TO: District Deputy Commissioners
   District Highway Operation Directors
   District Construction Engineers
   District Testing Engineers
   District Area Engineers
   Project Engineers/Supervisors

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

SUBJECT: 619 -- Painting Specification

The Department has learned of some inconsistencies with the enforcement of the 619 painting specification on past contracts. Particular attention should be paid to the specification requirements for surface preparation and resulting surface profile (619.08) and for the blasting media required when lead based coatings are present (619.07). If the specification references an SSPC surface preparation standard that, by definition, includes the removal of all mill scale, the Department expects that all mill scale will be removed, regardless of how long it has been on the steel members and the surface profile provided shall be in accordance with specifications. No additional compensation will be provided for removal of mill scale; the cost for this shall be included in the cost of the 619 items. Also, where the removal of lead based paint is specified, steel shot or grit shall be the blasting media used and recycled as per 619.07. The use of mineral or slag abrasives will not be permitted to remove lead based paint. No additional compensation will be provided for using steel shot or grit for the removal of lead based paint; the cost for this shall be included in the cost of the 619 items. If the contract does not contain lead based removal items and lead based paint is encountered in the field, then additional compensation will be considered as per 109.05.

If you have questions, please contact either the District personnel that recently attended the SSPC Coatings Inspection Training in May 2007 or the Division of Construction Management.