

# Florida Pipe Advisory Group

## Meeting Minutes – March 3, 2004

### Attendees

An attendance List was not circulated. All pipe industries were in attendance. Rod Powers and Dave Sadler from FDOT were not present.

### Items of Discussion

#### Welcome From Brian Blanchard

Brian Blanchard, State Roadway Design Engineer, welcomed members of the P.A.G., encouraging constructive communications as a healthy avenue towards good specs.

#### Update On P.E. Pipe Protocol

Rick Renna mentioned that the protocol effort was being revisited with significant input from the PPI and its resin suppliers on the testing of antioxidants. When the FDOT and PPI are in agreement, FDOT will initiate a formal specification review through the Specification Office with a separate, parallel review through the PAG. Mr. Renna then discussed FDOT's responses to comments from the pipe industries. Both Tim McGrath and Grace Hsuan responded by phone to questions raised by members. The pipe industries' comments and FDOT responses are attached to the transmittal e-mail.

#### PPI Response To Last Meeting's FCPI Presentation On N-Values

Jim Goddard presented a response to the FCPI's presentation on n-values at the last PAG meeting. His presentation is embedded below. Angel DeJesus responded that the FCPI wanted all pipes to be treated with the same rational regarding n-value determination. Mr. DeJesus also responded that the reason the ACPA did not publish their research on circumferentially shortened polyethylene pipe (Mr. Goddard's point no. 5) was that they were unable to obtain uniform waviness and hence, did not release their research. Mr. Goddard's presentation is embedded below:



Pipe Liner Dimpling in Compression 3-3-04.pdf

#### Watertight Pipe Joints For All FDOT Pipes

Rick Renna discussed his preliminary intentions to make all FDOT pipe joints meet the specification requirements for being watertight. Mr. Renna cited several

reasons for wanting this change: (1) contractors would have no excuse in construction when joints showed leakage, (2) stormwater pond recovery capacity would not be compromised by groundwater inflow, and (3) groundwater contaminants would not have opportunity for entry to piping systems. Several PAG members asked the Department to adopt a leakage rate per national ASTM standards for watertight joints, especially if field-testing becomes a part of the watertight specification. Additionally, Jim Schluter asked that the Department differentiate between joints that “blow out” at failure and become useless and joints that may leak stormwater out under excess pressure but still protect against external groundwater inflows. Mr. Renna indicated that, if a pipe industry was having difficulty qualifying a watertight joint, the Department would allow a reasonable timeframe for development of an improved joint rather than abruptly eliminating the use of that pipe.

### Demonstration Of Updated Culvert Service Life Estimator Program

Rick Renna demonstrated the draft version of the new Culvert Service Life Estimator (CSLE). The new CSLE will check for size and gauge availability, and use n-value to distinguish between spiral rib and non-spiral rib metal pipe. Industry members are asked to check size and gauge availability and comment within 30 days. A draft CSLE program is supplied with these meeting minutes. **Please do not release this draft CSLE!** The new final version will be available on the web shortly. Future improvements to the CSLE program will include the analysis of minimum and maximum fill heights as part of selecting optional pipe materials.

### Upcoming Revised Drainage Manual Language For Selection Of Design Service Life

Rick Renna discussed a future revision to the Drainage Manual language for selecting design service life. In recent discussions with the FDOT District Drainage Engineers (DDrEs), the DDrEs wish to specify 100-year design service life for all pipes except gutter drains and side drains. Mr. Renna repeated his intention to hold off on this change until the polyethylene pipe manufacturers had opportunity to fulfill the upcoming 100-year service life protocol discussed earlier in these minutes.

### Next Pipe Advisory Group Meeting

As a practical venue to reduce travel, PAG members asked that we hold the next PAG meeting in conjunction with the upcoming AASHTO bridge meeting in late June in Orlando. Therefore, the next PAG meeting is set for Thursday, June 24 in Orlando. Mr. Renna will communicate further details when available.