



Illinois Department of Transportation

Memorandum

To: All Regional Engineers
From: Omer M. Osman, P.E. *DMD/AAW*
Subject: Special Provision for Portland Cement Concrete Bridge Deck Curing
Date: January 9, 2015

This special provision was developed by the Bureau of Materials and Physical Research to implement recommendations approved by the Illinois Highway Development Council regarding use of Cellulose Polyethylene Blanket as an alternative curing method for Portland Cement Concrete Bridge Decks.

This special provision should be inserted into all portland cement concrete bridge deck contracts.

The districts should include the BDE Check Sheet marked with the applicable special provisions for the April 24, 2015 and subsequent lettings. The Project Development and Implementation Section will include a copy in the contract.

This special provision will be available on the transfer directory January 9, 2015.

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PORTLAND CEMENT CONCRETE BRIDGE DECK CURING (BDE)

Effective: April 1, 2015

Replace the table in Article 1020.13 of the Supplemental Specifications with the following:

"INDEX TABLE OF CURING AND PROTECTION OF CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION			
TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION	CURING METHODS	CURING PERIOD DAYS	LOW AIR TEMPERATURE PROTECTION METHODS
Cast-in-Place Concrete ^{11/}			
Pavement Shoulder	1020.13(a)(1)(2)(3)(4)(5) ^{3/ 5/}	3	1020.13(c)
Base Course Base Course Widening	1020.13(a)(1)(2)(3)(4)(5) ^{2/}	3	1020.13(c)
Driveway Median Barrier Curb Gutter Curb & Gutter Sidewalk Slope Wall Paved Ditch	1020.13(a)(1)(2)(3)(4)(5) ^{4/ 5/}	3	1020.13(c) ^{16/}
Catch Basin Manhole Inlet Valve Vault	1020.13(a)(1)(2)(3)(4)(5) ^{4/}	3	1020.13(c)
Pavement Patching	1020.13(a)(1)(2)(3)(4)(5) ^{2/}	3 ^{12/}	1020.13(c)
Bridge Deck Patching	1020.13(a)(3)(5)	3 or 7 ^{12/}	1020.13(c)
Railroad Crossing	1020.13(a)(3)(5)	1	1020.13(c)
Piles and Drilled Shafts	1020.13(a)(3)(5)	7	1020.13(d)(1)(2)(3)
Foundations & Footings Seal Coat	1020.13(a)(1)(2)(3)(4)(5) ^{4/ 6/}	7	1020.13(d)(1)(2)(3)
Substructure	1020.13(a)(1)(2)(3)(4)(5) ^{1/ 7/}	7	1020.13(d)(1)(2)(3)
Superstructure (except deck)	1020.13(a)(1)(2)(3)(5) ^{8/}	7	1020.13(d)(1)(2)
Deck Bridge Approach Slab	1020.13(a)(5)(6) ^{19/}	7	1020.13(d)(1)(2) ^{17/}
Retaining Walls	1020.13(a)(1)(2)(3)(4)(5) ^{1/ 7/}	7	1020.13(d)(1)(2)
Pump Houses	1020.13(a)(1)(2)(3)(4)(5) ^{1/}	7	1020.13(d)(1)(2)
Culverts	1020.13(a)(1)(2)(3)(4)(5) ^{4/ 6/}	7	1020.13(d)(1)(2) ^{18/}
Other Incidental Concrete	1020.13(a)(1)(2)(3)(5)	3	1020.13(c)

Precast Concrete ^{11/}			
Bridge Slabs Piles and Pile Caps Other Structural Members	1020.13(a)(3)(5) ^{9/ 10/}	As Required ^{13/}	9/
All Other Precast Items	1020.13(a)(3)(4)(5) ^{2/ 9/ 10/}	As Required ^{14/}	9/
Precast, Prestressed Concrete ^{11/}			
All Items	1020.13(a)(3)(5) ^{9/ 10/}	Until Strand Tensioning is Released ^{15/}	9/”

Add the following footnote to the end of the Index Table of Curing and Protection of Concrete Construction in Article 1020.13 of the Supplemental Specifications:

“19/ The cellulose polyethylene blanket method shall not be used on latex modified concrete.”

Add the following to Article 1020.13(a) of the Standard Specifications.

“(6) Cellulose Polyethylene Blanket Method. The cellulose polyethylene blanket shall consist of a white polyethylene sheeting with cellulose fiber backing. After the surface of concrete has been textured or finished, it shall be covered immediately with a cellulose polyethylene blanket. The blankets shall be installed with the white perforated polyethylene side facing up. Adjoining blankets shall overlap a minimum of 4 in. (100 mm). On pours wider than 20 ft (6 m), a foot bridge shall be used to place the blankets and to spray water on the blankets immediately after placement on the concrete surface. The blankets shall be placed in a manner which will not create indentations greater than 1/4 in. (6 mm) in the concrete surface. Any air bubbles trapped during placement shall be removed without tearing the blanket. The blankets shall then be immediately flooded with a gentle spray of water to ensure complete saturation of the cellulose. The overlaps and outside edges of the cellulose polyethylene blankets, as well as tears in the blanket, shall be weighted down to prevent displacement as needed with care taken not to indent the concrete surface. Soaker hoses shall be placed along the length of the bridge so 100 percent of the deck surface is continuously saturated for the duration of the cure. Damaged cellulose polyethylene blankets shall be repaired or replaced at the direction of the Engineer.”

Revise the first paragraph of Article 1022.03 of the Standard Specifications to read:

“**1022.03 Waterproof Paper Blankets, White Polyethylene Sheeting, Burlap-Polyethylene Blankets, and Cellulose Polyethylene Blankets.** These materials shall be white and according to ASTM C 171, except moisture loss test specimens shall be made according to Illinois Modified AASHTO T 155. Cellulose polyethylene blankets shall be limited to single use only. The cellulose polyethylene blankets shall be delivered to the jobsite unused and in the manufacturer's unopened packaging until ready for installation. Each roll shall be

clearly labeled with product name, manufacturer, and manufacturer's certification of compliance with ASTM C 171."

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