STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

DANIEL H. JOHNSON
SECRETARY

October 8, 2025

ADDENDUM # 1

Contract ID:	DN12191557
TIP:	N/A
Federal Aid:	State Funded
WBS:	GMR14.HEN.1P; GMR14.HEN.2P: GMR14.POL.1P; ETC.
County:	Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Polk, Swain And Transylvania
Description:	ID/IQ Slope Stabilizationat Various Locations Throughout Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Polk, Swain and Transylvania Counties
Letting Date:	October 14, 2025

Plan Holders

Content Summary: Bidders Questions/Concerns, Associated Department Responses, Provision Changes

Bidders have posed the questions shown below and the Department has provided the associated responses:

Question/Concern 1: The previous Slope Stabilization contracts included a *Guarantees* provision; however, the currently advertised contract does not include this provision.

Department Response 1: The *Guarantees* provision will be included in this contract.

Question/Concern 2: The *Cooperation Between Contractors* provision is not included on the currently advertised proposals.

Department Response 2: The *Cooperation Between Contractors* provision will be included in this contract.

Mailing Address:
NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS - DIVISION 14
253 WEBSTER ROAD
SYLVA, NC 28779

Telephone: (828) 331-5200
Fax: (828) 331-5201
Customer Service: 1-877-368-4968

Website: www.ncdot.gov

Location:
253 WEBSTER ROAD
SYLVA, NC 28779

Question/Concern 3: The previous Slope Stabilization contracts that were being utilized for our Division included a *Geotechnical Appendices* containing provisions for several items of work (Soil Nail Slope Stabilization, Micropiles, etc.) that provided additional guidance and details on several of the pay items. These provisions are currently being referenced in the advertised lets under the Geotechnical Stabilization, Construction Methods section but not included/available in the currently advertised proposal.

Department Response 3: The *Geotechnical Appendices* will be included in this contract.

Question/Concern 4: It is apparent that both the state and federal versions of this ID/IQ Slope Stabilization contract have removed all contractor pre-qualifications. Given the region recently experienced thousands of slope failures related to extreme weather events, is it NCDOT's intent to remove contractor prequalifications from this contract?

Department Response 4: Prequalifications have not been removed. As stated in lines 34–36 on page 1-9 of the *2024 Standard Specifications for Roads and Structures*, bidders must be prequalified as either a PO Prime or Bidder status, as defined by the Prequalification Unit in Raleigh. The Department can no longer reject or award contracts based solely on the presence or absence of specific work codes.

Question/Concern 5: Regionally Tennessee DOT, South Carolina DOT, and Virginia DOT all require firms to demonstrate sufficient engineers, crew and equipment

Department Response 5: We appreciate the information regarding practices in other states; however, NCDOT has established its own procedures for conducting business. We recommend contacting the Prequalifications Unit in Raleigh to express your concerns or to discuss the necessity of specific prequalifications for this type of work. The Prequalifications Unit can be reached at 919-707-6909 or via email at prequal@ncdot.gov.

Question/Concern 6: Given the urgent nature of this contract and the likelihood urgent repairs are unexpected – how should the responsive bidders demonstrate their capacity to meet both the 24-hour site visit and the 48-hour design plan requirements?

Department Response 6: Once prequalified, bidders are not required to provide any additional demonstration.

Question/Concern 7: How many sites shall a contractor be required to perform simultaneously?

Department Response 7: This is an Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (ID/IQ) contract; therefore, that information is not known at this time.

Question/Concern 8: This solicitation involves contractors completing contractor designed solutions for slope repairs. Has the department considered that absent qualifications – an in-efficient, or overly-conservative design by the contractor will result in the installation of higher quantities, longer elements, and sites that are longer/taller,

and keep roads shut down for longer durations than a more experienced designer may specify. Thus, being the "low bidder" on the items alone does not protect NCDOT from the lowest-cost service provider as the solicitation is written today, absent qualifications?

Department Response 8: Once a firm has been prequalified, no additional requirements are necessary at this time. The Department mitigates its risk through two primary measures: verification of a valid General Contractor's License and the requirement of payment and performance bonds.

Question/Concern 9: Solicitations have a pay item for Emergency Mobilization within 24 hours. Are all mobilization's required within 24 hours of a task order? How will routine mobilizations be paid? For reference, TDOT, VDOT, and SCDOT all include both federally compliant language and items for primary mobilizations AND emergency mobilization line items.

Department Response 9: Mobilization is considered incidental to the other bid items. Provision SPD 01-820 MOBILIZATION AND LIQUIDATED DAMAGES FOR ID/IQ will be included in this contract.

Question/Concern 10: The bid documents appear to be missing some special provisions or special/standard details related to specific geotechnical line items included in the bid. Can the department confirm that all intended special provisions defining materials, and line items are adequately incorporated into the contract documents.

Department Response 10: Additional appendices have been included in this addendum that were part of the previous contract.

The above contract has experienced the following revisions:

1. Remove provision **SP1 G67 MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE AND WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DIVISIONS) on page G-5** through **G-21** with the attached revised **SP1 G67** provision

2. Addition of provision **SP1 G145R GUARANTEES** on page **G-22** (see attached)

3. Addition of provision **SP1 G133 COOPERATION BETWEEN CONTRACTORS** on page **G-22** (see attached)

4. Addition of **GEOTECHNICAL APPENDICES** on pages **GT-APP-1** through **GT-APP-35** (see attached)

These revisions do not change bid items or the associated quantities.

Please insert this addendum letter and any attachments into the addendum section of the proposal and sign the verification. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

If you have any questions, please contact the Division Proposal Engineer at (828) 331-5200.

Sincerely,

Signed by:

29BD93927CF24E6...

Jeanette L. White, P.E.
Highway Division 14, Project Development-Team Lead

NO MAJOR CONTRACT ITEMS:
(2-19-02) (Rev. 8-21-07) 104 SP1 G31

None of the items included in this contract will be major items.

NO SPECIALTY ITEMS:
(7-1-95)(Rev. 1-16-24) 108-6 SP1 G34

None of the items included in this contract will be specialty items (see Article 108-6 of the *Standard Specifications*).

SCHEDULE OF ESTIMATED COMPLETION PROGRESS:
(7-15-08)(Rev. 6-17-25) 108-2 SP1 G58

The Contractor's attention is directed to the Standard Special Provision entitled *Availability of Funds Termination of Contracts* included elsewhere in this proposal. The Department of Transportation's schedule of estimated completion progress for this project as required by that Standard Special Provision is as follows:

	Fiscal Year	**Progress (% of Dollar Value)**
2026	(7/01/25 - 6/30/26)	**62**% of Total Amount Bid
2027	(7/01/26 - 6/30/27)	**38**% of Total Amount Bid

The Contractor shall also furnish his own progress schedule in accordance with Article 108-2 of the *Standard Specifications*. Any acceleration of the progress as shown by the Contractor's progress schedule over the progress as shown above shall be subject to the approval of the Engineer.

MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE AND WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DIVISIONS):
(10-16-07)(Rev. 10-21-25) 102-15(J) SP1 G67

Description

The purpose of this Special Provision is to carry out the North Carolina Department of Transportation's policy of ensuring nondiscrimination in the award and administration of contracts financed in whole or in part with State funds.

Definitions

Additional MBE/WBE Subcontractors - Any MBE/WBE submitted at the time of bid that will not be used to meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal. No submittal of a Letter of Intent is required.

Combined MBE/WBE Goal: A portion of the total contract, expressed as a percentage that is to be performed by committed MBE/WBE subcontractors.

Committed MBE/WBE Subcontractor - Any MBE/WBE submitted at the time of bid that is being used to meet the Combined MBE / WBE goal by submission of a Letter of Intent. Or any MBE or WBE used as a replacement for a previously committed MBE or WBE firm.

Contract Goal Requirement - The approved participation at time of award, but not greater than the advertised Combined MBE/WBE contract goal.

Goal Confirmation Letter - Written documentation from the Department to the bidder confirming the Contractor's approved, committed participation along with a listing of the committed MBE and WBE firms.

Manufacturer - A firm that owns (or leases) and operates or maintains a factory or establishment that produces on the premises, the materials or supplies obtained by the Contractor. A firm that makes minor modifications to the materials, supplies, articles, or equipment is not a manufacturer.

MBE Participation (Anticipated) - A portion of the total contract, expressed as a percentage that is anticipated to be performed by committed MBE subcontractor(s).

Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) - A firm certified as a Disadvantaged Minority-Owned Business Enterprise through the North Carolina Unified Certification Program.

Regular Dealer - A firm that owns (or leases), and operates a store, warehouse, or other establishment in which the materials or supplies required for the performance of the contract are bought, kept in sufficient quantities, and regularly sold to the public in the usual course of business. A regular dealer engages in, as its principal business and in its own name, the purchase and sale or lease of the products in question. A regular dealer in such bulk items as steel, concrete or concrete products, gravel, stone, asphalt and petroleum products need not keep such products in stock, if it owns and operates distribution equipment for the products. Any supplement of regular dealers' own distribution equipment shall be by a long-term operating lease and not on an ad hoc or contract-by-contract basis.

Distributor – A firm that engages in the regular sale or lease of the items specified by the contract. A distributor assumes responsibility for the items it purchases once they leave the point of origin (e.g., a manufacturer's facility), making it liable for any loss or damage not covered by the carrier's insurance.

Replacement / Substitution – A full or partial reduction in the amount of work subcontracted to a committed (or an approved substitute) MBE/WBE firm.

North Carolina Unified Certification Program (NCUCP) - A program that provides comprehensive services and information to applicants for MBE/WBE certification. The MBE/WBE program follows the same regulations as the federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26.

United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) - Federal agency responsible for issuing regulations (49 CFR Part 26) and official guidance for the DBE program.

WBE Participation (Anticipated) - A portion of the total contract, expressed as a percentage that is anticipated to be performed by committed WBE subcontractor(s).

Women Business Enterprise (WBE) - A firm certified as a Disadvantaged Women-Owned Business Enterprise through the North Carolina Unified Certification Program.

Forms and Websites Referenced in this Provision

Payment Tracking System - On-line system in which the Contractor enters the payments made to MBE and WBE subcontractors who have performed work on the project. https://apps.dot.state.nc.us/Vendor/PaymentTracking/

DBE-IS *Subcontractor Payment Information* - Form for reporting the payments made to all MBE/WBE firms working on the project. This form is for paper bid projects only. https://connect.ncdot.gov/business/Turnpike/Documents/Form%20DBE-IS%20Subcontractor%20Payment%20Information.pdf

RF-1 *MBE/WBE Replacement Request Form* - Form for replacing a committed MBE or WBE. https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/construction/Construction%20Forms/DBE%20MBE%20WBE%20Replacement%20Form%20and%20Instructions.pdf

SAF *Subcontract Approval Form* - Form required for approval to sublet the contract. https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/construction/Construction%20Forms/SAF%20Form%20-%20Subcontract%20Approval%20Form%20Revised%2004-19.xlsm

JC-1 *Joint Check Notification Form* - Form and procedures for joint check notification. The form acts as a written joint check agreement among the parties providing full and prompt disclosure of the expected use of joint checks. http://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/construction/Construction%20Forms/Joint%20Check%20Notification%20Form.pdf

Letter of Intent - Form signed by the Contractor and the MBE/WBE subcontractor, manufacturer or regular dealer that affirms that a portion of said contract is going to be performed by the signed MBE/WBE for the estimated amount (based on quantities and unit prices) listed at the time of bid. http://connect.ncdot.gov/letting/LetCentral/Letter%20of%20Intent%20to%20Perform%20as%20a%20Subcontractor.pdf

Listing of MBE and WBE Subcontractors Form - Form for entering MBE/WBE subcontractors on a project that will meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal. This form is for paper bids only. http://connect.ncdot.gov/municipalities/Bid%20Proposals%20for%20LGA%20Content/09%20MBE-WBE%20Subcontractors%20(State).docx

Subcontractor Quote Comparison Sheet - Spreadsheet for showing all subcontractor quotes in the work areas where MBEs and WBEs quoted on the project. This sheet is submitted with good faith effort packages. http://connect.ncdot.gov/business/SmallBusiness/Documents/DBE%20Subcontractor%20Quote%20Comparison%20Example.xls

DBE Regular Dealer/Distributor Affirmation Form – Form is used to make a preliminary counting determination for each DBE listed as a regular dealer or distributor to assess its eligibility for 60 or 40 percent credit, respectively of the cost of materials or supplies based on its demonstrated capacity and intent to perform as a regular dealer or distributor, as defined in section 49 CFR 26.55 under the contract at issue. A Contractor will submit the completed form with the Letter of Intent. https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/construction/Construction%20Forms/DBE%20Regular%20Dealer-Distributor%20Affirmation%20Form%20-%20USDOT%202024.pdf

Combined MBE/WBE Goal

There is NO MBE/WBE Goal for this project.

Directory of Transportation Firms (Directory)

Real-time information is available about firms doing business with the Department and firms that are certified through NCUCP in the Directory of Transportation Firms. Only firms identified in the Directory as MBE and WBE certified shall be used to meet the Combined MBE / WBE goal. The Directory can be found at the following link.
https://www.ebs.nc.gov/VendorDirectory/default.html

The listing of an individual firm in the directory shall not be construed as an endorsement of the firm's capability to perform certain work.

Listing of MBE/WBE Subcontractors

At the time of bid, bidders shall submit all MBE and WBE participation that they anticipate to use during the life of the contract. Only those identified to meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal will be considered committed, even though the listing shall include both committed MBE/WBE subcontractors and additional MBE/WBE subcontractors. Any additional MBE/WBE subcontractor participation above the goal will follow the banking guidelines found elsewhere in this provision. All other additional MBE/WBE subcontractor participation submitted at the time of bid will be used toward the Department's overall race-neutral goals. Only those firms with current MBE and WBE certification at the time of bid opening will be acceptable for listing in the bidder's submittal of MBE and WBE participation. The Contractor shall indicate the following required information:

(A) Electronic Bids

Bidders shall submit a listing of MBE and WBE participation in the appropriate section of the electronic submittal file.

