

October 10, 2003

**MEMORANDUM
03-14**

TO: District Directors
District Construction Engineers
Toll Road Operations Engineer
District Materials & Tests Engineers
District Area Engineers
Project Engineers/Supervisors

FROM: Dennis A. Kuchler, Chief
Contracts and Construction Division

RE: PLACEMENT OF RIP RAP WITHIN THE CLEAR ZONE

An agreement has been reached between the Chief Engineer and the FHWA regarding the placement of rip rap in ditches and at other locations within the clear zone. The purpose for this new policy is to improve safety by providing roadways with traversable areas within the clear zone.

The new policy is that all rip rap placed within the clear zone must be either:

1. Uniform Rip Rap or
2. Revetment Rip Rap Choked Off With No. 2 Aggregate

This policy applies to all active contracts. Change orders must be prepared for all contracts that do not provide for placement of rip rap within the clear zone in this manner.

The quantity of No. 2 aggregate required to choke off revetment rip rap inside clear zones should be calculated using a placement rate of 0.25 Ton/syd on English contracts or 0.30 Mg/m² on metric contracts.

The Design Manual will be revised in the near future to accommodate this policy. However, in the meantime, it will be necessary to evaluate individual contracts to verify that the placement of rip rap is in accordance with this new policy.

DAK:JGJ:jgj

cc: Operations Support