The 2006 Standard Specifications shall be revised as follows:

Section 1078-1 - General, add the following after the second paragraph:

The intent of this section is to require the producer to provide prestressed concrete members that meet the Specifications and exhibit characteristics that are not objectionable to the Department.

(A) Producer Qualification

Producers of precast, prestressed concrete members are required to establish proof of their competency and responsibility in accordance with the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute’s (PCI) Plant Certification Program in order to perform work for the project. Certification of the manufacturing plant under the PCI program and submission of proof of certification to the State Materials Engineer is required prior to beginning fabrication. Maintain certification at all times while work is being performed for the Department. Submit proof of certification following each PCI audit to the State Materials Engineer for continued qualification. These same requirements apply to producers subcontracting work from the producer directly employed by the Contractor.

Employ producers PCI certified in Product Group B, Bridge Products, and in one of the appropriate categories as listed below:

- B2 Prestressed Miscellaneous Bridge Products: Includes solid piles, sheet piles and bent caps.
- B3 Prestressed Straight-Strand Bridge Members: Includes all box beams, cored slabs, straight-strand girders and bulb-tees, bridge deck panels, hollow piles, prestressed culverts and straight strand segmental components.
- B4 Prestressed Deflected-Strand Bridge Members: Includes deflected strand girders and bulb-tees, haunched girders, deflected strand segmental superstructure components and other post-tensioned elements.

Categories for elements not listed above will be as required by the project special provision or plans.

(B) Working Drawing Submittals

Prior to casting girders, submit complete working drawings to the Engineer for approval. The drawings shall detail the exact location and description of all casting holes, attachments and inserts cast in the member for both temporary and permanent applications. The casting holes, attachments and inserts are in association with, but not limited to: fall protection, overhang falsework, metal stay-in-place forms, solar platforms, temporary girder bracing, transit, erection, lifting and handling. If the plan notes indicate that the structure contains the necessary corrosion
protection required for a Corrosive Site, epoxy coat, galvanize or metalize all metallic components except stainless steel and malleable iron components. Electroplating will not be allowed.

Section 1078-7 – Placing Strands, Ties, and Reinforcing Steel, replace the first paragraph with the following:

Position strands, ties, supports, reinforcing bars of the sizes shown on the plans and bearing plates in accordance with the detailed dimensions shown on the plans and effectively secure against displacement from their correct positions. The use of previously tensioned strands is not permitted. For prestressing strands, do not allow deflections or displacements of any kind between the end anchorages unless shown on the plans. Place the steel reinforcing in final position after tensioning of the strands. Bend all tie wires to the inside of the member so that the ends are farther from the edge than the material tied. Support bottom strands spacings not to exceed 20 feet by supports meeting the requirements of Article 1070-4 or by other approved means. Plastic supports may be used when approved.

Section 1078-7 – Placing Strands, Ties, and Reinforcing Steel, replace the third paragraph with the following:

Strand splices are only permitted at the end of a reel and when using a single strand jack. Ensure that the strand lengths to be spliced together have the same lay of wire to avoid unraveling and position the splice so that it does not fall within a member. Do not torch cut the ends of the spliced strand lengths. Cut by shears, abrasive grinders, or other means approved by the Engineer. No more than one strand splice per bed is allowed on an individual strand and the use of previously tensioned strands for splicing is not permitted.

Section 1078-8 – Tensioning Procedure, add the following to the beginning of the Section:

A producer quality control representative shall be present during strand tensioning.

Section 1078-9 – Placing Concrete, replace the entire Section with the following:

Place concrete in accordance with Article 1077-8 and the additional requirements of this article.

Upon completion of stressing strand, place concrete within a reasonable time to prevent contamination of the strands and reinforcing steel.
Place concrete for girders 54” or less in height, and concrete for all cored slabs and box beams, in 2 or more equal horizontal layers. Place concrete for girders over 54” in height in 3 horizontal layers. When placing concrete in 3 layers locate the top of the first layer approximately at the top of the bottom flange and locate the top of the second layer approximately at the top of the web. To prevent separation of surfaces between layers, do not allow the time between successive placements onto previously placed concrete to exceed 20 minutes, unless the previously placed concrete has not yet stiffened, as evidenced by the continuous effective use of vibration. Should shrinkage or settlement cracks occur, the Engineer reserves the right to require additional layers and/or vibration.