(1) Submit the names and addresses of MBE and WBE firms identified to participate in the contract. If the bidder uses the updated listing of MBE and WBE firms shown in the electronic submittal file, the bidder may use the dropdown menu to access the name and address of the firms.

(2) Submit the contract line numbers of work to be performed by each MBE and WBE firm. When no figures or firms are entered, the bidder will be considered to have no MBE or WBE participation.

(3) The bidder shall be responsible for ensuring that the MBE and WBE are certified at the time of bid by checking the Directory of Transportation Firms. If the firm is not certified at the time of the bid-letting, that MBE's or WBE's participation will not count towards achieving the Combined MBE/WBE goal.

(B) Paper Bids

(1) *If the Combined MBE/ WBE goal is more than zero,*

(a) Bidders, at the time the bid proposal is submitted, shall submit a listing of MBE/WBE participation, including the names and addresses on *Listing of MBE and WBE Subcontractors* contained elsewhere in the contract documents in order for the bid to be considered responsive. Bidders shall indicate the total dollar value of the MBE and WBE participation for the contract.

(b) If bidders have no MBE or WBE participation, they shall indicate this on the *Listing of MBE and WBE Subcontractors* by entering the word "None" or the number "0." This form shall be completed in its entirety. **Blank forms will not be deemed to represent zero participation.** Bids submitted that do not have MBE and WBE participation indicated on the appropriate form will not be read publicly during the opening of bids. The Department will not consider these bids for award and the proposal will be rejected.

(c) The bidder shall be responsible for ensuring that the MBE/WBE is certified at the time of bid by checking the Directory of Transportation Firms. If the firm is not certified at the time of the bid-letting, that MBE's or WBE's participation will not count towards achieving the Combined MBE/WBE goal.

(2) *If the Combined MBE/WBE Goal is zero,* entries on the *Listing of MBE and WBE Subcontractors* are not required for the zero goal, however any MBE or WBE participation that is achieved during the project shall be reported in accordance with requirements contained elsewhere in the special provision.

MBE or WBE Prime Contractor

When a certified MBE or WBE firm bids on a contract that contains a Combined MBE/WBE Goal, the firm is responsible for meeting the goal or making good faith efforts to meet the goal, just like any other bidder. In most cases, a MBE or WBE bidder on a contract will meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal by virtue of the work it performs on the contract with its own forces. However, all the work that is performed by the MBE or WBE bidder and any other similarly certified

subcontractors will count toward the goal. The MBE or WBE bidder shall list itself along with any MBE or WBE subcontractors, if any, in order to receive credit toward the goals.

MBE/WBE prime contractors shall also follow Sections A or B listed under *Listing of MBE/WBE Subcontractors* just as a non-MBE/WBE bidder would.

Written Documentation – Letter of Intent

The bidder shall submit written documentation for each MBE/WBE that will be used to meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal of the contract, indicating the bidder's commitment to use the MBE/WBE in the contract. This documentation shall be submitted on the Department's form titled *Letter of Intent*.

The documentation shall be received in the office of the Engineer no later than 2:00 p.m. of the fifth calendar day following opening of bids, unless the fifth day falls on Saturday, Sunday or an official state holiday. In that situation, it is due in the office of the Engineer no later than 10:00 a.m. on the next official state business day.

If the bidder fails to submit the Letter of Intent from each committed MBE and WBE to be used toward the Combined MBE/WBE goal, or if the form is incomplete (i.e. both signatures are not present), the MBE/WBE participation will not count toward meeting the Combined MBE/WBE goal. If the lack of this participation drops the commitment below the Combined MBE/WBE goal, the Contractor shall submit evidence of good faith efforts for the goal not met, completed in its entirety, to the Engineer no later than 2:00 p.m. of the eighth calendar day following opening of bids, unless the eighth day falls on Saturday, Sunday or an official state holiday. In that situation, it is due in the office of the Engineer no later than 10:00 a.m. on the next official state business day.

Banking MBE/WBE Credit

If the committed MBE/WBE participation submitted exceeds the algebraic sum of the Combined MBE/WBE goal by $1,000 or more, the excess will be placed on deposit by the Department for future use by the bidder. Separate accounts will be maintained for MBE and WBE participation and these may accumulate for a period not to exceed 24 months.

When the apparent lowest responsive bidder fails to submit sufficient participation by MBE and WBE firms to meet the advertised goal, as part of the good faith effort, the Department will consider allowing the bidder to withdraw funds to meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal as long as there are adequate funds available from the bidder's MBE and WBE bank accounts.

Submission of Good Faith Effort

If the bidder fails to meet or exceed the Combined MBE/WBE goal, the apparent lowest responsive bidder shall submit to the Department documentation of adequate good faith efforts made to reach that specific goal.

One complete set and **#Copies** copies of this information shall be received in the office of the Engineer no later than 2:00 p.m. of the fifth calendar day following opening of bids, unless the

fifth day falls on Saturday, Sunday or an official state holiday. In that situation, it is due in the office of the Engineer no later than 10:00 a.m. on the next official state business day.

Note: Where the information submitted includes repetitious solicitation letters, it will be acceptable to submit a representative letter along with a distribution list of the firms that were solicited. Documentation of MBE/WBE quotations shall be a part of the good faith effort submittal. This documentation may include written subcontractor quotations, telephone log notations of verbal quotations, or other types of quotation documentation.

Consideration of Good Faith Effort for Projects with a Combined MBE/WBE Goal More Than Zero

Adequate good faith efforts mean that the bidder took all necessary and reasonable steps to achieve the goal which, by their scope, intensity, and appropriateness, could reasonably be expected to obtain sufficient MBE/WBE participation. Adequate good faith efforts also mean that the bidder actively and aggressively sought MBE/WBE participation. Mere *pro forma* efforts are not considered good faith efforts.

The Department will consider the quality, quantity, and intensity of the different kinds of efforts a bidder has made. Listed below are examples of the types of actions a bidder will take in making a good faith effort to meet the goals and are not intended to be exclusive or exhaustive, nor is it intended to be a mandatory checklist.

(A) Soliciting through all reasonable and available means (e.g. attendance at pre-bid meetings, advertising, written notices, use of verifiable electronic means through the use of the NCDOT Directory of Transportation Firms) the interest of all certified MBEs/WBEs that are also prequalified subcontractors. The bidder must solicit this interest within at least 10 days prior to bid opening to allow the MBEs/WBEs to respond to the solicitation. Solicitation shall provide the opportunity to MBEs/WBEs within the Division and surrounding Divisions where the project is located. The bidder must determine with certainty if the MBEs/WBEs are interested by taking appropriate steps to follow up initial solicitations.

(B) Selecting portions of the work to be performed by MBEs/WBEs in order to increase the likelihood that the Combined MBE/WBE goal will be achieved.

(1) Where appropriate, break out contract work items into economically feasible units to facilitate MBE/WBE participation, even when the prime contractor might otherwise prefer to perform these work items with its own forces.

(2) Negotiate with subcontractors to assume part of the responsibility to meet the advertised goal when the work to be sublet includes potential for MBE/WBE participation (2nd and 3rd tier subcontractors).

(C) Providing interested certified MBEs/WBEs that are also prequalified subcontractors with adequate information about the plans, specifications, and requirements of the contract in a timely manner to assist them in responding to a solicitation.

(D) (1) Negotiating in good faith with interested MBEs/WBEs. It is the bidder's responsibility to make a portion of the work available to MBE/WBE subcontractors and suppliers and to select those portions of the work or material needs consistent with the available MBE/WBE subcontractors and suppliers, so as to facilitate MBE/WBE participation. Evidence of such negotiation includes the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of MBEs/WBEs that were considered; a description of the information provided regarding the plans and specifications for the work selected for subcontracting; and evidence as to why additional agreements could not be reached for MBEs/WBEs to perform the work.

(2) A bidder using good business judgment would consider a number of factors in negotiating with subcontractors, including MBE/WBE subcontractors, and would take a firm's price and capabilities as well as the advertised goal into consideration. However, the fact that there may be some additional costs involved in finding and using MBEs/WBEs is not in itself sufficient reason for a bidder's failure to meet the advertised goal, as long as such costs are reasonable. Also, the ability or desire of a prime contractor to perform the work of a contract with its own organization does not relieve the bidder of the responsibility to make good faith efforts. Bidding contractors are not, however, required to accept higher quotes from MBEs/WBEs if the price difference is excessive or unreasonable.

(E) Not rejecting MBEs/WBEs as being unqualified without sound reasons based on a thorough investigation of their capabilities. The bidder's standing within its industry, membership in specific groups, organizations, or associates and political or social affiliations (for example, union vs. non-union employee status) are not legitimate causes for the rejection or non-solicitation of bids in the bidder's efforts to meet the project goal.

(F) Making efforts to assist interested MBEs/WBEs in obtaining bonding, lines of credit, or insurance as required by the recipient or bidder.

(G) Making efforts to assist interested MBEs/WBEs in obtaining necessary equipment, supplies, materials, or related assistance or services.

(H) Effectively using the services of available minority/women community organizations; minority/women contractors' groups; Federal, State, and local minority/women business assistance offices; and other organizations as allowed on a case-by-case basis to provide assistance in the recruitment and placement of MBEs/WBEs. Contact within 7 days from the bid opening the Business Opportunity and Work Force Development Unit at BOWD@ncdot.gov to give notification of the bidder's inability to get MBE or WBE quotes.

(I) Any other evidence that the bidder submits which shows that the bidder has made reasonable good faith efforts to meet the advertised goal.

In addition, the Department may take into account the following:

(1) Whether the bidder's documentation reflects a clear and realistic plan for achieving the Combined MBE/WBE goal.

(2) The bidders' past performance in meeting the contract goal.

(3) The performance of other bidders in meeting the advertised goal. For example, when the apparent successful bidder fails to meet the goal, but others meet it, you may reasonably raise the question of whether, with additional reasonable efforts the apparent successful bidder could have met the goal. If the apparent successful bidder fails to meet the advertised goal, but meets or exceeds the average MBE and WBE participation obtained by other bidders, the Department may view this, in conjunction with other factors, as evidence of the apparent successful bidder having made a good faith effort.

If the Department does not award the contract to the apparent lowest responsive bidder, the Department reserves the right to award the contract to the next lowest responsive bidder that can satisfy to the Department that the Combined MBE/WBE goal can be met or that an adequate good faith effort has been made to meet the advertised goal.

Non-Good Faith Appeal

The Engineer will notify the Contractor verbally and in writing of non-good faith. A Contractor may appeal a determination of non-good faith made by the Goal Compliance Committee. If a Contractor wishes to appeal the determination made by the Committee, they shall provide written notification to the Engineer. The appeal shall be made within 2 business days of notification of the determination of non-good faith.

Counting MBE/WBE Participation Toward Meeting the Combined MBE/WBE Goal

(A) Participation

The total dollar value of the participation by a committed MBE/WBE will be counted toward the contract goal requirements. The total dollar value of participation by a committed MBE/WBE will be based upon the value of work performed by the MBE/WBE and the actual payments to MBE/WBE firms by the Contractor.

(B) Joint Checks

Prior notification of joint check use shall be required when counting MBE/WBE participation for services or purchases that involves the use of a joint check. Notification shall be through submission of Form JC-1 *(Joint Check Notification Form)* and the use of joint checks shall be in accordance with the Department's Joint Check Procedures.

(C) Subcontracts (Non-Trucking)

A MBE/WBE may enter into subcontracts. Work that a MBE subcontracts to another MBE firm may be counted toward the anticipated MBE participation. The same holds for work that a WBE subcontracts to another WBE firm. Work that a MBE/WBE subcontracts to a non-MBE/WBE firm does <u>not</u> count toward the contract goal requirement. It should be

noted that every effort shall be made by MBE and WBE contractors to subcontract to the same certification (i.e., MBEs to MBEs and WBEs to WBEs), in order to fulfill the MBE or WBE participation breakdown. This, however, may not always be possible due to the limitation of firms in the area. If the MBE or WBE firm shows a good faith effort has been made to reach out to similarly certified firms and there is no interest or availability, and they can get assistance from other certified firms, the Engineer will not hold the prime responsible for meeting the individual MBE or WBE breakdown. If a MBE or WBE contractor or subcontractor subcontracts a significantly greater portion of the work of the contract than would be expected on the basis of standard industry practices, it shall be presumed that the MBE or WBE is not performing a commercially useful function.

(D) Joint Venture

When a MBE or WBE performs as a participant in a joint venture, the Contractor may count toward its contract goal requirement a portion of the total value of participation with the MBE or WBE in the joint venture, that portion of the total dollar value being a distinct clearly defined portion of work that the MBE or WBE performs with its forces.

(E) Manufacturer, Regular Dealer, Distributor

A Contractor may count toward its MBE/WBE requirement 40 percent of its expenditures for materials or supplies (including transportation costs) from a MBE/WBE distributor, 60 percent of its expenditures for materials or supplies (including transportation costs) from a MBE/WBE regular dealer and 100 percent of such expenditures obtained from a MBE/WBE manufacturer.

A Contractor may count toward its MBE/WBE requirement the following expenditures to MBE/WBE firms that are not manufacturers, regular dealers or distributors:

(1) The fees or commissions charged by a MBE/WBE firm for providing a *bona fide* service, such as professional, technical, consultant, or managerial services, or for providing bonds or insurance specifically required for the performance of a DOT-assisted contract, provided the fees or commissions are determined to be reasonable and not excessive as compared with fees and commissions customarily allowed for similar services.

(2) With respect to materials or supplies purchased from a MBE/WBE, which is neither a manufacturer, regular dealer, nor a distributor count the entire amount of fees or commissions charged that the Department deems to be reasonable, including transportation charges for the delivery of materials or supplies. Do not count any portion of the cost of the materials and supplies themselves.

A Contractor will submit a completed *DBE Regular Dealer/Distributor Affirmation Form* with the Letter of Intent to the Engineer. The Engineer will forward to the State Contractor Utilization Engineer or DBE@ncdot.gov. The State Contractor Utilization Engineer will make a preliminary assessment as to whether a MBE/WBE supplier has the demonstrated capacity to perform a commercially useful function (CUF) on a contract-by-contract basis *prior* to its participation.

