



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of Materials Management  
120 S. Shortridge Road  
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**Eric Holcomb, Governor**  
**Joe McGuinness, Commissioner**

September 18, 2018

## TESTING MEMORANDUM 18-06

**SUBJECT:** Immediate changes to HMA procedures for Fall 2018

**TO:** District Testing Staff  
Consultant and INDOT Acceptance Labs  
Certified HMA Producers

**FROM:** Matthew P. Beeson, State Materials Engineer *MPB*  
Office of Materials Management

Multiple processes and changes occurred in 2018 regarding HMA acceptance. As the 2018 construction season has progressed, there have been many issues raised regarding HMA procedures. INDOT has decided to immediately implement the following changes for the rest of the 2018 construction season.

- 1. Test Strip:** INDOT will consider waiving the requirements for a test strip for new 2018 DMFs on a case-by-case basis. The request, along with supporting reasons, shall be made to Nathan Awwad and the appropriate PE/S, AE and DTE shall also be copied. The main justification will be time constraints related to a contract. The INDOT Gsb list will be used for initial production (or an agreed upon lower value). This will be in effect for the rest of the 2018 construction season for any contract that contains RSP 401-R-661.
- 2. Core Appeals:** Currently, appeal cores are required when a subplot is appealed and the Core BSG QC and QA data differs by more than 0.010 (box turns yellow). Beginning with sublots paved (sample date) on 9/10/18 or after, INDOT will not require additional cores to be cut in a subplot appeal when both the QC and the QA data show a density of 92.0% or greater, even if the core BSG differs by more than 0.010. This will be in effect for any contract that contains RSP 400-R-641 or 401-R-661 and sublots paved on or after 9/10/18. The cutting of appeal cores will be optional under this provision, it will be important for the contractor to communicate the preference with the appropriate district personnel when requesting subplot appeals. It is important to note that if appeals cores are waived the final reported density may fall below 92% as the Gmm can change. Continuing in the interest of safety, INDOT will also allow backup cores (appeal cores) to be obtained at the same time as the original acceptance cores. INDOT will take possession of the backup cores at the same time as the original cores. They will be properly transported and stored in anticipation of any allowable appeals.
- 3. Open Graded Air Voids:** The current OG air voids pay factor is based on a deviation from the DMF. In certain situations, pay factors may not represent the quality of the material that was placed. Beginning with sublots paved (sample date) on 9/10/18 or after, INDOT is willing to evaluate the



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mixture properties on a case-by-case basis to see if the air void pay factor is appropriate. The contractor can appeal the Quality Adjustment (even if the material was not “failing”). The appeal shall be submitted to Mr. John Leckie, Chairman of the Failed Materials Committee, c/o Maryanne McDonnell, Office of Materials Management, 120. S. Shortridge Road, Indianapolis, IN 46219. This will be in effect for any contract that contains RSP 400-R-641 or 401-R-661.

4. **VMA Lower Limit:** Current Dense Graded VMA specifications have a lower limit at VMA spec minimum. It has been discussed that certain mixes, when placed just under VMA spec minimum, are a quality product that is not represented by the current pay adjustments.

It has been decided that INDOT will reevaluate the Quality Adjustment if;

- a) The subplot VMA is no more than 0.50% below specification minimum and the Vbe is at or above specification minimum.
- b) The subplot, accepted by 401.19(a), did not have Rejectable Quality Limits on Air Voids and/or Density
- c) The subplot, accepted by 401.19(b), was not failing on Air Voids or Density.
- d) The subplot was not part of a Final Adjudication by the Failed Materials Committee.
- e) The contract contains RSP 401-R-661 and was paved on or after 10/1/17
- f) The subplot is part of a contract that has not had a Final Estimate per 109.08

The contractor shall compile a list of all applicable sublots paved prior to 9/17/18 and submit the documentation to Nathan Awwad in a single submittal by 10/31/18. All documentation shall contain Contract number, Lot/sublot number, DMF number and Letting date. No consideration will be given to contracts submitted after 10/31/18 for sublots that were paved prior to 9/17/18.

For contracts that contain RSP 401-R-661 and are paved on or after 9/17/18 and meet the requirements in 4.a thru 4.e, an appeal of the Quality Adjustment (even if the material was not “failing”) shall be submitted to Mr. John Leckie, Chairman of the Failed Materials Committee, c/o Maryanne McDonnell, Office of Materials Management, 120. S. Shortridge Road, Indianapolis, IN 46219.

5. **AASHTO T331:** Dense graded HMA now requires AASHTO T331 “Corelok” on core BSG when absorption is greater than 2.0%. It has been decided that INDOT will employ an offset for density cores that had BSG determined by Corelok. INDOT will add 0.020 to the BSG of any density core that had BSG determined by the Corelok method. This is in effect for contracts that contain 401-R-661.

Upon request from the contractor, the Department will compile a list of all applicable cores and apply the offset to any contract that had cores taken prior to 9/17/18 and is part of a contract that has not had a Final Estimate per 109.08.

Any cores taken after 9/17/18 will automatically have the offset applied when corelok is used.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Nathan Awwad at 317-522-9661, or [nawwad@indot.in.gov](mailto:nawwad@indot.in.gov)