



Structures Engineering Instructions (SEI)

Distribution: Structures, Director PDD, Assistant Director PDD, PDD Section Managers, Chief of Contract Admin., Director Ops., Assistant Director Ops., Consultants

Approved: Wm. Michael Hedges **Date:** 3/4/09
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Subject: **Sand Borrow Substitution**

Administrative Information:

Effective Date: This SEI shall be effective for Structures Section projects from the date of approval.

Superseded SEI: None.

Exceptions: Exception to this SEI is granted if the design requires sand borrow and subbase would not be an appropriate substitution.

Disposition of SEI Content: The content of this SEI will be incorporated into a future revision to the Structures Manual and modify as necessary the Project Development Process for bridge projects.

Purpose:

To allow provide a note in Contract Plans that allows the Contractor the option of substituting subbase material for sand borrow.

Technical Information:

The available sources of sand borrow that meets subsection 703.03 are diminishing in the State of Vermont. This is having the effect of raising the price for sand borrow on projects. Recently, there have been a number of requests from contractors requesting permission to substitute subbase for sand borrow at the unit bid price for sand borrow. In an attempt to standardize how and when this substitution is made and potentially see lower bid prices for sand borrow the following note will be added to any project that has the sand borrow item.

The Contractor may substitute subbase material for the sand borrow shown on the Plans. The subbase material shall be the type specified in the Contract and shall be placed to meet the subbase specifications. If subbase is placed in lieu of sand borrow, a geotextile meeting the requirements of item 649.11 "Geotextile for Road Bed Separator" shall be placed between the subgrade and the subbase material. All costs associated with the substitution including the geotextile shall be incidental to 203.31 "Sand Borrow".

For projects that are in the early stages of design, the designer should consider using the subbase material in lieu of the sand borrow to achieve the necessary frost protection. In this case the designer should specify the use of a road bed separator geotextile between the subbase and subgrade and that work paid under the item 649.11 "Geotextile for Road Bed Separator".

Implementation:

The content of this SEI will be implemented immediately on all projects.

Transmitted Materials:

None.