



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

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

DAVID A. COLE
COMMISSIONER

September 21, 2010
Subject: **Brunswick**
Federal Project No: 015236.00
State Pin No: 015236.00
Amendment No. 3

Dear Sir/Ms:

The following question has been received:

Question: Per amendment #1, you have changed the specifications for the ballast to AREMA specs. We have contacted both MDOT labs as well as local soil labs and no one has ever heard of or done anything with AREMA specifications. It is hard to bid a project when even MDOT does not have a lab that tests using AREMA specs. We have also talked to several suppliers who have supplied ballast on previous MDOT jobs and none have ever done any testing on AREMA. Can you give us a supplier who can meet this specification? Otherwise, I believe you are going to limit the bidders who can even bid on the project. We have supplied plenty of ballast in the past to MDOT and had no problems but cannot determine if our stone or others can meet these very different specifications, nor can MDOT.

Response: The specification as written stands. The testing required by AREMA for ballast follows various ASTM tests for gradations, specific gravity, absorption, friable particles, degradation, soundness and flat or elongated particles.

Consider this information prior to submitting your bid on September 22, 2010.

Sincerely,

FOR

Scott Bickford
Contracts & Specifications Engineer



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