



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
16 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0016

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

DAVID A. COLE
COMMISSIONER

April 4, 2008
Subject: **New Portland, Wire Bridge**
Project No. BH-1019(101) X
Pin No.010191.01
Amendment No. 2

Dear Sir/Ms:

The following questions have been received:

Question: Section 652 – Due to temporarily removed suspender ropes and scaffolding, it would not be “practical” to reopen the bridge during non-working hours. In other words the bridge would basically be closed (not more than 180 days) continuously from start to finish. Is this allowable?

Answer: The bridge may be closed for a maximum of 180 calendar days during the contract period and does not need to be opened to traffic during non work hours while the main cables are unwrapped or any suspenders are removed. If the contractor stops work for periods other than weekends, holidays or nights, the bridge will be opened to traffic.

Question: Up to seven bands can be removed at one time. Is a temporary deck support system required or necessary?

Answer: Plan Sheet no. 4 of 6 outlines a possible procedure for completing the cable and suspender work in the mainspan that allows a maximum of four cable bands adjacent to the towers, and a maximum of seven cable bands between the ends, to be removed at one time without a supplemental deck support system being necessary. With this procedure, the existing timber deck section provides sufficient capacity to carry the stated maximum loads. Alternative procedures proposed by the contractor to facilitate construction will be considered by the Department and may be allowed subject to review and acceptance.

Consider this information prior to submitting your bid on **April 16, 2008.**

Sincerely,

Scott Bickford
Contracts & Specifications Engineer



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