Commercially Useful Function

(A) MBE/WBE Utilization

The Contractor may count toward its contract goal requirement only expenditures to MBEs and WBEs that perform a commercially useful function in the work of a contract. A MBE/WBE performs a commercially useful function when it is responsible for execution of the work of the contract and is carrying out its responsibilities by performing, managing, and supervising the work involved. To perform a commercially useful function, the MBE/WBE shall also be responsible with respect to materials and supplies used on the contract, for negotiating price, determining quality and quantity, ordering the material and installing (where applicable) and paying for the material itself. To determine whether a MBE/WBE is performing a commercially useful function, the Department will evaluate the amount of work subcontracted, industry practices, whether the amount the firm is to be paid under the contract is commensurate with the work it is performing and the MBE/WBE credit claimed for its performance of the work, and any other relevant factors. If it is determined that a MBE or WBE is not performing a Commercially Useful Function, the contractor may present evidence to rebut this presumption to the Department.

(B) MBE/WBE Utilization in Trucking

The following factors will be used to determine if a MBE or WBE trucking firm is performing a commercially useful function:

(1) The MBE/WBE shall be responsible for the management and supervision of the entire trucking operation for which it is responsible on a particular contract, and there shall not be a contrived arrangement for the purpose of meeting the Combined MBE/WBE goal.

(2) The MBE/WBE shall itself own and operate at least one fully licensed, insured, and operational truck used on the contract.

(3) The MBE/WBE receives credit for the total value of the transportation services it provides on the contract using trucks it owns, insures, and operates using drivers it employs.

(4) The MBE may subcontract the work to another MBE firm, including an owner-operator who is certified as a MBE. The same holds true that a WBE may subcontract the work to another WBE firm, including an owner-operator who is certified as a WBE. When this occurs, the MBE or WBE who subcontracts work receives credit for the total value of the transportation services the subcontracted

MBE or WBE provides on the contract. It should be noted that every effort shall be made by MBE and WBE contractors to subcontract to the same certification (i.e., MBEs to MBEs and WBEs to WBEs), in order to fulfill the participation breakdown. This, however, may not always be possible due to the limitation of firms in the area. If the MBE or WBE firm shows a good faith effort has been made to reach out to similarly certified transportation service providers and there is no interest or availability, and they can get assistance from other certified providers, the Engineer will not hold the prime responsible for meeting the individual MBE or WBE participation breakdown.

(5) The MBE/WBE may also subcontract the work to a non-MBE/WBE firm, including from an owner-operator. The MBE/WBE who subcontracts the work to a non-MBE/WBE is entitled to credit for the total value of transportation services provided by the non-MBE/WBE subcontractor not to exceed the value of transportation services provided by MBE/WBE-owned trucks on the contract. Additional participation by non-MBE/WBE subcontractors receives credit only for the fee or commission it receives as a result of the subcontract arrangement. The value of services performed under subcontract agreements between the MBE/WBE and the Contractor will not count towards the MBE/WBE contract requirement.

(6) A MBE/WBE may lease truck(s) from an established equipment leasing business open to the general public. The lease must indicate that the MBE/WBE has exclusive use of and control over the truck. This requirement does not preclude the leased truck from working for others during the term of the lease with the consent of the MBE/WBE, so long as the lease gives the MBE/WBE absolute priority for use of the leased truck. This type of lease may count toward the MBE/WBE's credit as long as the driver is under the MBE/WBE's payroll.

(7) Subcontracted/leased trucks shall display clearly on the dashboard the name of the MBE/WBE that they are subcontracted/leased to and their own company name if it is not identified on the truck itself. Magnetic door signs are not permitted.

MBE/WBE Replacement

When a Contractor has relied on a commitment to a MBE or WBE subcontractor (or an approved substitute MBE or WBE subcontractor) to meet all or part of a contract goal requirement, the contractor shall not terminate the MBE/WBE subcontractor or any portion of its work for convenience. This includes, but is not limited to, instances in which the Contractor seeks to perform the work of the terminated subcontractor with another MBE/WBE subcontractor, a non-MBE/WBE subcontractor, or with the Contractor's own forces or those of an affiliate.

The Contractor must give notice in writing both by certified mail and email to the MBE/WBE subcontractor, with a copy to the Engineer of its intent to request to terminate a MBE/WBE subcontractor or any portion of its work, and the reason for the request. The Contractor must give the MBE/WBE subcontractor five (5) business days to respond to the Contractor's Notice of Intent to Request Termination and/or Substitution. If the MBE/WBE subcontractor objects to the intended termination/substitution, the MBE/WBE, within five (5) business days must advise the Contractor and the Department of the reasons why the action should not be approved. The five-

day notice period shall begin on the next business day after written notice is provided to the MBE/WBE subcontractor.

A committed MBE/WBE subcontractor may only be terminated or any portion of its work after receiving the Department's written approval based upon a finding of good cause for the proposed termination and/or substitution. Good cause does not exist if the Contractor seeks to terminate a MBE/WBE or any portion of its work that it relied upon to obtain the contract so that the Contractor can self-perform the work for which the MBE/WBE was engaged, or so that the Contractor can substitute another MBE/WBE or non- MBE/WBE contractor after contract award. For purposes of this section, good cause shall include the following circumstances:

(a) The listed MBE/WBE subcontractor fails or refuses to execute a written contract;
(b) The listed MBE/WBE subcontractor fails or refuses to perform the work of its subcontract in a way consistent with normal industry standards. Provided, however, that good cause does not exist if the failure or refusal of the MBE/WBE subcontractor to perform its work on the subcontract results from the bad faith or discriminatory action of the prime contractor;
(c) The listed MBE/WBE subcontractor fails or refuses to meet the prime contractor's reasonable, nondiscriminatory bond requirements;
(d) The listed MBE/WBE subcontractor becomes bankrupt, insolvent, or exhibits credit unworthiness;
(e) The listed MBE/WBE subcontractor is ineligible to work on public works projects because of suspension and debarment proceedings pursuant to 2 CFR parts 180, 215 and 1200 or applicable State law;
(f) The listed MBE/WBE subcontractor is not a responsible contractor;
(g) The listed MBE/WBE voluntarily withdraws from the project and provides written notice of withdrawal;
(h) The listed MBE/WBE is ineligible to receive MBE/WBE credit for the type of work required;
(i) A MBE/WBE owner dies or becomes disabled with the result that the listed MBE/WBE contractor is unable to complete its work on the contract; and
(j) Other documented good cause that compels the termination of the MBE/WBE subcontractor.

The Contractor shall comply with the following for replacement of a committed MBE/WBE:

(A) Performance Related Replacement

When a committed MBE/WBE is terminated for good cause as stated above, an additional MBE/WBE that was submitted at the time of bid may be used to fulfill the MBE/WBE commitment to meet the Combined MBE/WBE Goal. A good faith effort will only be required for removing a committed MBE/WBE if there were no additional MBE/WBEs submitted at the time of bid to cover the same amount of work as the MBE/WBE that was terminated.

If a replacement MBE/WBE is not found that can perform at least the same amount of work as the terminated MBE/WBE, the Contractor shall submit a good faith effort documenting the steps taken. Such documentation shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) Copies of written notification to MBE/WBEs that their interest is solicited in contracting the work defaulted by the previous MBE/WBE or in subcontracting other items of work in the contract.

(2) Efforts to negotiate with MBE/WBEs for specific subbids including, at a minimum:

(a) The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of MBE/WBEs who were contacted.
(b) A description of the information provided to MBE/WBEs regarding the plans and specifications for portions of the work to be performed.

(3) A list of reasons why MBE/WBE quotes were not accepted.

(4) Efforts made to assist the MBE/WBEs contacted, if needed, in obtaining bonding or insurance required by the Contractor.

(B) Decertification Replacement

(1) When a committed MBE/WBE is decertified by the Department after the SAF (*Subcontract Approval Form*) has been received by the Department, the Department will not require the Contractor to solicit replacement MBE/WBE participation equal to the remaining work to be performed by the decertified firm. The participation equal to the remaining work performed by the decertified firm will count toward the contract goal requirement but not the overall goal.

(i) If the MBE/WBE's ineligibility is caused solely by its having exceeded the size standard during the performance of the contract. The Department may continue to count participation equal to the remaining work performed by the decertified firm which will count toward the contract goal requirement and overall goal.

(ii) If the MBE/WBE's ineligibility is caused solely by its acquisition by or merger with a non- MBE/WBE during the performance of the contract. The Department may not continue to count the portion of the decertified firm's performance on the contract remaining toward either the contract goal or the overall goal, even if the Contractor has executed a subcontract with the firm or the Department has executed a prime contract with the MBE/WBE that was later decertified.

(2) When a committed MBE/WBE is decertified prior to the Department receiving the SAF (*Subcontract Approval Form*) for the named MBE/WBE firm, the Contractor shall take all necessary and reasonable steps to replace the MBE/WBE subcontractor with another MBE/WBE subcontractor to perform at least the same

amount of work to meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal requirement. If a MBE/WBE firm is not found to do the same amount of work, a good faith effort must be submitted to NCDOT (see A herein for required documentation).

All requests for replacement of a committed MBE/WBE firm shall be submitted to the Engineer for approval on Form RF-1 *(DBE Replacement Request).* If the Contractor fails to follow this procedure, the Contractor may be disqualified from further bidding for a period of up to 6 months.

Changes in the Work

When the Engineer makes changes that result in the reduction or elimination of work to be performed by a committed MBE/WBE, the Contractor will not be required to seek additional participation. When the Engineer makes changes that result in additional work to be performed by a MBE/WBE based upon the Contractor's commitment, the MBE/WBE shall participate in additional work to the same extent as the MBE/WBE participated in the original contract work.

When the Engineer makes changes that result in extra work, which has more than a minimal impact on the contract amount, the Contractor shall seek additional participation by MBEs/WBEs unless otherwise approved by the Engineer.

When the Engineer makes changes that result in an alteration of plans or details of construction, and a portion or all of the work had been expected to be performed by a committed MBE/WBE, the Contractor shall seek participation by MBEs/WBEs unless otherwise approved by the Engineer.

When the Contractor requests changes in the work that result in the reduction or elimination of work that the Contractor committed to be performed by a MBE/WBE, the Contractor shall seek additional participation by MBEs/WBEs equal to the reduced MBE/WBE participation caused by the changes.

Reports and Documentation

A SAF (*Subcontract Approval Form*) shall be submitted for all work which is to be performed by a MBE/WBE subcontractor. The Department reserves the right to require copies of actual subcontract agreements involving MBE/WBE subcontractors.

When using transportation services to meet the contract commitment, the Contractor shall submit a proposed trucking plan in addition to the SAF. The plan shall be submitted prior to beginning construction on the project. The plan shall include the names of all trucking firms proposed for use, their certification type(s), the number of trucks owned by the firm, as well as the individual truck identification numbers, and the line item(s) being performed.

Within 30 calendar days of entering into an agreement with a MBE/WBE for materials, supplies or services, not otherwise documented by the SAF as specified above, the Contractor shall furnish the Engineer a copy of the agreement. The documentation shall also indicate the percentage (60% or 100%) of expenditures claimed for MBE/WBE credit.

Reporting Minority and Women Business Enterprise Participation

The Contractor shall provide the Engineer with an accounting of payments made to all MBE and WBE firms, including material suppliers and contractors at all levels (prime, subcontractor, or second tier subcontractor). This accounting shall be furnished to the Engineer for any given month by the end of the following month. Failure to submit this information accordingly may result in the following action:

(A) Withholding of money due in the next partial pay estimate; or

(B) Removal of an approved contractor from the prequalified bidders' list or the removal of other entities from the approved subcontractors list.

While each contractor (prime, subcontractor, 2nd tier subcontractor) is responsible for accurate accounting of payments to MBEs/WBEs, it shall be the prime contractor's responsibility to report all monthly and final payment information in the correct reporting manner.

Failure on the part of the Contractor to submit the required information in the time frame specified may result in the disqualification of that contractor and any affiliate companies from further bidding until the required information is submitted.

Failure on the part of any subcontractor to submit the required information in the time frame specified may result in the disqualification of that contractor and any affiliate companies from being approved for further work on future projects until the required information is submitted.

Contractors reporting transportation services provided by non-MBE/WBE lessees shall evaluate the value of services provided during the month of the reporting period only.

At any time, the Engineer can request written verification of subcontractor payments.
The Contractor shall report the accounting of payments through the Department's DBE Payment Tracking System.

Failure to Meet Contract Requirements

Failure to meet contract requirements in accordance with Subarticle 102-15(J) of the *Standard Specifications* may be cause to disqualify the Contractor.

MULTI-YEAR MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS (ID/IQ):

(4-20-21) (Rev. 4-19-22) SP1 G75

This contract is a multi-year maintenance contract let pursuant to the provisions of N.C. General Statute §136-28.1(b). No minimum quantity of services is guaranteed to be awarded bidders under this contract. In accordance with N.C. General Statute §136-28.1(b), an award in a maintenance contract may be for an amount less but shall not exceed $5,000,000 per year. No payments in excess of this amount will be disbursed, in accordance with the Statute.

10. If the ambient temperature is less than 32 degrees Fahrenheit. Limited idling to provide for the safety of vehicle occupants (e.g. to run the heater).
11. If the ambient temperature is greater than 90 degrees Fahrenheit. Limited idling to provide for the safety of vehicle occupants of off-highway equipment (e.g. to run the air conditioning) no more than 30 minutes.
12. Diesel powered vehicles may idle for up to 30 minutes to minimize restart problems.

Any vehicle, truck, or equipment in which the primary source of fuel is natural gas or electricity is exempt from the idling limitations set forth in this special provision.

OUTSOURCING OUTSIDE THE USA:
(9-21-04) (Rev. 5-16-06) SP1 G150

All work on consultant contracts, services contracts, and construction contracts shall be performed in the United States of America. No work shall be outsourced outside of the United States of America.

Outsourcing for the purpose of this provision is defined as the practice of subcontracting labor, work, services, staffing, or personnel to entities located outside of the United States.