The requirement of the above paragraph may be waived with the permission of the Engineer if self consolidating concrete is used.

Internal or a combination of internal and external vibration is required as is necessary to produce uniformly dense concrete without honeycomb.

Place concrete in cold weather in accordance with the requirements of Article 420-9.

Place concrete in daylight unless an adequate lighting system meeting the approval of the Engineer is provided.

Do not exceed a temperature of 95°F in the freshly mixed concrete when placed in the forms.

Place the concrete in the bed in one continuous operation, finishing each member before proceeding to the next one. If the pour stops before the concrete in all the members in the bed is placed, start curing immediately. Do not place concrete in any remaining members in that bed setup once curing at elevated temperatures has begun.

When cored slabs and box beams are cast, employ an internal hold-down system to prevent the voids from moving. At least six weeks prior to casting cored slabs or box beams, submit to the Engineer for review and comment, detailed drawings of the proposed void material and hold-down system. In addition to structural details, indicate the location and spacing of the holds-downs. Submit the proposed method of concrete placement and of consolidating the concrete under the void.

**Section 1078-11 – Transfer of Load,** replace the first paragraph with the following:

A producer quality control representative or equivalent qualified personnel shall be present during removal of forms and during transfer of load.

Transfer load from the anchorages to the members when the concrete reaches the required compressive strength shown on the plans. Loosen and remove all formwork in one continuous operation as quickly as possible as soon as release strength is obtained. As soon as
the forms are removed, and after the NCDOT Inspector has had a reasonable opportunity to inspect the member, transfer the load from the anchorages to the members as quickly as possible in one continuous operation using the approved detensioning sequence.

Section 1078-12 – Vertical Cracks in Prestressed Concrete Girders Prior to Detensioning,
replace the entire Section with the following:

This Section addresses prestressed concrete members that have vertical casting cracks prior to strand detensioning. Certain types of these cracks have been determined by the Department to render the girders unacceptable.

Unacceptable cracked members are those with two or more vertical cracks spaced at a distance less than the member depth which extend into the bottom flange. Such members are not considered serviceable and will be rejected. Members with two or more vertical cracks spaced at a distance less than the member depth but do not extend into the bottom flange are subject to an engineering assessment. Such members may not be considered serviceable and may be rejected.

Members with one or more vertical cracks that extend into the bottom flange and are spaced at a distance greater than the member depth are subject to an engineering assessment to determine their acceptability. If this engineering assessment is required, submit, at no additional cost to the Department, a proposal for repairing the member and a structural evaluation of the member prepared by a North Carolina Licensed Professional Engineer. In the structural evaluation, consider the stresses under full service loads had the member not cracked and the effects of localized loss of prestress at the crack as determined by methods acceptable to the Department.

All members, except those defined as unacceptable, which exhibit vertical cracks prior to detensioning, shall receive a 7 day water cure as directed by the Engineer. The water cure shall begin within 4 hours after detensioning the prestressing strands and shall be a minimum of 3’-0” beyond the region exhibiting vertical cracks.

The Department has the final determination regarding acceptability of any members in question.

Section 1078-13 – Prestressed Concrete Girder Web Splitting, replace the entire Section with the following:

After detensioning of certain girders with draped strands, cracks occasionally occur in the webs at the ends of the girders. If such cracks occur, employ a method to remedy this condition on all subsequent girders of the same type and strand pattern. If debonding of strands is used, satisfy the following criteria:
(A) Do not debond the two straight strands in the top of the girder. Debond one half of the straight strands, as nearly as possible, in the bottom flange. As nearly as possible, debond one quarter of the straight strands in the bottom of girder 4 feet from each end of the girder and debond one quarter of the straight strands 2 feet from each end of the girder.

(B) Use a debonding pattern that is symmetrical about the vertical axis of the girder.

(C) Debond strands so that the center of gravity of the strands in the bottom of the girder remain within 1" of their original location at the end of the girder.

(D) Debond strands by encasing the strand in a conduit meeting the approval of the Engineer. Conduit may be rigid one-piece or rigid two-piece split sheathing. Do not use flexible conduit or sheathing.

