

**1040600, Prevention, Control and Abatement of Erosion and Water Pollution
Comments From Industry Review**

Jo Moore

Environmental Director
Ranger Construction Industries, Inc.

Comments:

104-6.2 states: Use approved temporary erosion **and sediment** control features **found in the State of Florida Erosion and Sediment Control Designer and Reviewer Manual (E&SC Manual)** (NOTE: this is the manual developed by UCF, FDOT and FDEP and published in July 2007 that has been referenced in earlier proposed editions of this specification

- *Approved by whom?*
- *How can we respond in a timely manner if we have to wait for approvals?*
- *Many of the controls or measures indicated or described in “the Manual” are not specific in application, but have to be determined based on job need (which may be a good thing for us) – but what we do not need is for the CEI to believe that he needs to personally know about and personally preview and pre-approve every method we propose to use, or determine is necessary to correct a condition that needs a timely response.*

104-6.2 also states: The Engineer may authorize temporary erosion **and sediment** control features when finished soil layer is specified in the Contract and the limited availability of that material from the grading operations will prevent scheduled progress of the work or damage the permanent erosion control features.

- *Is this condition supposed to limit the Engineer’s authority to authorize temporary erosion & sediment control features?*
- *It was my understanding that “finish soil layer” isn’t being utilized any more after the revision of “performance turf” specification calling for the contractor to “do whatever is necessary” to produce vegetative cover.*

104-6.4.2 states: ...For areas not defined as sod, constructing temporary turf by seeding only is not an option for temporary erosion control under this Section.

- *So, what is the appropriate option? (seed & mulch?, hydromulch?)*

104-6.4.5 Sediment Containment Systems: Construct sediment **containment systems** in accordance with the details shown in the plans, **the E&SC Manual**, or as may be approved as suitable to adequately perform the intended function. Clean out sediment basins as necessary in accordance with the plans or as directed.

- *Should also use same name (sediment containment systems) because both sediment basins and sediment traps are referenced as this type of device in “The Manual”. Since the “plan” may not say when to clean them out, that should also be referenced to the E&SC Design Manual, or the FDEP Inspector Manual (50% capacity is the standard taught by the Inspector course)*

104-6.4.8.2 (Temporary Silt Fence) Materials and Installation: Use a geotextile fabric made from woven or nonwoven fabric, meeting the physical requirements of Section 985 according to those applications for erosion control.

- *the requirements in Section 985 are outdated and do not match with what is taught in the FDEP Inspector Manual (that FDOT helped author). Often the specifications indicate that FDOT will pay for replacement every 12 months. IN FACT, materials that meet the above Section will not last 12 months in the FL sun. If a contractor actually uses a product that will last longer, he will pay more than he does for “standard silt fence” and it does create a “competitive” issue.*

104-6.4.8.2 (Temporary Silt Fence) Materials and Installation:

...Install all sediment control devices in a timely manner to ensure the control of sediment and the protection of lakes, streams, gulf or ocean waters, or any wetlands associated therewith and to any adjacent property outside the right-of-way as required.

At sites where exposure to such sensitive areas is prevalent, complete the installation of any sediment control device prior to the commencement of any earthwork.

After installation of sediment control devices, repair portions of any devices damaged at no expense to the Department.

- *These statements should not specifically be under “temporary silt fence” if it is to refer to all sediment control devices*
- *Somewhere, “permission” should be indicated so that contractors may delete silt fence, or not place silt fence or other sediment control devices in areas where they will do not good and will only serve to “create waste pollution” – such as at the top of a hill or embankment (where there are NO downhill slopes)! This continues to be a source of “confusion” with CEIs who still “don’t understand the program”.*

104-6.4.8.2 (Temporary Silt Fence) Materials and Installation:

...Erect temporary silt fence at upland locations across ditchlines and at temporary locations shown on the plans or approved by the Engineer where continuous construction activities change the natural contour and drainage runoff.