The North Carolina Secretary of Transportation shall approve exceptions to this provision in writing.

COOPERATION BETWEEN CONTRACTORS:
(7-1-95)(Rev. 1-16-24) 105-7 SP1 G133

The Contractor's attention is directed to Article 105-7 of the Standard Specifications.

Locations shall be determined by the Engineer.

The Contractor on this project shall cooperate with the Contractor working within or adjacent to the limits of this project to the extent that the work can be carried out to the best advantage of all concerned.

GUARANTEES:
(7-15-03)(Rev. 10-14-25) 108 SP1 G145R

The Contractor shall guarantee materials and workmanship against latent and patent defects arising from
faulty materials, faulty workmanship or negligence for a period of **5 years** following the date of final acceptance of the work for maintenance and shall replace such defective materials and workmanship without cost to the Department. The Contractor will not be responsible for damage due to normal wear and tear, for negligence on the part of the Department, or for use in excess of the design.

This guarantee shall be invoked only for major components of work in which the Contractor would be wholly responsible under the terms of the contract; examples would include but not be limited to soil nail wall components. This provision will not be used as a mechanism to force the Contractor to return to the project to make repairs or perform additional for which the Department

would normally compensate the Contractor. In addition, routine maintenance activities (i.e., mowing grass, debris removal, ruts in earth shoulders,) are not parts of this guarantee.

Appropriate provisions of the payment bonds (for **1 year**) and performance bonds (for **5 years**) shall cover this guarantee for the project.

To ensure uniform application statewide the Division Engineer will forward details regarding the circumstances surrounding any proposed guarantee repairs to the Chief Engineer for review and approval prior to the work being performed.

GEOTECHNICAL APPENDICES

FOR REFERENCE ONLY

GEOTECHNICAL APPENDIX A

SOIL NAIL SLOPE STABILIZATION: (SPECIAL)

GENERAL

A soil nail is defined as a steel bar grouted in a drilled hole inclined at an angle below horizontal. Soil nail slope stabilization consists of soil nails spaced at a regular pattern and connected to a flexible, steel wire mesh facing. Construct soil nail slope stabilization based on actual elevations and dimensions in accordance with this provision, the accepted submittals and the plans. For this provision, "Soil Nail Slope Stabilization Contractor" refers to the contractor installing the soil nails and applying the facing.

SUBMITTALS

Submit a soil nail slope stabilization installation and testing plan. Provide an electronic copy of the plan in PDF format. Allow 10 working days for the review of the Soil Nail Slope Stabilization submittal. Do not begin soil nail slope stabilization construction including sacrificial soil nails for verification tests until the installation and testing plan is accepted.

Submit detailed project specific information including the following.

Excavation methods and equipment.

List and sizes of proposed drilling rigs and tools, tremies and grouting equipment.

Sequence and step-by-step description of soil nail slope stabilization construction including details of drilling and grouting methods, soil nail installation and facing construction.

Examples of construction and test nail records to be provided in accordance with Sections 6.0 and 7.0, Item F, respectively.

Grout mix design including laboratory test results in accordance with the Grout for Structures Special Provision and acceptable ranges for grout flow and density.

Soil nail testing details, procedures and plan sealed by a Professional Engineer registered in North Carolina with calibration certificates within one year of submittal date in accordance with Section 7.0.

Other information shown on the plans or requested by the Engineer.

If alternate installation and testing procedures are proposed or necessary, a revised installation and testing plan submittal may be required. If the work deviates from the accepted submittal without prior approval, the Engineer may suspend soil nail slope stabilization construction until a revised plan is submitted and accepted.

MATERIALS

Provide Type 3 Manufacturer's Certifications in accordance with Article 106-3 of the *Standard Specifications* for soil nail materials.

A. Soil Nails

Store steel materials on blocking a minimum of 12" (300 mm) above the ground and protect it at all times from damage; and when placing in the work make sure it is free from dirt, dust, loose mill scale, loose rust, paint, oil or other foreign materials. Do not crack, fracture or otherwise damage grout inside sheathing of shop grouted encapsulated soil nails.

A soil nail consists of a grouted steel bar with corrosion protection and a nail head assembly. Use epoxy coated or galvanized deformed steel bars meeting the requirements of AASHTO M275 or M31, Grade 60 or 75 (420 or 520). Splice bars in accordance with Article 1070-10 of the *Standard Specifications*.

For epoxy coated bars, provide epoxy coated reinforcing steel meeting the requirements of Article 1070-8 of the *Standard Specifications*. For galvanized bars, provide galvanized steel meeting the requirements of Section 1076 of the *Standard Specifications*.

Fabricate bar centralizers from schedule 40 polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastic pipe or tube, steel or other material not detrimental to steel bars (no wood). Size centralizers to position the bar within 1" (25 mm) of the drill hole center and allow a tremie to be inserted to the bottom of the hole. Use centralizers that do not interfere with grout placement or flow around soil nail bars. For encapsulated bars, centralizers are required both inside and outside of encapsulation.

Use grout meeting the requirements of Article 1003-3 of the *Standard Specifications*.

Wire Mesh, Wire Ropes, Connectors and Anchor Plates

Wire mesh, wire ropes, hardware, anchor plates and other items for soil nail stabilization shall meet the requirements of the Rock Slope Materials provision. Provide any wire mesh and net components or hardware not addressed in Rock Slope Materials provision in accordance with the Wire Mesh/Net Manufacturer's recommendations. Galvanize steel components not addressed in this provision in accordance with Section 1076 of the *Standard Specifications*.

At the Contractor's option, use galvanized steel plates recommended by the Wire Mesh/Net Manufacturer instead of anchor plates required above to anchor wire mesh or nets to excavation or slope faces.

Provide support ropes to suspend wire mesh or nets from rock anchors. At the Contractor's option and when noted in the plans, suspend wire mesh or nets from grouted rope anchors instead of rock anchors and connect rope anchors to support ropes with shackles.

SOIL NAIL SLOPE STABILIZATION PRECONSTRUCTION MEETING

Before starting soil nail slope stabilization construction, conduct a preconstruction meeting to discuss the construction and inspection of the soil nail slope stabilizations. Schedule this meeting after all soil nail slope stabilization submittals have been accepted. The Resident or Bridge Maintenance Engineer, Bridge Construction Engineer, Geotechnical Operations Engineer, General Contractor and the Soil Nail Slope Stabilization Contractor Superintendent, and Project Manager will attend this preconstruction meeting.

CONSTRUCTION METHODS

Perform all necessary clearing and grubbing in accordance with Section 200 of the *Standard Specifications*. Perform any blasting in accordance with the contract special provisions. Do not excavate beyond the face of the soil nail slope stabilization.

Use equipment and methods reviewed and accepted in the installation and testing plan or approved by the Engineer. Inform the Engineer of any deviations from the accepted plan.

A. Excavation

Construct the soil nail slope stabilization from the top down. Excavate in staged horizontal lifts with heights not to exceed the vertical soil nail spacing. The excavated surface must be to the grades of the project drawings for the slope. Do not excavate the slope more than 3 feet (1 m) below the level of the row of nails to be installed in that lift. Do not excavate a lift until nail installation and nail testing for the preceding lift are complete and acceptable to the Engineer. After a lift is excavated, clean the cut surface of all loose materials, mud, and other foreign material. The excavated face cannot be unprotected for more than 24 hours for any reason. Prior to advancing the excavation, allow nail grout on the preceding lift to achieve the required 3 day compressive strength.

If the excavation face becomes unstable at any time, suspend soil nail slope stabilization construction and temporarily stabilize the face by immediately placing an earth berm against the unstable face. Soil nail slope stabilization construction may not proceed until the conditions have been reviewed by the Engineer. A revised soil nail slope stabilization installation and testing plan submittal may be required after the slope conditions have been reviewed.

Take all necessary measures to ensure that installed nails are not damaged during excavation. Repair or replace to the satisfaction of the Engineer and at no cost to the Department nails that are damaged or disturbed during excavation.

Installation of Wire Mesh and Bearing Plates

Prior to installing wire mesh, excavate depression around each nail location as shown in plans. Install wire mesh in accordance with the drawings and manufacturer’s specifications, including any required overlapping.

Following soil installation, connect the bearing plates to the nails as shown on the plans and as directed by the Engineer. Replace bearing plates, nuts or washers that are damaged or defective as determined by the Engineer at no additional cost to the Department. Once the bearing plates and nuts have been attached to the nails, tighten each nut until they have reached a torque reading of 265 ft-lbs.

Soil Nail Installation

Install soil nails to the depth indicated on the plans and in the same way as acceptable verification test nails. Drill and grout soil nails the same day and do not leave drill holes open overnight. Install supplemental soil nails, as directed by the Engineer, to the depth indicated on the plans beyond the slope face through the wire mesh to improve contact with the slope face.

Control drilling and grouting to prevent excessive ground movements, damaging structures and fracturing rock and soil formations. If ground heave or subsidence occurs, suspend soil nail slope stabilization construction and take action to minimize movement. If structures are damaged, suspend construction and repair structures at no additional cost to the Department with a method proposed by the Contractor and accepted by the Engineer. The Engineer may require a revised soil nail slope stabilization installation and testing plan when corrective action is necessary.

Drilling

Use drilling rigs capable of drilling through whatever materials are encountered to the dimensions and orientations required for the soil nail slope stabilization design. Drill straight and clean holes at the locations shown in the accepted submittals. Drill hole locations and inclinations are required to be within 6” (150 mm) and 2 degrees, respectively, of that shown in the accepted submittals unless approved otherwise by the Engineer.

Stabilize drill holes with temporary casings if unstable, caving or sloughing material is anticipated or encountered. Do not use drilling fluids to stabilize drill holes or remove cuttings.

Using manufacturer approved methods, increase the opening in the wire mesh to allow installation of the soil nail through the mesh.

Soil Nail Bars

Use centralizers to center steel bars in drill holes. Securely attach centralizers at maximum 8 ft (2.4 m) intervals along bars. Attach upper and lowermost centralizers 24” (450 mm) from the top and bottom of the bars.

Before placing soil nail bars, allow the Engineer to check location, orientation and cleanliness of drill holes. Provide steel bars as shown in the accepted submittals and insert bars without difficulty or forcing insertion. Do not vibrate or drive soil nail

bars. If a bar can not be completely inserted easily, remove the bar and clean or redrill the hole.

Grouting

Remove all oil, rust inhibitors, residual drilling fluids and similar foreign materials from holding tanks/hoppers, stirring devices, pumps, lines, tremie pipes and all other equipment in contact with grout before use.

Place grout with a tremie in accordance with the contract and accepted submittals. Inject grout at the lowest point of drill holes through a tremie pipe, e.g., grout tube, casing, hollow-stem auger or drill rod, in one continuous operation. Fill drill holes progressively from the bottom to top and withdraw tremie at a slow even rate as the hole is filled to prevent voids in the grout. Extend tremie pipe into grout a minimum of 5 ft (1.5 m) at all times except when grout is initially placed in a drill hole.

Provide grout free of segregation, intrusions, contamination, structural damage or inadequate consolidation (honeycombing). Cold joints in grout are not allowed except for soil nails that are tested. Extract temporary casings as grout is placed. Monitor and record grout volumes during placement.

Bar threads should be kept clean to allow tightening of the anchor plate and nut.

CONSTRUCTION RECORDS

Provide an electronic copy in PDF format of soil nail slope stabilization construction records including the following within 24 hours of completing each lift.

1. Names of Soil Nail Slope Stabilization Contractor, Superintendent, Nozzleman, Drill Rig Operator, and Project Manager.
2. Description, county, NCDOT contract, TIP and WBS element number
3. Stations and lift location, dimensions, elevations and description
4. Soil nail locations, diameters, lengths and inclinations, bar types, sizes and grades, corrosion protection and temporary casing information
5. Date and time drilling begins and ends, soil nail bar is placed, grout is mixed and/or arrives on-site, grout placement begins and ends
6. Grout volume, temperature, flow and density records
7. Ground and surface water conditions and elevations, if applicable
8. Weather conditions including air temperature at time of grout placement
9. All other pertinent details related to soil nail slope stabilization construction

After completing all lifts for a soil nail slope stabilization or a stage of a soil nail slope stabilization, submit electronic copies (pdf or jpg format on CD or DVD) of all corresponding construction records.

SOIL NAIL TESTING

For this provision, "verification tests" are performed on test nails not incorporated into the work, i.e., sacrificial soil nails "Verification test nails" refer to soil nails on which verification tests are performed and "proof test nails" refer to soil nails on which proof tests are performed.

One verification test is required at each soil nail slope stabilization location, or as directed by the Engineer. The Engineer will select the test location in the field. Proof tests on 5 percent of production soil nails with a minimum of 1 test per nail row are required. More or less soil nail testing may be required depending on the subsurface conditions encountered. The Engineer will decide the actual number and specific locations of each verification and proof test required.

Do not test soil nails until grout achieves the required 3 day compressive strength. Do not begin construction of any production soil nails until verification tests are satisfactorily completed.

A. Testing Equipment

Use testing equipment that includes the following.

- 2 dial gauges
- dial gauges rigid supports
- hydraulic jack and pressure gauge
- electronic load cell
- jacking block or reaction frame

Provide pressure gauges graduated in 100 psi (690 kPa) increments or less. Use dial gauges capable of measuring to 0.001" (0.025 mm) and accommodating the maximum anticipated movement. Submit identification number and calibration records for each load cell, jack and pressure gauge with the soil nail slope stabilization installation and testing plan. Calibrate the jack and pressure gauge as a unit.

Align testing equipment to ensure uniform loading. Use a jacking block or reaction frame that does not damage the slope or contact the slope face within 3 ft (1 m) of test nails. Align dial gauges within 5 degrees of the test nail axis. Place dial gauges opposite each other on either side of the test nail. Set up test equipment and measuring devices such that resetting or repositioning the components before completing testing is not required. A load cell is not required for proof tests if the same jack and pressure gauge are used for verification tests.

