

5480805 RETAINING WALL SYSTEMS
COMMENTS FROM INTERNAL/INDUSTRY REVIEW

Arthur Berger
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Comments: (12-20-19, Internal)

Suggested edits are shown in the attachment. Most are highlighted in yellow.

→ → ~~548-8.5.2.Thick-Lift-Option-for-Compacted-Select-Backfill:~~ If through field tests, the Contractor can demonstrate that the compaction equipment can achieve density for the full depth of a thicker lift, ~~and if approved by the Engineer,~~ the backfill may be constructed in successive courses of not more than 10 inches compacted thickness.¶

→ → → ~~Based on results of a full height test wall constructed using each MSE wall,~~ The Engineer will ~~approve based approval on results of a full height test wall constructed using each MSE wall sub-contractor~~ the Contractor's specified compaction ~~procedures~~ effort. The length of the test wall shall be the length required to produce one LOT of ~~not less than~~ 500 feet at the top of the wall. ~~When all individual walls using this option are less than 500 feet, the test wall may be broken into two segments comprising separate LOTs. Both segments must be accepted to determine the required % compaction for the remaining walls. For each MSE wall sub-contractor,~~ The height of the test wall shall be ~~at least 20 feet or the highest wall in the project using this option,~~ whichever is less. ~~Shorter walls having a lower height may be constructed using these procedures until a full height test wall is constructed.~~ Notify the Engineer prior to beginning construction of a test wall.¶

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→ → → Identify the test wall with the ~~required %~~ compaction effort and thickness in the Logbook. ~~For the material within three feet behind the wall face, the minimum density required on the thick lift will be the average of all the passing QC results obtained on the thick lifts of the test wall within the three feet behind the wall face. For the material placed beyond three feet behind the wall face, the minimum density required will be the average of all the passing QC results obtained on the thick lifts of the test wall beyond three feet behind the wall face. Perform dig down density tests to verify the density of the bottom 6 inches. If the thick lift density does not meet or exceed the thick lift density results during the test wall, perform dig down density tests to verify the density of the bottom 6 inches.~~ The Contractor may elect to place material in 6 inches compacted thickness at any time. Once approved, a change in the source of backfill material will require the construction of a new test wall. Do not change the compaction effort once the test wall is approved. The Engineer will periodically verify the density of the bottom 6 inches during thick lift operations. If unable to achieve the required density, remove and replace or repair the test wall to comply with the specifications at no additional expense to the Department. The Engineer may terminate the use of thick lift construction and instruct the

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Response:

The first sentence of the second paragraph was revised to: "Based on the results of a full height test wall constructed by each Contractor or MSE wall sub-contractor, the Engineer will approve each Contractor's or MSE wall sub-contractor's specified compaction procedures."

The second to last sentence of the second paragraph was revised to: "Lower height walls may be constructed using these procedures until a full height test wall is constructed."

The second sentence of the fourth paragraph was revised to: "If the thick lift density does not meet or exceed the thick lift density results during the test wall, perform dig down density tests to verify the density of the bottom 6 inches of the lift."

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Comments: (12-20-19, Internal)

1. Why are they replacing “contractor” with “each MSE wall sub-contractor”? And why only in the second paragraph? What if contractor is self-performing? Suggest leaving it at “contractor” or at least something like “contractor or each MSE wall sub-contractor...”

Response: Agree – revised to “the Contractor’s or each MSE wall sub-contractor’s” prior to Industry Review.

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Comments: (1-2-20, Industry)

548-8.5.2, second paragraph, last sentence: Recommend hyphenating "full height" to read "...a full-height test wall..."; 548-8.5.2, fourth paragraph, second sentence: Recommend hyphenating "dig down" to read "Perform dig-down density tests..."; 548-8.5.2, LOT measurement: Recommend clarifying measurement definition; rather than "500 feet", perhaps "500-feet long" or "500 linear feet".

Response:

To be addressed by State Specifications Office. Changes were made.
