

**LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PUBLIC – LAWS TO BE OBSERVED - COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT AND OTHER WILDLIFE REGULATIONS (GOPHER TORTOISES).**

**(REV 6-15-17) (FA 6-20-17) (1-20)**

SUBARTICLE 7-1.4 is expanded by the following new Subarticle:

**7-1.4.1 Additional Requirements for Gopher Tortoises (*Gopherus***

**Polyphemus):** Certain gopher tortoise burrows are to remain within the project area, as shown in the Plans, and must be protected. Avoid ground disturbing impacts within a 25 foot radius of each burrow. Install and maintain silt fence in accordance with Section 104 as a means of burrow avoidance, ensuring that it opens towards the offsite project limits, does not herd tortoises toward an obstacle, and that burrows are not fully encircled. Install fence prior to any other construction activity. Replace fence in the same location as the original fence. Remove fence upon completion of construction.

Silt fence intended for burrow avoidance may also be used as silt fence for erosion control but shall not be considered as the only silt fence needed for erosion control purposes within the project limits.

Follow the gopher tortoise species requirements posted in the URL address in 7-1.4 when gopher tortoises are observed or previously unidentified burrows are discovered.