No separate payment is made for debonding strands as payment is included in the contract unit price bid for prestressed concrete girders.

**Section 1078-14 – Handling, Transporting and Storing**, replace the second paragraph with the following:

Store all prestressed members on solid, unyielding, storage blocks in a manner to prevent torsion or objectionable bending. In handling prestressed concrete girders 54″ or less in height, including cored slabs and box beams, maintain them in an upright position at all times and pick them up within 5 feet of the points of bearing and transport and store supported only within 3 feet of points of bearing. In handling prestressed concrete girders greater than 54” in height, maintain them in an upright position at all times and submit for approval the proposed method of lifting, transporting, and storing the girders. When requested, provide calculations to confirm girders are not overstressed by such operations.

**Section 1078-15 – Final Finish**, replace the entire Section with the following:

Finish prestressed concrete members that are intended for composite action with subsequently placed concrete or asphalt with a roughened surface for bonding. Make sure that no laitance remains on the surfaces to be bonded.

Rough float the tops of girders. Broom finish the top surface of the cored slab and box beam sections receiving an asphalt overlay. Rake the top surface of cored slab and box beam sections receiving a concrete overlay to a depth of 3/8”. No surface finish is required for sides and bottom of the slab and beam sections except the exposed side of the exterior unit as noted.
below. Provide a resulting surface finish essentially the same color and surface finish as the surrounding concrete.

Provide a 3/4" chamfer along the bottom edges on ends and sides of all box beam and cored slab sections, top outside edges of exterior sections and acute corners of sections. Round the top edges on ends of all sections with a 1/4" finishing tool. Provide square corners along top edges on all sections along shear keys. Do not chamfer vertical edges at ends of sections.

Fill all voids in the diagonal face of the bottom flange of prestressed concrete girders and the outside face of exterior cored slabs and box beams with a sand-cement or other approved grout. Fill all voids in piles greater than 1/2" in diameter or depth as above. Provide a resulting surface finish essentially the same color and surface finish as the surrounding concrete. Repair voids greater than 1/4" in diameter or depth in other faces of these and other members except piles in a like manner. Where an excessive number of smaller voids exist in any member, the Engineer requires a similar repair.

Repair honeycomb, excessively large fins, and other projections as directed. Submit, at no additional cost to the Department, a proposal for repairing members with honeycomb, cracks, or spalls. Do not repair members containing honeycomb, cracks, or spalls until a repair procedure is approved and the member is inspected by the Engineer. Any appreciable impairment of structural adequacy that cannot be repaired to the satisfaction of the Engineer is cause for rejection.

Clean and fill holes caused by strand hold downs upon removal from the casting bed. Use patches of materials approved by the Engineer that develop strength at least equal to the minimum 28 day strength requirement for the concrete prior to approval of the member. Ensure that members are clean and surfaces have a uniform appearance.

Give the top surface of prestressed concrete panels a raked finish or other approved finish to provide an adequate bond with the cast-in-place concrete. As soon as the condition of the concrete permits, rake the top surface of the concrete making depressions of approximately 1/4". Take care when raking not to catch and pull the coarse aggregate.

Clean reinforcing bars exposed on the tops of girders and exterior cored slabs or box beams of mortar build up and excessive rust.

Apply epoxy protective coating to the ends of prestressed members as noted on the plans.
**Section 1078-16 (A) – Alignment and Dimensional Tolerances**, revise Table 1078-3 “Tolerances for Prestressed Cored Slabs” as follows:

| Width - Differential of adjacent spans in the same structure | 1/2" |

**Section 1078-16 (B) – Alignment and Dimensional Tolerances**, revise Table 1078-4 “Tolerances for Prestressed Girders” as follows:

| Position of holes for diaphragm bolts (K) | ±1/4" |

**Section 1078-16 (F) – Alignment and Dimensional Tolerances**, revise Table 1078-8 “Tolerances for Box Beams” to be consistent with cored slab tolerances as follows:

| Width - Any one span | Plan width + 1/8” per joint |
| Width – Differential of adjacent spans in the same structure | 1/2" |

**Section 1078-16 – Identification of Members**, revise Section number to the following:

Section 1078-17

**Section 1078-17 – Quality Control**, revise Section number to the following:

Section 1078-18