B. Test Nails

Test nails have both bonded and unbonded lengths. Grout only the bonded length before testing. Minimum bonded and unbonded lengths of 10 ft (3 m) and 5 ft (1 m), respectively, are required.

Soil nail bars for production soil nails may be overstressed under higher test nail loads. Use larger or higher grade steel bars to allow for higher loads instead of shortening bond lengths to less than the minimum. Any costs associated with higher capacity bars will be considered incidental to the soil nail testing pay items.

Verification Tests

Install sacrificial soil nails in accordance with the accepted submittals and this provision. Use the same equipment, methods and drill hole diameter for sacrificial soil nails as will be used for production soil nails.

Use the following equation to determine maximum bond length for verification test nails, L_{BVT} (ft or m).

$$L_{BVT} \leq \frac{C_{RT} \times A_t \times f_y}{Q_{ALL} \times 3}$$

Where,
C_{RT} = reduction coefficient, 0.9 for Grade 60 and 75 (420 and 520) bars or 0.8 for Grade 150 (1035) bars,
A_t = bar area (in^2 or m^2),
f_y = bar yield stress (ksi or kPa) and
Q_{ALL} = allowable unit grout/ground bond strength (kips/ft or kN/m).

Use the following equation to determine design verification test load, DTL (kips or kN).

$$DTL = L_{BVT} \times Q_{ALL}$$

Calculate DTL based on as-built bond lengths. Perform verification tests by incrementally loading test nails to failure or a maximum test load of 300 percent of DTL according to the following schedule.

Load	Hold Time
AL*	1 minute
0.25 DTL	10 minutes
0.50 DTL	10 minutes
0.75 DTL	10 minutes
1.00 DTL	10 minutes
1.25 DTL	10 minutes
1.50 DTL	60 minutes (creep test)
1.75 DTL	10 minutes
2.00 DTL	10 minutes
2.50 DTL	10 minutes
3.00 DTL	10 minutes
AL*	1 minute

*Alignment load (AL) is the minimum load required to align testing equipment and should not exceed 0.05 DTL.

Reset dial gauges to zero after applying alignment load. Record test nail movement at each load increment and permanent set after load is reduced to alignment load.

Monitor test nails for creep at the 1.50 DTL load increment. Measure and record test nail movement during the creep portion of the test at 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 20, 30, 50 and 60 minutes. Repump jack as needed to maintain the intended load during hold times.

Proof Tests

Use the following equation to determine maximum bond length for proof test nails, L_{BPT} (ft or m).

$$L_{BVT} \leq \frac{C_{RT} \times A_t \times f_y}{Q_{ALL} \times 1.5}$$

Where variables are as defined in Item C of this section.

Use the following equation to determine design proof test load, DTL (kips or kN).

$$DTL = L_{BPT} \times Q_{ALL}$$

Calculate DTL based on as-built bond lengths. Perform proof tests by incrementally loading test nails to failure or a maximum test load of 150 percent of DTL according to the following schedule.

Load	Hold Time
AL*	Until movement stabilizes
0.25 DTL	Until movement stabilizes
0.50 DTL	Until movement stabilizes
0.75 DTL	Until movement stabilizes
1.00 DTL	Until movement stabilizes
1.25 DTL	Until movement stabilizes
1.50 DTL	10 or 60 minutes (creep test)
AL*	1 minute

*Alignment load (AL) is the minimum load required to align testing equipment and should not exceed 0.05 DTL.

Reset dial gauges to zero after applying alignment load. Record test nail movement at each load increment and monitor test nails for creep at the 1.50 DTL load increment. Measure and record test nail movement at 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 10 minutes. When the test nail movement between 1 minute and 10 minutes exceeds 0.04" (1 mm), maintain the maximum test load for an additional 50 minutes and record movements at 20, 30, 50 and 60 minutes. Repump jack as needed to maintain the intended load during hold times.

Test Nail Acceptance

Test nail acceptance is based on the following criteria.

For verification tests, total creep movement is less than 0.08" (2 mm) between the 6 and 60 minute readings and creep rate is linear or decreasing throughout the creep test load hold time.

For proof tests, total creep movement is less than 0.04" (1 mm) between the 1 and 10 minute readings or less than 0.08" (2 mm) between the 6 and 60 minute readings and creep rate is linear or decreasing throughout the creep test load hold time.

Total test nail movement at maximum test load exceeds 80 percent of the theoretical elastic elongation of the test nail unbonded length.

Pullout failure does not occur at the 1.5 DTL load increment or before. Pullout failure is defined as the inability to increase the load while test nail movement continues. Record the pullout failure load as part of the test data.

Maintain stability of test nail unbonded lengths for subsequent grouting. If the test nail unbonded length of a proof test nail can not be satisfactorily grouted after testing, do not incorporate the test nail into the work and replace the nail with another production soil nail at no additional cost to the Department.

Test Nail Results

Submit an electronic copy in PDF format of test nail records including load versus movement curves within 24 hours of completing each test. The Engineer will review the test nail records and associated construction records to determine if the test nail is acceptable.

If the Engineer determines a verification test nail is unacceptable, the Engineer may revise the soil nail slope stabilization design and/or installation methods. The Engineer will have up to 10 working days to revise the soil nail slope stabilization design and/or installation and testing plan at no additional cost to the Department.

If the Engineer determines a proof test nail is unacceptable as a result of the contractor's activities, then either additional proof tests on adjacent production soil nails or a revision to the soil nail slope stabilization design and/or installation methods for the production soil nails represented by the unacceptable proof test nail may be required at no additional cost to the Department. If required, remove representative production soil nails and provide new production soil nails with the revised design and/or installation methods at no additional cost to the Department.

After completing all soil nail testing, submit an electronic copy in PDF format of all corresponding testing records.

GEOTECHNICAL APPENDIX B

MICROPILES: (10-19-21)

GENERAL

A micropile is a small diameter, drilled and grouted non-displacement pile with a reinforcing casing and typically a center reinforcing bar. Load testing is required when noted in the plans. Design and construct micropiles with the required resistance in accordance with the contract and accepted submittals. Use a prequalified Micropile Contractor for micropile work. Define "pile" as a micropile, "casing" as reinforcing casing and "bar" as a center reinforcing bar.

MATERIALS

Refer to the *Standard Specifications*.

Item	Section
Portland Cement	1024-1
Water	1024-4

Use neat cement grout that only contains cement and water with a water cement ratio of 0.4 to 0.5 which is approximately 5.5 gallons of water per 94 lb of Portland cement. Provide grout with a compressive strength at 3 and 28 days of at least 1,500 psi and 4,000 psi, respectively.

C. Reinforcement

Provide Type 1 material certifications in accordance with Article 106-3 of the *Standard Specifications* for steel casings and bars. Store casings and bars on blocking at least 12" above the ground and protect it at all times from damage; and when placing in the work make sure it is free from dirt, dust, loose mill scale, loose rust, paint, oil or other foreign materials. Load, transport, unload and store micropile materials so materials are kept clean and free of damage.

1. Reinforcing Casings

Use steel pipes that meet American Petroleum Institute (API) 5CT, Grade N80 or ASTM A252 with a yield strength of 80 ksi for reinforcing casings. Provide prime mill certified steel pipes that meet Subarticle 106-1(B) of the *Standard Specifications* for casings. Do not use "New or Mill Secondary", "Structural" or "Limited Service" steel pipes as described by the *National Association of Steel Pipe Distributors Tubular Products Manual*. Use casings with the nominal wall thickness shown in the plans and outside diameters ranging from the minimum shown in the plans to 3" larger.

2. Center Reinforcing Bars

Use deformed steel bars that meet AASHTO M 275 or M 31, Grade 60 or 75 for center reinforcing bars. Splice bars in accordance with Article 1070-9 of the *Standard Specifications*. Locate casing joints at least 2 ft from bar splices.

D. Centralizers

Use bar centralizers that meet Article 6.3.5 of the *AASHTO LRFD Bridge Construction Specifications*. Size centralizers to position bars within 1" of drill hole centers and allow tremies to be inserted to bottom of holes. Use centralizers that do not interfere with grout placement or flow around bars.

Corrosion Protection

Provide epoxy coated bars that meet Article 1070-7 of the *Standard Specifications*. Galvanize exposed casings in accordance with Section 1076 of the *Standard Specifications*. After installing piles, clean exposed galvanized surfaces of casings with a 2,500 psi pressure washer. Apply organic zinc repair paint to exposed casing joints and repair damaged galvanized surfaces that are exposed in accordance with Article 1076-7 of the *Standard Specifications*.

PRECONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS

Micropile Designs

For micropile designs, submit PDF files of working drawings and design calculations at least 30 days before the preconstruction meeting. Do not begin micropile construction until a design submittal is accepted.

Use a prequalified Micropile Design Consultant to design piles. Provide designs sealed by a Design Engineer approved as a Geotechnical Engineer (key person) for the Micropile Design Consultant.

The pile layout and inclination, casing dimensions and tip elevations, pile to cap/footing connection, top of pile elevations and pile resistances are shown in the plans. Verify existing site conditions and survey information before designing piles.

Design piles in accordance with the *AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications* unless otherwise required. Define “bond length” as the pile length below the casing tip elevation noted in the plans. Determine the bond length and reinforcement for the factored resistance noted in the plans. Assume a design casing wall thickness of 12.5% less than nominal plus an additional 0.125" less due to corrosion. A bond length of at least 10 ft is required for each pile. If verification load testing is required, use a resistance factor of 0.70 for axial compression and uplift resistance. Otherwise, use a resistance factor of 0.55. When using tension load tests to determine nominal grout-to-ground bond resistances for axial compression resistance, neglect pile tip resistance.

Either extend casings below required tip elevations or use bars for reinforcement. Extend bars or casings full length of piles and provide at least 0.50" of grout cover outside

casings. Design and locate casing joints as shown in the plans.

Submit working drawings and design calculations including estimated unit nominal resistances for acceptance in accordance with Article 105-2 of the *Standard Specifications*. Submit working drawings showing all micropile details including any dimensions, quantities, elevations and cross-sections necessary to construct the piles.

Micropile Construction Plan

Submit a PDF file of a micropile construction plan at least 30 days before the preconstruction meeting. Do not begin micropile construction until the construction plan submittal is accepted. Provide detailed project specific information in the micropile construction plan that includes the following:

1. List and sizes of proposed equipment including micropile drilling rigs and tools, tremies and grouting equipment;
2. Sequence of pile construction and step-by-step description of pile installation including details of casing installation, drilling methods and flushing;
3. List of reinforcement including grades or yield strength and sizes;
4. Methods for placing reinforcement with procedures for supporting and positioning the reinforcement including centralizers;
5. Procedures for placing grout including how the grout will be initially placed in drill holes and acceptable ranges for grout pressures and volumes;
6. Equipment and procedures for monitoring and recording grout levels, pressures and volumes with calibration certificates dated within 90 days of the submittal date;
7. Examples of construction records to be provided that meet Section 4.0(C) of this provision;
8. Procedures for containment and disposal of drilling spoils, drill flush and waste grout;
9. Grout mix design with acceptable ranges for grout flow and density;
10. If load testing is required, load testing details, procedures and plan sealed by the Design Engineer or Project Engineer for the Load Test Supplier with calibration certificates dated within 90 days of the submittal date;
11. Load Test Supplier, when applicable, including Project Engineer; and
12. Other information shown in the plans or requested by the Engineer.

If alternate installation and testing procedures are proposed or necessary, a revised micropile construction plan submittal may be required. If the work deviates from the accepted submittal without prior approval, the Engineer may suspend pile construction until a revised plan is accepted.

Demonstration Micropiles

When shown in the plans or as directed, construct demonstration piles in accordance with

the accepted submittals and this provision. The pile inclination, minimum reinforcement and locations of demonstration piles are shown in the plans. Install demonstration piles to the depth of the longest pile on the project or the length required for verification load tests.

The purpose of demonstration piles is to demonstrate the Micropile Contractor's ability to successfully install micropiles. The demonstration pile results will be used to evaluate the grouting operation and possibly revise acceptable grouting ranges established with the micropile construction plan. If load testing is required for a demonstration pile, the results will be used to evaluate the pile design including estimated unit nominal resistances.

If the Engineer determines a demonstration pile is unsatisfactory, a replacement pile is required. Do not begin construction of any production piles until all demonstration piles are accepted.

Preconstruction Meeting

Before starting micropile construction, hold a preconstruction meeting to discuss the construction, monitoring and testing of the piles. If this meeting occurs before all pile submittals have been accepted, additional preconstruction meetings may be required before beginning pile construction without accepted submittals. The Resident or Bridge Maintenance Engineer, Area Construction Engineer, Geotechnical Operations Engineer, Contractor and Micropile Contractor Superintendent will attend preconstruction meetings.

CONSTRUCTION METHODS

Use equipment and methods accepted in the micropile construction plan or approved by the Engineer. Inform the Engineer of any deviations from the accepted plan. Install production piles in the same way as satisfactory demonstration piles, if applicable.

Dispose of drilling spoils, drill flush and waste grout as directed and in accordance with Section 802 of the *Standard Specifications*. Drilling spoils consist of all excavated material and fluids removed from drill holes.

Control drilling and grouting to prevent excessive ground movements, damaging structures and pavements and fracturing rock and soil formations. If ground heave or subsidence occurs, suspend pile construction and take corrective action to minimize movement. If property damage occurs, make repairs with an approved method and a revised micropile design or construction plan may be required.

Drilling and Reinforcement

Use micropile drilling rigs capable of drilling through whatever materials are encountered to the dimensions and elevations required for the pile design. Install piles with tip elevations no higher than shown in the accepted submittals or approved by the Engineer.

Do not install casings or begin drilling within 6 pile diameters, center to center, or 5 ft, whichever is greater, of completed piles until grout in piles reaches initial set. More clearance may be necessary if pile construction affects adjacent piles.

Install casings to a tip elevation no higher than that noted in the plans. Also, when noted in the plans, install casings with a penetration of at least 5 ft into rock as determined by the Engineer. Locate casing joints in accordance with the accepted submittals. If any welding is required for casings, comply with Article 33.3.6 of the *AASHTO LRFD Bridge Construction Specifications*. Submit welding procedures for approval before welding casings.