- *Should this say “at upland locations, across ditchlines” (insert comma)? But then, why at upland locations – isn’t that at the top of a hill? At temporary locations shown on the plans (what if something needs to be deleted) - again, this can be used to force the contractor to perform unnecessary work.*

104-6.4.8.3 Inspection and Maintenance: ...Inspect all temporary silt fences immediately after each rainfall and at least daily during prolonged rainfall. Immediately correct any deficiencies. In addition, make a daily review of the location of silt fences in areas where construction activities have changed the natural contour and drainage runoff to ensure that the silt fences are properly located for effectiveness. Where deficiencies exist, install additional silt fences as directed by the Engineer.

- *How does “immediately” match / square with FDEP permit for “7 calendar day” inspection and “within 24 hours of a ½” or more rain event”?*
- *Additional silt fence as directed by the Engineer ... Compensation? And if the contractor is holding the permit and is responsible for compliance, he shouldn’t wait until “as directed by the Engineer”*

104-6.4.9 Floating Turbidity Barriers and Staked Turbidity Barriers: Install, maintain, and remove turbidity barriers to contain turbidity that may occur as the result of dredging, filling, or other construction activities which may cause turbidity to occur in the waters of the State. The Contractor may need to deploy turbidity barriers around isolated areas of concern such as seagrass beds, coral communities, etc. both within as well as outside the right-of-way limits. The Engineer will identify such areas.

- *Better specifications should be indicated for proper selection of type of barrier (Type I, II III) – it is “wide open” and better, more appropriate selection of type will improve results and protection*
- *If Engineer adds work, not indicated in the plans, there should be compensation*

104-6.4.10 Inlet Protection: Furnish and install inlet protection devices as shown in the plans, design standards and the E&SC Manual

- *There are new devices that are developed on a regular basis these days. How are contractors to avail themselves of the use of new technology if we are limited to those in the E&SC Manual? Manual should not serve as a LIMIT, but as a criteria guide in performance and achievement of a desired result.*

104-6.4.11 Rolled Erosion Control Products (RECPs):

104-6.4.11.1 General: Install RECPs in locations where temporary protection from erosion is needed. Two situations occur that require artificial coverings. The two situations have differing material requirements, which are described below.

- *Is RECP replacing artificial coverings?*
- *What about plastic or fabric artificial covering – such can be used to prevent erosion on a very temporary basis ... even turbidity barrier laid along a bank (on the ground) can serve to divert run-off or protect bare slopes from splash erosion*

(1) Use RECPs composed of natural or synthetic fiber mats, plastic sheeting, or netting as protection against erosion, when directed by the Engineer, during temporary pauses in construction caused by inclement weather or other circumstances. Remove the material when construction resumes.

- *Only when directed by the Engineer?*

Use RECPs as erosion control blankets, at locations shown in the plans, to facilitate plant growth while permanent grassing is being established.

- *Shouldn't this use be reference in the permanent turf spec?*

104-6.4.12 Chemical Treatment: Provide chemical treatment with polyacrylamides and alum in accordance with the E&SC Manual. Polyacrylamides and alum may be used as endpoint treatment to clarify turbid water with sediment that has not been removed with standard BMPs or as an amendment to other erosion prevention and sediment control products to aid in their performance. The contractor must provide all of the required toxicity testing information to the Engineer for review prior to using any chemical treatment on the project site.

- Perhaps say “to clarify turbid or sediment laden water” that does not yet meet State Water Quality Standards (which is required by the NPDES / FCG Permit). Since this statement refers to “end point treatment”, it is assumed that the discharge point would be very close to the project limits.
- If FDOT already knows a product has been approved and has toxicity tests (such as APS products), why would every contractor need to submit the same data over and over. Can’t this burden be eased by a “pre-approval / recognition process?”

104-7 Maintenance of Erosion and Sediment Control Features.

104-7.1 General: Provide routine maintenance of permanent and temporary erosion and sediment control features, at no expense to the Department, until the project is complete and accepted.

- Consider deleting “maintenance specs” from other areas and putting them here – for simplification purposes (and to reduce space)

104-9 Method of Measurement.

