

# Pipe Advisory Group Meeting Minutes - January 21, 2003

## Attendees

All industries were represented, but a sign in sheet was not circulated.

## Preliminaries

Brian Blanchard, State Roadway Design Engineer, welcomed the P.A.G. members and commented briefly on the Department's upcoming project letting budget.

## Pipe Supplier Issues

### **Wrap-up on Old Issues**

#### Florida Concrete Pipe Institute – Hardie Pipe

Rick Renna confirmed that no further written comments were forthcoming from either Rinker or Hardie Pipe and said that He would send a written response to Rinker and Hardie's comments, copying the entire PAG.

#### Florida Concrete Pipe Institute – Miscellaneous Issues

Rick Renna handed out a written response to the FCPI's written concerns, below. The FCPI indicated that they would look over the Department's responses and respond later.



Microsoft Word  
Document

### **New Issues**

#### Hydro Conduit Spiral Rib Pipe Approval – Contech

Bill Burnette, Doug Todd, and Jim Schluter indicated that Contech had acquired Rinker's Hydro Conduit Division and that they would, as one company, re-examine Contech's concerns with Hydro Conduit's alternate spiral rib pipe. NOTE: Since this is now a non-adversarial issue, the Department will settle this matter with the one manufacturer and report the results to the PAG.

## **FDOT Issues**

### **Update on Flexible Pipe Liveload Study**

Rick Renna passed out draft versions of volumes 1, 2, and 3, and a copy of draft recommendations from the research project. Mr. Renna stressed that these were draft research recommendations and not FDOT policy decisions. He warned the industry to not misrepresent this information, in the marketplace, as FDOT policy.

### **Changes in RCP Service Life Due to Implementation of USF research by Professor A.A. Sagues**

Rod Powers explained that the research conducted at the University of South Florida would have an impact on concrete pipe estimated service life when chlorides are present. Further, Rod Powers mentioned that he and Rick Renna would be meeting with Rinker (Jeff Hite and Joe Zicaro) on January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2003 to discuss in further detail how the research may impact service life estimates. It was also mentioned that anyone from the concrete pipe industry would be allowed to attend this meeting.

### **100-Year Design Service Life**

Rick Renna discussed the general standard for the Department's granting 100-year service life to a pipe. He stated that reasonable engineering confidence must be established, including a QC/QA plan that provides reasonable confidence that the product specifications will be met. The burden of proof is on the industry, and the unique properties of each type of pipe must be addressed.

### **ASTM F 949 PVC 100-Year Service Life**

Rick Renna stated that Contech has submitted documentation to the Department demonstrating that ASTM F 949 PVC pipe meets 100-year service life. Copies of the documentation were passed out to industry representatives. Mr. Renna invited the industry to review Contech's documentation and to comment within 30 days.

### **HDPE 100-Year Service Life**

Rick Renna stated that the Department was in the process of writing a specification that would target the issues that need to be resolved for HDPE to receive 100-year service life. These issues will include installation requirements, QC/QA testing, resins, and antioxidants. Mr. Renna stated that the Department is amending their HDPE specification to target the current AASHTO resin cell class.

## **Open Forum for Discussions**

The floor was opened for any additional topics. No additional topics were submitted.

## **Next PAG Meeting**

The date for the next PAG meeting was tentatively set for April 22, 2003.