Use drilling methods that result in the annulus between casings and the ground filled with grout. Check for correct pile location and plumbness or proper inclination before beginning drilling. Stabilize drill holes with casings from beginning of drilling through grouting if unstable material is anticipated or encountered. After drilling, flush drill holes with water or air to remove drill cuttings and other loose materials.

Use centralizers to center bars in drill holes. Securely attach bar centralizers at maximum 10 ft intervals along bars. Attach upper and lowermost centralizers 5 ft from the top and bottom of piles.

Place bars before grouting or after while grout is still fluid. Do not vibrate or drive reinforcement. Bars may be gently pushed into grout. If bars can only be partially inserted, redrill or clean drill holes to permit complete insertion.

Grouting

Remove oil, rust inhibitors, residual drilling fluids and similar foreign materials from holding tanks/hoppers, stirring devices, pumps, lines, tremie pipes and all other equipment in contact with grout before use. Size grouting equipment to grout each pile in one continuous operation. Field calibrate grout pumps at the beginning of construction.

Mix and place grout in accordance with Subarticles 1003-5, 1003-6 and 1003-7 of the *Standard Specifications*. Measure grout temperature, density and flow during grouting with at least the same frequency grout cubes are made for compressive strength. Perform density and flow field tests in the presence of the Engineer in accordance with American National Standards Institute/API Recommended Practice 13B-1 (Section 4, Mud Balance) and ASTM C939 (Flow Cone), respectively.

Grout piles the same day the bond length is drilled and do not leave drill holes open overnight. Place grout with a tremie in accordance with the contract and accepted submittals until uncontaminated grout flows from the top of the pile. Extend tremie pipe into grout at least 5 ft at all times except when grout is initially placed in drill holes. Provide grout free of segregation, intrusions, contamination, structural damage or inadequate consolidation (honeycombing).

Monitor and record grout levels, pressures and volumes during placement. To monitor

grout pressure, use pumps equipped with a pressure gauge and locate a second pressure gauge at the point of injection into the drill hole. Use pressure gauges that can measure pressures of at least 150 psi or twice the actual grout pressures, whichever is greater.

Construction Records

Provide 2 copies of pile construction records within 24 hours of completing each pile. Include the following in construction records:

1. Names of Micropile Contractor, Superintendent, Drill Rig Operator, Project Manager and Design Engineer;
2. Bridge description, county, Department's contract, TIP and WBS element number;
3. Bent station and number, pile location and identifier and required resistance;
4. Pile diameters, length and tip elevation and top of pile and ground surface elevations;
5. Reinforcement types, grades or yield strength, sizes and elevations;
6. Date and time drilling begins and ends, reinforcement is placed, grout is mixed and arrives on-site and grout placement begins and ends;
7. Grout level, pressure, volume, temperature, flow and density records;
8. Ground and surface water conditions and elevations;
9. Weather conditions including air temperature at time of grout placement; and
10. All other pertinent details related to pile construction.

After completing piles for each structure or stage of a structure, provide a PDF file of all corresponding construction records.

LOAD TESTING

When noted in the plans, load test piles in accordance with the accepted submittals, this provision and the plans. The piles to be tested are shown in the plans or as directed. "Verification tests" are performed on demonstration piles and "proof tests" are performed on piles incorporated into the structure, i.e., production piles based on test piles acceptable in accordance with Section 6.0 of this provision.

When using a Load Test Supplier, use a prequalified Load Test Supplier for foundation testing work. Provide load test reports sealed by an engineer approved as a Project Engineer (key person) for the Load Test Supplier.

Do not load test piles until grout attains the required 28 day compressive strength. Do not begin construction of any production piles until verification tests are satisfactorily completed. For proof tests, install only the test piles and those piles needed to anchor the reaction frame, if applicable. Do not install the remaining piles for the bent until the corresponding test piles are satisfactory.

Design test piles so that applied loads do not exceed 80% of the pile's structural resistance

including steel yielding or buckling or grout failing. It may be necessary to design test piles with additional reinforcement to allow for higher applied loads. Use a center reinforcing bar for tension load tests when the reinforcement design for production piles does not include one.

If reinforcement design for production piles does not include a center reinforcing bar, tension load tests are required. Otherwise, test piles in either compression or tension at the Contractor's option.

Do not apply loads with known weights; a reaction frame and a hydraulic jack are required. Use reaction piles or cribbing and a frame with sufficient strength to prevent excessive deformation, misalignment or racking under peak loading. Do not use existing structures as part of the reaction frame.

Load test piles in accordance with the accepted submittals and Article 33.5 of the *AASHTO LRFD Bridge Construction Specifications*. For demonstration piles, cut off piles 2 ft below the ground surface when testing is complete.

Submit a PDF file of each load test report within 7 days of completing load testing. Submit reports sealed by the same engineer that sealed the load testing details, procedures and plan in the accepted micropile construction plan. Provide load test reports that meet ASTM D1143, D3689 or the Load Test Supplier's recommendations. Also, include load versus movement curves for the top of pile and pile tip.

MICROPILE ACCEPTANCE

The Engineer will review the load test reports, if applicable and construction records to determine if piles are acceptable. Micropile acceptance is based in part on the following criteria.

11. Grout pressures, volumes, flow and densities are within acceptable ranges. Grout is properly placed and does not have any evidence of segregation, intrusions, contamination, structural damage or inadequate consolidation (honeycombing).
12. Pile is within maximum tolerances per Article 33.4.4 of the *AASHTO LRFD Bridge Construction Specifications*.
13. Reinforcement is properly placed and inclination and top of reinforcement is within tolerances for the pile. Tip of casing is no higher than that noted in the plans and casing penetrates rock at least 5 ft when noted in the plans.
14. Pile is satisfactory based on results of load testing, when applicable. Creep and failure acceptance criteria for verification and proof tests is per Articles 33.5.2 and 33.5.3, respectively, of the AASHTO LRFD specifications. Movement acceptance criteria for verification and proof tests is per Articles 33.5.2 and 33.5.3, respectively, of the AASHTO LRFD specifications when the permissible total vertical movement at top of pile is noted in the plans.

If the Engineer determines a pile is unacceptable, remedial measures or replacement piles are required. Do not begin remediation work until remediation plans are approved. No extension

of completion date or time will be allowed for remedial work or replacement piles.

GEOTECHNICAL APPENDIX C

SOIL NAIL RETAINING WALLS: (10-19-21)

GENERAL

Construct soil nail retaining walls consisting of soil nails spaced at a regular pattern and connected to a CIP reinforced concrete face. A soil nail consists of a solid steel bar grouted in a drilled hole inclined at an angle below horizontal. Use shotcrete for temporary support of excavations during construction. Design and construct soil nail retaining walls based on actual elevations and wall dimensions in accordance with the contract and accepted submittals. Use a prequalified Anchored Wall Contractor to construct soil nail retaining walls. Define "soil nail wall" as a soil nail retaining wall and "Soil Nail Wall Contractor" as the Anchored Wall Contractor installing soil nails and applying shotcrete. Define "nail" as a soil nail and "concrete facing" as a CIP reinforced concrete face. An abutment wall is defined as a soil nail wall with nails that extend under a bridge end bent or a soil nail wall connected to an abutment wall. Even if only one nail extends under a bridge end bent, the entire soil nail wall is considered an abutment wall.

MATERIALS

Refer to the *Standard Specifications*.

Item	Section
Geosynthetics	1056
Joint Materials	1028
Masonry	1040
Portland Cement	1024-1
Portland Cement Concrete, Class A	1000
Reinforcing Steel	1070
Select Material, Class VI	1016
Shotcrete	1002
Shoulder Drain Materials	816-2
Steel Plates	1072-2
Water	1024-4
Welded Stud Shear Connectors	1072-6

Provide Class VI select material (standard size No. 57 stone) for leveling pads. Use neat cement grout that only contains cement and water with a water cement ratio of 0.4 to 0.5 which is approximately 5.5 gallons of water per 94 lb of Portland cement. Provide grout with a compressive strength at 3 and 28 days of at least 1,500 psi and 4,000 psi, respectively.

Provide soil nails consisting of grouted steel bars and nail head assemblies. Use deformed solid steel bars that meet AASHTO M 275 or M 31, Grade 60, 75 or 80. Splice bars in accordance with Article 1070-9 of the *Standard Specifications*.

Provide epoxy coated bars that meet Article 1070-7 of the *Standard Specifications*. Provide Class A corrosion protection (encapsulated bar) or Class B corrosion protection (epoxy coated bar only, no galvanized bar) for soil nails in accordance with Article 34.3.3 of the *AASHTO LRFD Bridge Construction Specifications*. Use centralizers that meet Article 34.3.4 of the AASHTO LRFD specifications.

Provide nail head assemblies consisting of nuts, washers and bearing plates with welded stud shear connectors. Use steel plates for bearing plates and steel washers and hex nuts recommended by the Soil Nail Manufacturer.

Provide Type 3 material certifications for soil nail materials in accordance with Article 106-3 of the *Standard Specifications*. Store steel materials on blocking at least 12" above the ground and protect it at all times from damage; and when placing in the work make sure it is free from dirt, dust, loose mill scale, loose rust, paint, oil or other foreign materials. Load, transport, unload and store soil nail wall materials so materials are kept clean and free of damage. Do not crack, fracture or otherwise damage grout inside sheaths of encapsulated nails. Bent, damaged or defective materials will be rejected.

PRECONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS

Soil Nail Wall Surveys

The Retaining Wall Plans show a plan view, typical sections, details, notes and an elevation or profile view (wall envelope) for each soil nail wall. Before beginning soil nail wall design, survey existing ground elevations shown in the plans and other elevations in the vicinity of soil nail wall locations as needed. For proposed slopes above or below soil nail walls, survey existing ground elevations to at least 10 ft beyond slope stake points. Based on these elevations, finished grades and actual soil nail wall dimensions and details, submit revised wall envelopes for acceptance. Use accepted wall envelopes for design.

Soil Nail Wall Designs

For soil nail wall designs, submit PDF files of working drawings and design calculations at least 30 days before the preconstruction meeting. Do not begin soil nail wall construction until a design submittal is accepted.

Use a prequalified Anchored Wall Design Consultant to design soil nail walls. Provide designs sealed by a Design Engineer approved as a Geotechnical Engineer (key person) for the Anchored Wall Design Consultant.

Design soil nail walls in accordance with the plans and the *AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications* unless otherwise required. For abutment walls only, design soil nail walls for seismic if wall sites meet either or both of the following:

- Wall site is in seismic zone 2 based on Figure 2-1 of the *Structure Design Manual*,
- Wall site is classified as AASHTO Site Class E, as noted in the plans, and is in or west of Pender, Duplin, Wayne, Johnston, Wake, Durham or Person County.

Design soil nails that meet the following unless otherwise approved:

1. Horizontal and vertical spacing of at least 3 ft,
2. Inclination of at least 12° below horizontal,
3. Clearance between ends of bars and drill holes of at least 6",
4. Grout cover between epoxy coated bars and drill hole walls of at least 1" or in accordance with Article 11.12.8 of the AASHTO LRFD specifications for encapsulated bars and
5. Diameter of 6" to 10".

Four inch diameter soil nails may be approved for nails in rock at the discretion of the Engineer. Do not extend nails beyond right-of-way or easement limits. If existing or future obstructions such as foundations, guardrail, fence or handrail posts, pavements, pipes, inlets or utilities will interfere with nails, maintain a clearance of at least 6" between obstructions and nails.

When noted in the plans, design soil nail walls for a live load (traffic) surcharge of 250 psf. For steel beam guardrail with 8 ft posts above soil nail walls, analyze facing and top row of nails for a nominal horizontal load (P_{H1}) of 300 lb/ft of wall in accordance with Figure 3.11.6.3-2(a) of the AASHTO LRFD specifications. For concrete barrier rail above soil nail walls, analyze facing and top row of nails for a nominal P_{H1} of 500 lb/ft of wall in accordance with Figure 3.11.6.3-2(a).

Provide wall drainage systems consisting of geocomposite sheet drains, an aggregate shoulder drain and outlet components. Place sheet drains with a horizontal spacing of no more than 10 ft and center drains between adjacent nails. Attach sheet drains to excavation faces and connect drains to aggregate leveling pads. Locate a continuous aggregate shoulder drain along the base of concrete facing in front of leveling pads. Provide aggregate shoulder drains and outlet components in accordance with Roadway Standard Drawing No. 816.02.

Use No. 57 stone for aggregate leveling pads. Use 6" thick leveling pads beneath concrete facing. Unless required otherwise in the plans, embed top of leveling pads at least 12" below bottom of walls shown in the plans.

Design shotcrete and concrete facing in accordance with the plans and Article 11.12.6.2 of the *AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications*. Use shotcrete and concrete facing with the dimensions shown in the plans and attach facing to nail heads with welded stud shear connectors. When concrete barrier rail is required above soil nail walls, use concrete barrier rail with moment slab as shown in the plans.

Submit working drawings and design calculations including unit grout/ground bond strengths for acceptance in accordance with Article 105-2 of the *Standard Specifications*. Submit working drawings showing plan views, wall profiles with nail locations including known test nail locations, typical sections and details of nails, drainage, shotcrete, leveling pads and concrete facing. If necessary, include details on working drawings for

concrete barrier rail with moment slab and obstructions extending through walls or interfering with nails, barriers or moment slabs. Submit design calculations for each wall section with different surcharge loads, geometry or material parameters. Include analysis of temporary conditions in design calculations. At least one analysis is required for each wall section with different nail lengths. Analyze internal and compound stability with a computer software program that uses limit equilibrium methods and submit all PDF output files from the program with the design calculations. See Article C11.12.2 of the AASHTO LRFD specifications for determining the maximum soil nail force, T_{maxsn}. Once T_{maxsn} and pullout length behind slip surface, L_P, are determined from limit equilibrium methods at the target soil failure resistance factor (1 over factor of safety output from computer software), use these values for soil nail (pullout and tensile resistance) and wall facing (flexure, punching shear and headed-stud tensile resistance) design in accordance with Articles 11.12.5.2, 11.12.6.1 and 11.12.6.2 of the AASHTO LRFD specifications.

