WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
MATERIALS CONTROL, SOILS AND TESTING DIVISION

MATERIALS PROCEDURE

DISTRICT REVISION OF BITUMEN CONTENT IN BITUMINOUS CONCRETE

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 To permit District Materials Engineer/Supervisor to change the required bitumen content for specific projects by issuing a temporary revision to the Plant Mix Formula.

2.0 GENERAL

2.1 The percent (%) asphalt required by the Plant Mix Formula is generally determined by: gradation, type of aggregate, and type of mix. The approved percent (%) asphalt should result in a satisfactory mix for general use under normal conditions. However, special conditions existing on specific construction projects may, at times, necessitate adjustments in the approved asphalt content.

2.1.1 Examples of conditions which might require an adjustment in asphalt content are:

2.1.1.1 Presence or absence of a tack coat.

2.1.1.2 Traffic count

2.1.1.3 How soon the road will be opened to traffic after paving is completed.

2.1.1.4 Existing condition of old pavement

2.2 Special conditions requiring an adjustment in asphalt content may be known in advance of construction, or may only become apparent during construction from appearance, workability, or finishability of the mix. The asphalt content should be adjusted to compensate for the special conditions.

3.0 INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 The District Materials Engineer/Supervisor is authorized to adjust the percent (%) asphalt cement required by the MC-14 Plant Mix Formula, within the following limits:

3.1.1 The adjustment made to the asphalt content shall apply only to the referred project in the memorandum authorizing the revision, not to other projects covered by the same MC-14.

3.1.2 The adjustment made to the asphalt content must be within the Master Tolerance Range of the governing specifications.

3.1.3 Materials Control, Soils and Testing Division must be consulted prior to placement of hot laid bituminous concrete when adjustments in excess of 0.4% are required.

3.1.4 Retroactive adjustments are not permitted.

3.2 Upon making an adjustment in the Plant Mix Formula, the District Materials Engineer/Supervisor shall submit to the Materials Control, Soils and Testing Division a memorandum containing the following information:

Approved MC-14 Number
Effective Date of Revision
Project
Revised Percent (%) Asphalt Content
Reason for Revision

3.2.1 Copies of the memorandum shall be sent to the Contractor and the plant inspector.

3.2.2 The memorandum will be placed in the project file. It will not be necessary to submit a revised MC-14.

3.3 The revised percent (%) asphalt becomes effective when the following conditions have been met:

3.3.1 The revision has been authorized by the District Materials Engineer/Supervisor.

3.3.2 The Contractor or his representative has been notified, either orally or in writing, of the revision. (Oral notification shall be confirmed in writing as soon as practical.)

3.3.3 If the bituminous concrete is already in production, the plant operator must be notified and given sufficient time to make plant adjustments.

3.3.4 If the proposed revision in percent (%) asphalt exceeds 0.4%, approval of the Materials Control, Soils and Testing Division must be obtained. Such approval may be either oral or written. (Oral approval shall be confirmed by memorandum.)

3.4 This Materials Procedure applies only to hot laid bituminous concrete and applies only to adjustments in percent (%) asphalt cement for specific projects. For general revisions in percent (%) asphalt cement or any revision of the gradation, a revised MC-14 form must be submitted to the Materials Control, Soils and Testing Division for review.

4.0 PRICE ADJUSTMENT

4.1 Adjustment in payment due to revisions in asphalt content shall be calculated as follows:

A = Adjustment in pay/Mg of mix
B = Invoice price liquid Asphalt/Mg
C = Average increase in asphalt content in % from accepted PMF (verified by test)
D = Average decrease in asphalt content in % from accepted PMF (verified by test)

Price increase per Mg of mix
$A = B \times (C/100)$

Price decrease per Mg of mix
$A = B \times (D/100)$

Gary L. Robson, Director
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