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April 5, 2006

MEMORANDUM
06-07

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

FROM: Mark A. Miller, Director *MAM*
Division of Construction Management

Subject: Payment Procedure for Signal Cable, Specification 805.15

Late last year a call was received from a contractor stating that payment for signal cable on construction contracts is being made differently in different districts and most are not following the procedure stated in specification 805.15. That specification states:

"The accepted quantities for payment for electrical signal or loop lead-in cable will be the quantities shown in the Schedule of Pay Items. Such quantities may be corrected if they are in error by more than 25%."

Each DCE at that time was contacted concerning the procedure they were using. Some were applying the specification to each separate traffic signal location and not adding the field measurement up and applying the 25% rule to the combined total which should be the quantity shown in the Schedule of Pay Items. Others were paying the contractor for the quantity they measured in the field and not applying the 25% rule allowed by the specification.

This topic was discussed at our winter construction conference held earlier this year. Based on that discussion, I have decided that the specification stated above will not be changed. The original intent of this specification was to allow the PE/S to not worry about making detailed measurement for signal cable in the field. It can be very difficult to determine, to the nearest foot, the length actually placed by the contractor since it is placed inside handholes, support poles, mast arms, drip loops, signal heads and other items. With less help being provided to the field, the Department needs to move in the direction of less time spent on determining accurate measurements. This specification, as written, allows a rough measurement to be made and then each location can be totaled and compared to the quantity shown in the Proposal. If it is within 25%, the PE/S has the authority to pay the quantity shown in the Schedule of Pay Items. Please be sure that specification 805.15 is being followed.

MAM:sec