When separate items for temporary erosion control features are included in the Contract, the quantities to be paid for will be: (1) the areas, in square yards, of **Rolled Erosion Control Products**; (2) the area, in acres, of Mowing; including litter and debris removal and disposal, equipment, labor, materials and incidentals (when not included under Sections 570 or 580);; (3) the length, in feet, of **Runoff Control Structures**, measured along the surface of the work constructed; (4) the number of Sediment Basins acceptably constructed; (5) the number of Sediment Basin Cleanouts acceptably accomplished; (6) the length, in feet, of **Sediment Barriers**; (7) the length, in feet, of Floating Turbidity Barrier; (8) the length, in feet, of Staked Turbidity Barrier; (9) the length, in feet, of Staked Silt Fence and (10) the number of inlet protection devices; (11) the area, in square yards, of powdered applications of polyacrylamides; (12) the number of floc logs or alum drums used for treatment systems. .

The quantity of floating turbidity barrier, relocated turbidity barrier, **sediment barriers**, staked turbidity barrier, **inlet protection devices**, and staked silt fence to be paid for will be the total length, in feet, furnished, installed, and accepted at a new location, regardless of whether materials are new or used or relocated from a previous installation on the project.

- (1) Correct to be “the area, in square yards”
- (4) This device is now called a “Sediment Containment System” per revised spec
- (5) These should be tied together (Containment System + Containment System cleanouts) – so that if one is specified, the other is automatically specified since FDOT has indicated paying for each item
- (9) Remove () before (10)
- (10) Inlet protection devices can vary greatly based on size of inlet to be protected. Shouldn’t this be provided for in LF?
- (11) / (12) Since polymer can be applied in liquid or powdered form, this should say SY of area treated with And since polymers can also be used to enhance other devices, should other allowances be made to pay

for those additions? A split pipe treatment system can be developed using pipe, rock bags, powdered polymer, floc logs, and jute fabric. Should something be added for “other devices” as determined (unless required due to contractor’s means and methods). Baker tanks are also used with alum treatment ...

104-10 Basis of Payment. ...In case of repeated failure on the part of the Contractor to control erosion, pollution, or siltation, the Engineer reserves the right to employ outside assistance or to use the Department’s own forces to provide the necessary corrective measures. Any such costs incurred, including engineering costs, will be charged to the Contractor and appropriate deductions made from the monthly progress estimate.

- *Since the contractor holds the permit and is responsible for compliance with same, FDOT should not employ this measure unless necessary to protect FDOT’s MS4 obligations under their permit with FDEP, or to prevent damage to public or private lands where FDOT may be held liable.*

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Comment:

The changes made to temporary hay bales will remove the product(s) from the QPL. Was this the intent? If this was the intent, what is the plan for the existing QPL product limitations?

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Comment:

I noticed in the Method of Measurement Section 104-9, Sediment Basins should be changed to Sediment Containment systems in (4) and (5).

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Comment:

Pay Items cannot be modified, as shown in draft; we are unable to change the description of an item without affecting the historical descriptions. New items can be created to accomplish the proposed changes. Implementation of these changes needs to be coordinated with the pay items, design standards modifications, and specs.

Duane Brautigam

Comment:

The reference to the E&C Manual should not be with an external link. For implementation and version control purposes, and to ensure that a contractual URL address is not deleted or changed, the document should be loaded on the DOT Specs website. As with references to other manuals, this will also ensure that subsequent revisions to the manual have an implementation plan.

Jill Pack

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Comment:

I would like to suggest changing the Type 2 RECP specification that notes 6.5 ft/s maximum velocities to read "maximum shear stress of 1.75 lbs/ft²". This would be keeping in line with ECTC and FHWA guidelines for short-term RECPs Type 2.D. The industry has adopted the use of shear stress over velocities as a better indicator of product performance. You can visit the ECTC website to read their specification and to see which products, from a variety of manufacturers meet this specification. At the least, I would choose one ECTC/FHWA category for the Florida specification performance indicator. Also with the new QDOR program being initiated by ECTC, you will have even more assurance of quality and performance by adhering to the industry standards.