When designing soil nail walls with computer software Snail manufactured by the California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS), use Snail, version 2.2.0 or later, to calculate factors of safety and T_{maxsn} and L_P values in accordance with the following:

1. Allowable Stress Design for Analysis Method with no load factors applied except those applied to factored surcharge loads from structures or traffic,

2. Perform Below Toe Search option selected when any soil layer has a friction angle less than 30° and

3. Default value of 0.33 for Interface Friction Reduction Factor.

When designing soil nail walls with computer software other than Snail, use bi-linear (or tri-linear, as applicable) search surfaces intended to reproduce Snail results. Factors of safety and T_{maxsn} and L_P values are acceptable if they are within 5% of the factors of safety and T_{maxsn} and L_P values calculated by the Engineer using the computer software Slide2 manufactured by Rocscience, Inc.

Soil Nail Wall Construction Plan

Submit a PDF file of a soil nail wall construction plan at least 30 days before the preconstruction meeting. Do not begin soil nail wall construction until the construction plan submittal is accepted. Provide detailed project specific information in the soil nail wall construction plan that includes the following:

1. Overall description and sequence of soil nail wall construction;
2. List and sizes of excavation equipment, drill rigs and tools, tremies and grouting equipment;
3. Procedures for excavations, drilling and grouting, soil nail and wall drainage system installation and facing construction;
4. Details of shotcrete equipment and application including mix process, test panels, thickness gauges and shooting methods;

5. Shotcrete nozzleman with certification in accordance with Article 1002-1 of the *Standard Specifications*;
6. Plan and methods for nail testing with calibration certificates dated within 90 days of the submittal date;
7. Examples of construction records to be provided that meet Section 4.0(F) and test nail records to be used in accordance with Section 5.0(D) of this provision;
8. Grout mix design with acceptable ranges for grout flow and density;
9. Shotcrete mix design that meets Section 1002 of the *Standard Specifications*; and
10. Other information shown in the plans or requested by the Engineer.

If alternate construction procedures are proposed or necessary, a revised soil nail wall construction plan submittal may be required. If the work deviates from the accepted submittal without prior approval, the Engineer may suspend soil nail wall construction until a revised plan is accepted.

Preconstruction Meeting

Before starting soil nail wall construction, hold a preconstruction meeting to discuss the construction, inspection and testing of the soil nail walls. If this meeting occurs before all soil nail wall submittals have been accepted, additional preconstruction meetings may be required before beginning construction of soil nail walls without accepted submittals. The Resident or Bridge Maintenance Engineer, Area Construction Engineer, Geotechnical Operations Engineer, Contractor and Soil Nail Wall Contractor Superintendent will attend preconstruction meetings.

CONSTRUCTION METHODS

Control drainage during construction in the vicinity of soil nail walls. Direct run off away from soil nail walls and areas above and behind walls.

Notify the Engineer before blasting in the vicinity of soil nail walls. Perform blasting in accordance with the contract. Unless required otherwise in the plans, install foundations located behind soil nail walls before beginning wall construction.

Install soil nail walls in accordance with the accepted submittals and as directed. Do not excavate behind soil nail walls. If overexcavation occurs, repair walls with an approved method and a revised soil nail wall design or construction plan may be required.

E. Excavation

Excavate for soil nail walls from the top down in accordance with the accepted submittals. Excavate in staged horizontal lifts with no negative batter (excavation face leaning forward). Excavate lifts in accordance with the following:

1. Heights not to exceed vertical nail spacing,
2. Bottom of lifts no more than 3 ft below nail locations for current lift and

3. Horizontal and vertical alignment within 2" of location shown in the accepted submittals.

Remove any cobbles, boulders, rubble or debris that will protrude more than 2" into the required shotcrete thickness. Rocky ground such as colluvium, boulder fills and weathered rock may be difficult to excavate without leaving voids.

Apply shotcrete to excavation faces within 24 hours of excavating each lift unless otherwise approved. Shotcreting may be delayed if it can be demonstrated that delays will not adversely affect excavation stability. If excavation faces will be exposed for more than 24 hours, use polyethylene sheets anchored at top and bottom of lifts to protect excavation faces from changes in moisture content.

If an excavation becomes unstable at any time, suspend soil nail wall construction and temporarily stabilize the excavation by immediately placing an earth berm up against the unstable excavation face. When this occurs, repair walls with an approved method and a revised soil nail wall design or construction plan may be required.

Do not excavate the next lift until nail installations and testing and shotcrete application for the current lift are accepted and grout and shotcrete for the current lift have cured at least 3 days and 1 day, respectively.

F. Soil Nails

Install soil nails in the same way as acceptable test nails. Drill and grout nails the same day and do not leave drill holes open overnight.

Control drilling and grouting to prevent excessive ground movements, damaging structures and pavements or fracturing rock and soil formations. If ground heave or subsidence occurs, suspend soil nail wall construction and take corrective action to minimize movement. If property damage occurs, make repairs with an approved method and a revised soil nail wall design or construction plan may be required.

Drilling

Use drill rigs of the sizes necessary to install soil nails and with sufficient capacity to drill through whatever materials are encountered. Drill straight and clean holes with the dimensions and inclination shown in the accepted submittals. Drill holes within 6" of locations and 2° of inclination shown in the accepted submittals unless otherwise approved.

Stabilize drill holes with temporary casings if unstable, caving or sloughing material is anticipated or encountered. Do not use drilling fluids to stabilize drill holes or remove cuttings.

Steel Bars

Center steel bars in drill holes with centralizers. Securely attach centralizers along

bars at no more than 8 ft centers. Attach uppermost and lowermost centralizers 18" from excavation faces and ends of holes.

Do not insert steel bars into drill holes until hole locations, dimensions, inclination and cleanliness are approved. Do not vibrate, drive or otherwise force bars into holes. If a steel bar cannot be completely and easily inserted into a drill hole, remove the bar and clean or redrill the hole.

Grouting

Mix and place grout in accordance with Subarticles 1003-5, 1003-6 and 1003-7 of the *Standard Specifications*. Remove oil, rust inhibitors, residual drilling fluids and similar foreign materials from holding tanks/hoppers, stirring devices, pumps, lines, tremie pipes and any other equipment in contact with grout before use. Measure grout temperature, density and flow during grouting with at least the same frequency grout cubes are made for compressive strength. Perform density and flow field tests in the presence of the Engineer in accordance with American National Standards Institute/American Petroleum Institute Recommended Practice 13B-1 (Section 4, Mud Balance) and ASTM C939 (Flow Cone), respectively.

Inject grout at the lowest point of drill holes through tremies, e.g., grout tubes, casings, hollow-stem augers or drill rods, in one continuous operation. Fill drill holes progressively from ends of holes to excavation faces and withdraw tremies at a slow even rate as holes are filled to prevent voids in grout. Extend tremies into grout at least 5 ft at all times except when grout is initially placed in holes.

Provide grout free of segregation, intrusions, contamination, structural damage or inadequate consolidation (honeycombing). Cold joints in grout are not allowed except for test nails. Remove any temporary casings as grout is placed and record grout volume for each drill hole.

Nail Heads

Weld stud shear connectors to bearing plates of nails in accordance with Article 1072-6 of the *Standard Specifications*. Install nail head assemblies after shotcreting. Before shotcrete reaches initial set, seat bearing plates and tighten nuts so plates contact shotcrete uniformly. If uniform contact is not possible, install nail head assemblies on mortar pads so nail heads are evenly loaded.

G. Wall Drainage Systems

Install wall drainage systems as shown in the accepted submittals and in accordance with Section 816 of the *Standard Specifications*. Before installing shotcrete reinforcement, place geocomposite sheet drains with the geotextile side against excavation faces. For highly irregular faces and at the discretion of the Engineer, sheet drains may be placed after shotcreting over weep holes through the shotcrete. Hold sheet drains in place with anchor pins so drains are in continuous contact with surfaces to which they are attached and allow for full flow the entire height of soil nail walls. Discontinuous sheet drains are

not allowed. If splices are needed, overlap sheet drains at least 12" so flow is not impeded. Connect sheet drains to aggregate leveling pads by embedding drain ends at least 4" into No. 57 stone.

H. Shotcrete

Clean ungrouted zones of drill holes and excavation faces of loose materials, mud, rebound and other foreign material. Moisten surfaces to receive shotcrete. Install shotcrete reinforcement in accordance with the contract and accepted submittals. Secure reinforcing steel so shooting does not displace or vibrate reinforcement. Install approved thickness gauges on 5 ft centers in the horizontal and vertical directions to measure shotcrete thickness.

Apply shotcrete in accordance with the contract, accepted submittals and Subarticle 1002-3(F) of the *Standard Specifications*. Use approved shotcrete nozzlemen who made satisfactory preconstruction test panels to apply shotcrete. Direct shotcrete at right angles to excavation faces except when shooting around reinforcing steel. Rotate nozzle steadily in small circular patterns and apply shotcrete from bottom of lifts up.

Make shotcrete surfaces uniform and free of sloughing or sagging. Completely fill ungrouted zones of drill holes and any other voids with shotcrete. Taper construction joints to a thin edge over a horizontal distance of at least the shotcrete thickness. Wet joint surfaces before shooting adjacent sections.

Repair surface defects as soon as possible after shooting. Remove any shotcrete which lacks uniformity, exhibits segregation, honeycombing or lamination or contains any voids or sand pockets and replace with fresh shotcrete to the satisfaction of the Engineer. Protect shotcrete from freezing and rain until shotcrete reaches initial set.

I. Leveling Pads and Concrete Facing

Construct aggregate leveling pads at elevations and with dimensions shown in the accepted submittals. Compact leveling pads with a vibratory compactor to the satisfaction of the Engineer.

Construct concrete facing in accordance with the accepted submittals and Section 420 of the *Standard Specifications*. Do not remove forms until concrete attains a compressive strength of at least 2,400 psi. Unless required otherwise in the plans, provide a Class 2 surface finish for concrete facing that meets Subarticle 420-17(F) of the *Standard Specifications*. Construct concrete facing joints at a spacing of 10 ft to 12 ft unless required otherwise in the plans. Make 1/2" thick expansion joints that meet Article 420-10 of the *Standard Specifications* for every third joint and 1/2" deep grooved contraction or sawed joints that meet Subarticle 825-10(B) or 825-10(E) respectively for the remaining joints. Stop reinforcing steel for concrete facing 2" on either side of expansion joints.

If a brick veneer is required, construct brick masonry in accordance with Section 830 of the *Standard Specifications*. Anchor brick veneers to soil nail walls in accordance with

Subarticle 453-4 of the *Standard Specifications*. Seal joints above and behind soil nail walls between concrete facing and slope protection with silicone sealant.

Construction Records

Provide 2 copies of soil nail wall construction records within 24 hours of completing each lift. Include the following in construction records:

1. Names of Soil Nail Wall Contractor, Superintendent, Nozzleman, Drill Rig Operator, Project Manager and Design Engineer;
2. Wall description, county, Department's contract, TIP and WBS element number;
3. Wall station and number and lift location, dimensions, elevations and description;
4. Nail locations, dimensions and inclinations, bar types, sizes and grades, corrosion protection and temporary casing information;
5. Date and time drilling begins and ends, steel bars are inserted into drill holes, grout and shotcrete are mixed and arrives on-site and grout placement and shotcrete application begins and ends;
6. Grout volume, temperature, flow and density records;
7. Ground and surface water conditions and elevations if applicable;
8. Weather conditions including air temperature at time of grout placement and shotcrete application; and
9. All other pertinent details related to soil nail wall construction.

After completing each soil nail wall or stage of a wall, provide a PDF file of all corresponding construction records.

2.0 NAIL TESTING

Test soil nails in accordance with the contract and as directed. "Verification tests" are performed on nails not incorporated into soil nail walls, i.e., sacrificial nails and "proof tests" are performed on nails incorporated into walls, i.e., production nails. Define "verification test nail" and "proof test nail" as a nail tested with either a verification or proof test, respectively. Define "test nails" as verification or proof test nails.

Verification tests are typically required for at least one nail per soil type per soil nail wall or 2 nails per wall, whichever is greater. Proof tests are typically required for at least one nail per nail row per soil nail wall or at least 5% of production nails, whichever is greater. More or less test nails may be required depending on subsurface conditions encountered. The Engineer will determine the number and locations of verification and proof tests required. The approximate known test nail locations may be shown in the plans.

Do not test nails until grout and shotcrete attain the required 3-day compressive strength. Do not install any production nails until verification tests are accepted.

A. Test Equipment

Use the following equipment to test nails:

1. Two dial gauges with rigid supports,
2. Hydraulic jack and pressure gauge,
3. Jacking block or reaction frame and
4. Electrical resistance load cell (verification tests only).

Provide dial gauges with enough range and precision to measure the maximum test nail movement to 0.001". Use pressure gauges graduated in 100 psi increments or less. Submit identification numbers and calibration records for load cells, jacks and pressure gauges with the soil nail wall construction plan. Calibrate each jack and pressure gauge as a unit.

Align test equipment to uniformly and evenly load test nails. Use a jacking block or reaction frame that does not damage or contact shotcrete within 3 ft of nail heads. Place dial gauges opposite each other on either side of test nails and align gauges within 5° of bar inclinations. Set up test equipment so resetting or repositioning equipment during nail testing is not needed.

B. Test Nails

Test nails include both unbonded and bond lengths. Grout only bond lengths before nail testing. Provide unbonded and bond lengths of at least 3 ft and 10 ft, respectively.

Steel bars for production nails may be overstressed under higher test nail loads. If necessary, use larger size or higher grade bars with more capacity for test nails instead of shortening bond lengths to less than the minimum required.

C. Nail Tests

Install verification test nails with the same equipment, installation methods and drill hole diameter and inclination as production nails. Test verification and proof test nails in accordance with the accepted submittals and Articles 34.5.5.2 and 34.5.5.3, respectively of the *AASHTO LRFD Bridge Construction Specifications* except correct Eq. 34.5.5.2-2 to $VTL = L_{BVT} \times r_{po}$ (kips/ft).

