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

Janet T. Mills
GOVERNOR

Bruce A. Van Note
COMMISSIONER

November 13, 2023
Subject: Culvert Replacement
State WIN: 025361.01
Location: **Medway**
Amendment 4

Dear Sir/Ms.:

The following questions have been received:

Question: Does the temporary concrete braced barrier, on the RT 157 bridge, need to be pinned to the deck during each phase?

Response: As shown on sheet 150 of 168, either a pinned or braced temporary barrier may be used on the existing deck. On the new deck, only a braced temporary barrier may be used.

Question: The sole and masonry plates for the bearings are to be grade 50 steel and galvanized. The supplemental specification of July 17, 2023, Section 506 states that "Steel shall meet the requirements of SSPC SP8 Pickling prior to being immersed in the zinc tanks. Verification of the surface preparation shall be included in the QC documentation".
Comment: This appears to be a relatively new standard for ME DOT with respect to hot dipped galvanizing. Our understanding is that SSPC SP8 is intended to be performed immediately prior to painting/coating. If acid pickling is to be used as the primary method of surface preparation this may make sense. However, acid pickling is only one part of the surface preparation process for hot dip galvanizing. The steps taken after pickling prevent further oxidation prior to galvanizing. The SSPC SP8 requirement seems unnecessary.
The Issue: Our sources for hot dip galvanizing cannot certify to SSPC SP8.

What brought about this new requirement? Is it really necessary?

Response: The steel shall meet the surface finish requirements of SP-8 and be verified as a QA hold point. The pickling process used to achieve this result falls under the means and methods of the galvanizer.

Consider these changes and information prior to submitting your bid on **November 29, 2023**.

Sincerely,

George M. A. Macdougall P.E.
Contracts & Specifications Engineer