State of California
Department of Transportation

Business, Transportation and Housing Agency

Memorandum

Flex your power!
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To: ALL DESIGN SENIORS
Structure Design
Structure Design Services &
Earthquake Engineering
Geotechnical Services
Division of Engineering Services

MICHAEL J. LEE
Senior Bridge Engineer
Structure Maintenance and Investigations
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Date: October 4, 2004

From: RICHARD D. LAND
Deputy Division Chief
Structure Design
Division of Engineering Services

JIM APPLETON
Acting Deputy Division Chief
Geotechnical Services
Division of Engineering Services

Subject: Soil Nail Wall Working Drawings Review Process-Interim

Memo to Designers (MTD) 5-18, dated January 1991, provides a brief description of the function of soil nail walls and the roles and responsibilities for Structure Design and Geotechnical Services but does not address the distribution or review of Soil Nail Wall Working Drawings. The overall design of soil nail walls is the responsibility of the Structure Project Engineer (PE) with the Geotechnical Design Engineer providing the specific design and layout of the soil nails.

Typically the Geotechnical Design Engineer has not been included in the distribution and review of these drawings. The Documents Unit has been transmitting one copy of the Soil Nail Wall Working Drawings to each, the Earth Retaining Systems Specialist, the Structure Representative, and the remaining copies to the Structure PE for review and approval. The Geotechnical Design Engineer is the most knowledgeable of the in-situ soil and the project specific soil nail design and should be directly involved in the review of the Soil Nail Wall Working Drawings. Therefore, the distribution of Soil Nail Wall Working Drawings by the Documents Unit shall now include the Geotechnical Design Engineer in addition to the Earth Retaining Systems Specialist, the Structure Representative, and the Structure PE. The Structure PE shall be responsible for contacting the Geotechnical Design Engineer to collect his/her comments and incorporating them into the review of the Soil Nail Wall Working Drawings.

The Documents Unit shall transmit these documents to the Geotechnical Design Engineer by way of the Geotechnical Design Office Chiefs as follows:

District	Contact Person	Location
1,2,3,5,6,9 & 10	Roy Bibbens, Chief Geotechnical Design - North	Translab – Sacramento, MS –5
4	Tim Pokrywka, Chief Geotechnical Design - West	District 4 – Oakland, MS –98B
7 & 12	John Ehsan, Chief Geotechnical Design – South 1	Translab – Sacramento, MS –5
8 & 11	Abbas Abghari, Chief Geotechnical Design – South 2	Translab – Sacramento, MS –5

The above guidelines are interim until MTD 1-41, which will address the review process for all working drawings, is issued and MTD 5-18 is subsequently revised. Implementation of these procedures for Soil Nail Wall Working Drawings is immediate for new and ongoing design projects.

For additional information regarding the above policy change, please contact Overcomer Hor at (916) 227-8482.

c: Rob Stott
Dolores Valls
Structure Design Office Chiefs
Structure Design & Earthquake Engineering Office Chiefs
Geotechnical Services Office Chiefs
Richard Shepard
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