will check and certify the work of the independent firm as being complete and correct prior to submittal to the Engineer.~~

New designs *and independent peer reviews* shall be in compliance with all applicable Department, FHWA and AASHTO criteria requirements including bridge load ratings.