MEMORANDUM

TO: Division Engineers  
FROM: J. G. Nance, P. E.  
Chief Engineer - Operations

SUBJECT: Hurricane Irene – Contract Construction Projects

As a result of Hurricane Irene, a “Federal Disaster Declaration” has been issued for 37 counties in Eastern North Carolina. These include all counties in Divisions 1, 2, 3, and 4. For Divisions 5 and 6 the counties include Vance, Warren, and Columbus. You will be advised if additional counties receive this declaration. By the definition contained in the Standard Specifications, Hurricane Irene is not considered an Act of God. However, the State Highway Administrator has made a determination, that due to the widespread impacts of this storm, additional compensation and time extensions beyond those noted in the Specifications may be granted to contractors with active construction projects within the counties referenced above. This administrative action should be handled in the following manner:

Contract Time Extensions
All contract construction projects in the counties referenced above, which were active on August 26, 2011, will be extended by seven calendar days. This extension applies to the overall contract time and any active intermediate contract times and applies to both Centrally and Division let projects. Please notify the Contractor in writing on each project of this Department initiated time extension. Any requests for time extensions related to Hurricane Irene beyond seven days or in counties not referenced above must be submitted by the Contractor and reviewed in accordance with the Standard Specifications.

Additional Compensation
For contract construction projects in the counties referenced above, compensation will be made to bring the projects to a reasonable condition similar to what existed prior to the storm. This applies only to work within the project limits. Examples of the type of work that may be eligible are listed below:
- Debris removal within construction limits where clearing has already been performed
- Fence and noise wall repair
- Stabilization of wash outs or slope failures
- Off site silt retrieval
- Pipe replacements
- Bridges and/or approach repairs

Depending on the scope of work to be performed, compensation may be made using existing contract pay items or negotiated prices as required in accordance with the Specifications.
The work associated with project cleanup and storm damage repair is eligible for reimbursement from FHWA Emergency Relief (ER) Funds or Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) Funds. ER Funds are used only on federal aid system routes and require a minimum of $5000 per site. FEMA Funds are to be used on federal and non-federal aid system routes and require a minimum of $1000 per site. Eligible ER and FEMA routes are listed by Division in the Emergency Procedures Manual located at http://www.ncdot.org/doh/srmu/. Please note that many repairs are tracked on a Division wide basis, making it easier to achieve the minimum dollars amounts. Major repairs to bridges, pipes, or embankments will need to be tracked on a site specific basis. Areas to be repaired should be documented with photographs prior to performing the work.

The specific WBS element(s) configuration should be determined by the Resident Engineer or District Engineer based on guidelines provided in Chapter 8 of the above referenced Emergency Procedures Manual. For projects in HiCAMS contact Marie Novello at (919)-733-2210 for assistance with adding WBS elements to the contract.

If you have any questions please contact Lamar Sylvester at (919) 733-2210 or Don Aschbrenner at (919) 733-3725.

cc: Mr. T. R. Gibson, P. E.
    Mr. R. E. Greene, Jr., P. E.
    Mr. R. A. Hancock, P. E.
    Ms. J. P. Brandenburg, P. E.
    Roadway Construction Engineers
    Bridge Construction Engineers
    Resident Engineers
    District Engineers
    Mr. John Sullivan, III, P. E.