D. Test Nail Acceptance

Submit 2 copies of test nail records including load versus movement and time versus creep movement plots within 24 hours of completing each verification or proof test. The Engineer will review the test nail records to determine if test nails are acceptable. Test nail acceptance is based in part on the acceptance criteria in Article 34.5.5.4 of the *AASHTO LRFD Bridge Construction Specifications*.

For proof test nails, maintain stability of unbonded lengths for subsequent grouting. If a proof test nail is accepted but the unbonded length cannot be satisfactorily grouted, do not incorporate the proof test nail into the soil nail wall and add another production nail

to replace the test nail.

If the Engineer determines a verification test nail is unacceptable, revise the soil nail design or installation methods. Submit a revised soil nail wall design or construction plan for acceptance and provide acceptable verification test nails with the revised design or installation methods.

If the Engineer determines a proof test nail is unacceptable, either perform additional proof tests on adjacent production nails or revise the soil nail design or installation methods for the production nails represented by the unacceptable proof test nail as determined by the Engineer. Submit a revised soil nail wall design or construction plan for acceptance, provide an acceptable proof test nail with the revised design or installation methods and install additional production nails for the nails represented by the unacceptable proof test nail.

After completing nail testing for each soil nail wall or stage of a wall, provide a PDF file of all corresponding test nail records.

GEOTECHNICAL APPENDIX D

ROCK SLOPE STABILIZATION (SPECIAL)

Description

A rock bolt is defined as a steel bar grouted in a drilled hole inclined at an angle below horizontal. Rock slope stabilization consists of individual rock bolts passively or actively stabilizing a boulder or rock mass or several rock bolts spaced at a regular pattern and connected to a flexible, steel wire mesh facing. The mesh may be installed in a draped or pinned condition. Construct rock slope stabilization based on actual elevations and dimensions in accordance with this provision, the accepted submittals and the plans. For this provision, "Rock Slope Stabilization Contractor" refers to the contractor installing the rock bolts and/or applying the facing.

This provision addresses anchors for wire mesh and wire mesh to be used for rock slope stabilization, rockfall protection and other applications in accordance with the contract. Provide rock slope materials as shown in the plans and as directed.

Materials

Rock slope materials including, but not limited to, rock bolts, wire mesh and nets, and rockfall barriers shall meet the requirements of the current *Rock Slope Materials* provision.

Use grout meeting the requirements of Section 1003 of the *Standard Specifications*.

Submittals

Submit a rock slope stabilization design. Perform the analysis and design in accordance with current industry standards and FHWA guidelines. Provide an electronic copy of the plan in PDF format. Allow 10 working days for the review of the submittal.

Submit a rock slope stabilization installation and testing plan. Provide an electronic copy of the plan in PDF format. Allow 10 working days for the review of the submittal. Do not begin rock slope stabilization construction until the installation and testing plan is accepted.

Submit detailed project specific information including the following.

1. Excavation methods and equipment.
2. List of proposed drilling equipment and tools, tremies and grouting equipment.
3. Description of rock slope stabilization construction including details of drilling and grouting methods, and rock bolt installation.
4. Examples of construction and test records to be provided.
5. Other information shown on the plans or requested by the Engineer.

If alternate installation and testing procedures are proposed or necessary, a revised installation and testing plan submittal may be required. If the work deviates from the accepted submittal without prior approval, the Engineer may suspend rock slope stabilization construction until a revised plan is submitted and accepted.

Construction Methods

Perform any blasting in accordance with the *Standard Specifications*.

Use drilling equipment capable of drilling through whatever materials are encountered to the dimensions and orientations required for the rock slope stabilization design. Drill straight and clean holes at the locations shown in the accepted submittals. Drill hole locations and inclinations are required to be within 6" and 2 degrees, respectively, of that shown in the accepted submittals unless approved otherwise by the Engineer. Use equipment and methods reviewed and accepted in the installation and testing plan or approved by the Engineer. Inform the Engineer of any deviations from the accepted plan. Stabilize drill holes with temporary casings if unstable, caving or sloughing material is encountered. Do not use drilling fluids to stabilize drill holes or remove cuttings. Control drilling and grouting to prevent excessive slope movement. The Engineer may require a revised rock slope stabilization installation and testing plan when corrective action is necessary.

For post-tensioned rock bolts, smooth an area ½" larger on all sides of the bearing plate using a facing bit to achieve uniform bearing behind the plate prior to installing the rock bolt. Install rock bolts to the depth indicated on the plans. Do not vibrate or drive bars. If a bar cannot be completely inserted easily, remove the bar and clean or redrill the hole.

Remove all oil, rust inhibitors, residual drilling fluids and similar foreign materials from holding tanks/hoppers, stirring devices, pumps, lines, tremie pipes and all other equipment in contact with grout before use.

Place grout with a tremie in accordance with the contract and accepted submittals. Inject grout at the lowest point of drill holes through a tremie in one continuous operation. Fill drill holes progressively from the bottom to top and withdraw tremie at a slow even rate as the hole is filled to prevent voids in the grout. Extend tremie pipe into grout a minimum of 5 ft at all times except when grout is initially placed in a drill hole. Bar threads should be kept clean to allow tightening of the bearing plate and nut.

Provide grout free of segregation, intrusions, contamination, structural damage or inadequate consolidation (honeycombing). Cold joints in grout are not allowed except for rock bolts that are tested. Extract temporary casings as grout is placed. Monitor and record grout volumes during placement.

Allow the grout to achieve the required 3-day strength prior to testing and the required 28-day strength prior to post-tensioning. Install the bearing plate, washer and nut and tension active rock bolts to the design requirements using a jack and stressing chair. Tighten the nut flush with the bearing plate and slowly reduce the jack pressure.

Install wire mesh in accordance with the drawings and manufacturer's specifications, including any required overlapping. Connect the bearing plates to the bolts as shown on the plans and as directed by the Engineer.

Cut off rock bolts 1" above the nut or rock face. Rock dowels (passive bolts) may be cut 2" shorter than the drill hole depth prior to installation to allow the bolt to finish below the rock face and be covered by grout. Apply an epoxy repair or zinc-rich paint for corrosion protection to each cut end of all rock bolts.

Replace rock bolts, bearing plates, nuts or washers that are damaged or defective as determined by the Engineer at no additional cost to the Department.

Construction Records

Provide an electronic copy in PDF format of rock slope stabilization construction records including the following within 24 hours of completing each lift.

1. Names of Rock Slope Stabilization Contractor, Superintendent, Drill Rig Operator, and Project Manager.
2. Description, county, NCDOT contract, TIP and WBS element number
3. Stations and lift location, dimensions, elevations and description
4. Rock bolt locations, diameters, lengths and inclinations, bar types, sizes and grades, corrosion protection and temporary casing information
5. Date and time drilling begins and ends, rock bolt bar is placed, grout is mixed and/or arrives on-site, grout placement begins and ends
6. Grout volume, temperature, flow and density records
7. Ground and surface water conditions and elevations, if applicable
8. Weather conditions including air temperature at time of grout placement
9. All other pertinent details related to rock slope stabilization construction

After completing all lifts for a rock slope stabilization or a stage of a rock slope stabilization, submit electronic copies in PDF format of all corresponding construction records.

Rock Bolt Testing

For this provision, "verification tests" are performed on test bolts not incorporated into the work, i.e., sacrificial rock bolts "Verification test bolts" refer to rock bolts on which verification tests are performed and "proof test bolts" refer to rock bolts on which proof tests are performed.

One verification test is required at each rock slope stabilization location, or as directed by the Engineer. The Engineer will select the test location in the field. Proof tests on 5 percent of production rock bolts with a minimum of 1 test per bolt row are required. More or less rock bolt testing may be required depending on the subsurface conditions encountered. The Engineer will decide the actual number and specific locations of each verification and proof test required.

Do not test rock bolts until grout achieves the required 3 day compressive strength. Do not begin construction of any production rock bolts until verification tests are satisfactorily completed.

E. Testing Equipment

Use testing equipment that includes the following.

- 2 dial gauges
- dial gauges rigid supports
- hydraulic jack and pressure gauge
- jacking block

Provide pressure gauges graduated in 100 psi increments or less. Use dial gauges capable of measuring to 0.001" and accommodating the maximum anticipated movement. Submit identification number and calibration records for each jack and pressure gauge with the rock slope stabilization installation and testing plan. Calibrate the jack and pressure gauge as a unit.

Align testing equipment to ensure uniform loading. Use a jacking block that does not damage the slope. Align dial gauges within 5 degrees of the test bolt axis. Place dial gauges opposite each other on either side of the test bolt. Set up test equipment and measuring devices such that resetting or repositioning the components before completing testing is not required.

F. Test Bolts

Test bolts have both bonded and unbonded lengths. Grout only the bonded length before testing. Minimum bonded and unbonded lengths of 10 ft and 5 ft, respectively, are required.

Rock bolt bars for production rock bolts may be overstressed under higher test bolt loads. Use larger or higher grade steel bars to allow for higher loads instead of shortening bond lengths to less than the minimum. Any costs associated with higher capacity bars will be considered incidental to the rock bolt testing pay items.

G. Verification Tests

Install sacrificial rock bolts in accordance with the accepted submittals and this provision. Use the same equipment, methods and drill hole diameter for sacrificial rock bolts as will be used for production rock bolts.

Use the following equation to determine maximum bond length for verification test bolts, L_{BVT} (ft).

$$L_{BVT} \leq \frac{C_{RT} \times A_t \times f_y}{Q_{ALL} \times 3}$$

Where,

C_{RT} = reduction coefficient, 0.9 for Grade 60 and 75 bars or 0.8 for Grade 150 bars,

A_t = bar area (in^2),

f_y = bar yield stress (ksi) and

Q_{ALL} = allowable unit grout/rock bond strength (kips/ft).

Use the following equation to determine design verification test load, DTL (kips).

$$DTL = L_{BVT} \times Q_{ALL}$$

Calculate DTL based on as-built bond lengths. Perform verification tests by incrementally loading test bolts to failure or a maximum test load of 300 percent of DTL according to the following schedule.

Load	Hold Time
AL*	1 minute
0.25 DTL	10 minutes
0.50 DTL	10 minutes
0.75 DTL	10 minutes
1.00 DTL	10 minutes
1.20 DTL	60 minutes (creep test)
1.50 DTL	10 minutes

AL*	1 minute

*Alignment load (AL) is the minimum load required to align testing equipment and should not exceed 0.05 DTL.

Reset dial gauges to zero after applying alignment load. Record test bolt movement at each load increment and permanent set after load is reduced to alignment load.

Monitor test bolts for creep at the 1.20 DTL load increment. Measure and record test bolt movement during the creep portion of the test at 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 20, 30, 50 and 60 minutes. Repump jack as needed to maintain the intended load during hold times.

H. Proof Tests

Use the following equation to determine maximum bond length for proof test bolts, L_{BPT} (ft).

$$L_{BVT} \leq \frac{C_{RT} \times A_t \times f_y}{Q_{ALL} \times 1.5}$$

Where variables are as defined in Item C of this section.

Use the following equation to determine design proof test load, DTL (kips).

$$DTL = L_{BPT} \times Q_{ALL}$$

Calculate DTL based on as-built bond lengths. Perform proof tests by incrementally loading test bolts to failure or a maximum test load of 150 percent of DTL according to the following schedule.

Load	Hold Time
AL*	Until movement stabilizes
0.25 DTL	Until movement stabilizes
0.50 DTL	Until movement stabilizes
0.75 DTL	Until movement stabilizes
1.00 DTL	Until movement stabilizes
1.20 DTL	10 or 60 minutes (creep test)
AL*	1 minute

*Alignment load (AL) is the minimum load required to align testing equipment and should not exceed 0.05 DTL.

Reset dial gauges to zero after applying alignment load. Record test bolt movement at each load increment and monitor test bolts for creep at the 1.20 DTL load increment. Measure and record test bolt movement at 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 10 minutes. When the test bolt movement between 1 minute and 10 minutes exceeds 0.04”, maintain the maximum test load for an additional 50 minutes and record movements at 20, 30, 50 and 60 minutes. Repump jack as needed to maintain the intended load during hold times.

I. Test Bolt Acceptance

Test bolt acceptance is based on the following criteria.

For verification tests, total creep movement is less than 0.08” between the 6 and 60 minute

readings and creep rate is linear or decreasing throughout the creep test load hold time.

For proof tests, total creep movement is less than 0.04" between the 1 and 10 minute readings or less than 0.08" between the 6 and 60 minute readings and creep rate is linear or decreasing throughout the creep test load hold time.

Total test bolt movement at maximum test load exceeds 80 percent of the theoretical elastic elongation of the test bolt unbonded length.

Pullout failure does not occur at the 1.5 DTL load increment or before. Pullout failure is defined as the inability to increase the load while test bolt movement continues. Record the pullout failure load as part of the test data.

Maintain stability of test bolt unbonded lengths for subsequent grouting. If the test bolt unbonded length of a proof test bolt cannot be satisfactorily grouted after testing, do not incorporate the test bolt into the work and replace the bolt with another production rock bolt at no additional cost to the Department.

J. Test Bolt Results

Submit an electronic copy in PDF format of test bolt records including load versus movement curves within 24 hours of completing each test. The Engineer will review the test bolt records and associated construction records to determine if the test bolt is acceptable.

If the Engineer determines a verification test bolt is unacceptable, the Engineer may revise the rock slope stabilization design and/or installation methods. The Engineer will have up to 10 working days to revise the rock slope stabilization design and/or installation and testing plan at no additional cost to the Department.

If the Engineer determines a proof test bolt is unacceptable as a result of the contractor's activities, then either additional proof tests on adjacent production rock bolts or a revision to the rock slope stabilization design and/or installation methods for the production rock bolts represented by the unacceptable proof test bolt may be required at no additional cost to the Department. If required, remove representative production rock bolts and provide new production rock bolts with the revised design and/or installation methods at no additional cost to the Department.

After completing all rock bolt testing, submit an electronic copy in PDF format of all corresponding testing records.