



*Florida Department of Transportation*

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GOVERNOR

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Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

KEVIN J. THIBAUT, P.E.  
SECRETARY

July 13, 2020

Khoa Nguyen  
Director, Office of Technical Services  
Federal Highway Administration  
3500 Financial Plaza, Suite 400  
Tallahassee, Florida 32312

Re: State Specifications Office  
Section: **630**  
Proposed Specification: **6300301 Conduit.**

Dear Mr. Nguyen:

We are submitting, for your approval, two copies of the above referenced Supplemental Specification.

The changes are proposed by James Beverly by the Florida Turnpike Tolls Design Office to implement additional requirements to tolling conduit installations due to needs of toll equipment.

Please review and transmit your comments, if any, within two weeks. Comments should be sent via email to [daniel.strickland@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:daniel.strickland@dot.state.fl.us).

If you have any questions relating to this specification change, please call me at 414-4130.

Sincerely,

Signature on file

Daniel Strickland, P.E.  
State Specifications Engineer

DS/rf

Attachment

cc: Florida Transportation Builders' Assoc.  
State Construction Engineer

**CONDUIT.**  
**(REV 5-21-20)**

SUBARTICLE 630-3.1 is deleted and the following substituted:

**630-3 Installation Requirements.**

**630-3.1 General:** Install the conduit in accordance with NEC or National Electrical Safety Code (NEC) requirements and the Standard Plans. Consider the locations of conduit as shown in the Plans as approximate. Construct conduit runs as straight as possible, and obtain the Engineer's approval for all major deviations in conduit locations from those shown in the Plans. Include buried cable warning tape with all trenched conduit. Mark the location of the conduit system with route markers as shown in the Plans and approved by the Engineer. Ensure that all route markers used are new and consistent in appearance.

For conduit installed by directional bore, install in accordance with Section 555. For conduit installed by jack and bore, install in accordance with Section 556.

Use only intermediate metal conduit, rigid galvanized metal conduit, rigid aluminum conduit or PVC coated intermediate metal conduit for above-ground electrical power service installations and rigid galvanized metal conduit or rigid aluminum conduit for underground electrical power service installations. Meet the requirements of Section 562 for coating all field cut and threaded galvanized pipe.

Use Schedule 80 PVC or fiberglass reinforced epoxy conduit in or on structural elements.

Use HDPE with an SDR number less than or equal to 11, Schedule 80 PVC or Schedule 40 PVC for underground installations in earth or concrete for ITS and traffic control signal applications, except, use only HDPE with an SDR number less than or equal to 11 for blown fiber optic cable installations on limited access facilities.

Use HDPE with an SDR number less than or equal to 13.5, Schedule 80 PVC, or Schedule 40 PVC for underground installations of electrical conduit in earth for lighting applications and landscape irrigation applications.

Use HDPE with an SDR number less than or equal to 13.5, Schedule 80 PVC, Schedule 40 PVC, or rigid galvanized metal for underground installations of electrical conduit in concrete for lighting applications.

Use HDPE with an SDR number less than or equal to 11 for directional bores or Schedule 80 PVC for open trenching and conduits serving toll site vehicle detection loop pull boxes. Use the following for all underground toll site applications except for conduits serving vehicle detection loop pull boxes:

1. Rigid steel conduit coated with PVC or a bituminous coating extending 6 inches above finished grade for conduits entering or leaving the ground. Use threaded end and paint all exposed exterior conduit.

2. Rigid galvanized steel elbows and bends for HDPE and PVC conduit raceways longer than 200 feet in length or 2 inches trade size and larger.

Do not place more than the equivalent of three quarter bends or 270 degrees of bends, including the termination bends, between the two points of termination in the conduit, without a pull box. Obtain the Engineer's approval to use corrugated flexible conduits for short runs of 6 feet or less.

When a conduit installation changes from underground to above-ground, make the change a minimum of 6 inches below finished grade.

Install a No. 12 AWG pull wire or polypropylene cord inside the full length of all conduits. Ensure that a minimum of 24 inches of pull wire/cord is accessible at each conduit termination.

Ensure the conduit includes all required fittings and incidentals necessary to construct a complete installation.

When earth backfill and tamping is required, place backfill material as per Section 120 in layers approximately 12 inches thick, and tamp each layer to a density equal to or greater than the adjacent soil.

When backfilling trenches in existing pavement, use a flowable fill meeting the requirements of Section 121.

Provide a standard clearance between underground control cable and electrical service cable or another parallel underground electrical service cable that meets NESC requirements.

Prevent the ingress of water, dirt, sand, and other foreign materials into the conduit prior to, during, and after construction. Seal the ends of conduit after wiring is complete with a moisture resistant sealant that is designed for this specific application.

SUBARTICLE 630-3.3 is deleted and the following substituted:

**630-3.3 Conduit Joints:** Make conduit joints using materials as specified by the manufacturer. When conduit crosses an expansion joint of a structure and where shown in the Plans, install an expansion or expansion/deflection fitting as specified by the manufacturer. Certify that expansion/deflection fittings are rated to accommodate a minimum rotation of 30 degrees and that both the expansion and expansion/deflection fittings are rated to accommodate the anticipated longitudinal movement (minimum of 2 inches for expansion fittings and 0.7 inches for expansion/deflection fittings). Ensure that all installed joints are waterproof. As an exception to the threaded coupling for intermediate metal conduit, at locations where it is not possible to screw the threaded coupling properly, the Contractor may use a waterproof slip-joint coupling approved by the Engineer. Secure the joint, and tighten threaded connections.

Prior to insertion into the coupling, clean, prime and coat the ends of PVC conduit with solvent-type cement as specified by the manufacturer.

For toll site conduit applications: Join lengths of smooth wall HDPE conduit using the Butt Fusion process or universal aluminum couplings. Use PVC to HDPE threaded transition couplings to join PVC conduit to HDPE conduit.

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