



# Illinois Department of Transportation

2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois / 62764

July 24, 2018

## **CIRCULAR LETTER 2018-11**

### **DELIVERY OF PRECAST PRESTRESSED BEAMS**

COUNTY ENGINEERS / SUPERINTENDENTS OF HIGHWAYS  
MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS / DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC WORKS / MAYORS  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS – DIRECTORS  
TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY COMMISSIONERS  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Due to high demands for Welded Wire Reinforcement (WWR) the Department recommends local agencies adjust their project planning and scheduling to allow for at least an additional 4 weeks for delivery of precast prestressed beams. Local agencies are likely to experience delays in delivery of precast prestressed beams which include WWR. During this construction season, the Department has experienced delivery times for precast prestressed beams at least 4 weeks longer than previously experienced. The factors creating these delays include high demand, limited suppliers for WWR, and limited suppliers for epoxy coating. The department has explored alternative solutions to mitigate these delays. To date, no acceptable alternative solution has been found. The factors causing the additional delays are likely to continue for the foreseeable future.

If you have any questions regarding this circular letter, please contact Tim Peters Local Policy and Technology Engineer at (217) 785-5048 or [DOT.LocalPolicy@illinois.gov](mailto:DOT.LocalPolicy@illinois.gov)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maureen E. Kastl".

Maureen E. Kastl, P.E.  
Engineer of Local Roads and Streets

TP  
Attachment

cc: David Marth, Illinois Association of County Engineers  
Greg Willis, Illinois Municipal League  
Bryan Smith, Township Officials of Illinois  
Charlie Montgomery, Township Highway Commissioners of Illinois



# Illinois Department of Transportation

## Memorandum

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To: Regional Engineers Attn: Program Development Engineers  
From: Paul A. Loete   
Subject: Adjusted schedules for projects with Welded Wire Reinforcement  
Date: July 17, 2018

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Due to unusually high demands, the fabrication delivery schedules for Welded Wire Reinforcement (WWR) have been running at approximately six weeks this year compared to two weeks in previous years. Additionally, Illinois precast prestressed IL-Beams require that the WWR be epoxy coated. Currently, there is only one epoxy coater available for the IL-Beam WWR configurations. This has resulted in an additional four weeks to the delivery schedule, making it difficult for precast prestressed beam manufacturers to be able to order the reinforcement and still have enough time to fabricate their beams to meet contract scheduling requirements.

The department is working on alternate coating solutions to help alleviate a portion of the material delivery delays. In the interim, the Bureau of Bridges and Structures recommends that contracts with precast prestressed IL-Beams be scheduled with additional time allowed for the delivery of the WWR to the beam fabricators.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mark Shaffer by email at [mark.shaffer@illinois.gov](mailto:mark.shaffer@illinois.gov) or by telephone at (217) 785-2914.

cc: Omer M. Osman  
Paul A. Loete  
Tim Kell  
Jack Elston  
Maureen Kastl  
Brian Pfeifer  
Carl Puzey  
Mark Shaffer  
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