Paul Gentry

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Comment:

Section 104-6.4.7 is removing the QPL requirements for Synthetic Bales, of which had the requirement that the synthetic fibers (polypropylene, nylon, polyester) had to meet

EPA TCLP standards. Is there provision through the Design standards or the E & SC manual that these "filtering " materials will still have some type of standard to meet? A word search of the E & SC manual shows no mention of RCRA or TCLP in the document.

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Comment:

This section could probably be worded so as to include a reference to other approved chemical treatments to accommodate new products not in use at the time this was written.

Right now it only includes polyacrylimides and alum.

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American Excelsior Company

Comment:

I would like to suggest the following recommendation:

- Performance of barriers 70% on slopes, and 50% channels.
- Minimum flow rate for velocity reduction in channel flow.
- Functional longevity.
- Reference the ASTM test methods for large-scale testing.
- Silt fence should not be installed in channel flow.

104-6.4.7 Sediment Barriers:

Install according to details shown in the plans, as directed by the Engineer, or as shown in the E&SC manual to protect against downstream accumulation of sediment. Sediment Barriers shall provide temporary channel and slope interruption by slowing the water velocity to reduce shear stress and soil erosion while enhancing revegetation. Sediment Barrier performance requirements for slope erosion is to **reduce by a minimum of 70% of bare soil slopes, and a minimum of 50% of bare soil channels**. Sediment barriers should have a minimum flow rate of **37.5 GPM/ft² (ASTM D5141)** for slowing water velocity in channels. Functional Longevity shall be **12-24 months**. Performance capabilities must be determined by large-scale testing **ASTM D7208**, "Standard Test Method for Determination of Temporary Ditch Check Performance in Protecting Earthen Channels from Stormwater-Induced Erosion" for ditch check performance in channels. **Silt fence should not be installed in channel flow**. Sediment Barriers include, but are not limited to synthetic bales, silt fence, fiber logs and geosynthetic barriers. Reusable barriers that

have had a sediment deposit removed may be reinstalled on the project as approved by the Engineer.

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Comments:

104-6.2 2nd Paragraph - Remove line after link. 2.104-6.2 2nd Paragraph - Regarding the link to the E&SC Manual - I didn't think we would allow links in our Specs that are beyond our control. What if the link changes? Also what if changes are made to the manual during or after the Bid or after Construction begins. The Contractor could use this in a Bid or SA dispute. This one is dated June 2007, is everything in it current? 3.104-6.4.1 - Do some "Design Details" apply and not others. What if it's covered elsewhere in the Contract such as in our Design Standards or Specs? 4. 104-6.4.5 last sentence - Change "sediment basins" to "sediment containment systems". 5.104-6.4.8 - Should the section on Temporary Silt Fences be included in the previous section Sediment Barriers? 6. 104-6.4.8.2 - Suggest changing "sediment control devices" to "sediment barriers" and moving paragraph to that section (104-6.4.7). 7. 104-6.4.8.3 - Similar wording is contained in 104-7.1. 8. 104-6.4.10 - Capitalize "Design Standards". 9. 104-6.4.12 - BMP - Suggest defining all acrynms - I didn't see this one anywhere. 10. 104-7.1 - 1st Sentence. Doesn't this contradict the establishment period for Performance Turf in 570? 11. 104-7.1 - 2nd paragraph. Similar wording is found in 104-6.4.8.3 12. 104-7.1 2nd paragraph - What about the ES&C Manual? Should it be referenced here? 13. 104-7.2 As similar wording is not included in 570 & 580 can the Engineer direct mowing when pay item 104-4(mowing) is not in the contract? 14. 104-7.2 If there isn't a need to mow for 4 or 5 months there's not a requirement to pick up litter and debris "prior to mowing". 15. 104-9 1st paragraph - Change "Sediment Basins" to "Sediment Containment Systems" - 2 places. 16. 104-9 2nd paragraph.Remove "relocated turbidity barrier" this information is covered in the same sentence. 17. 104-9 2nd paragraph. Similar wording is used in 104-4 2nd paragraph.

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At the very end 104-16 should have a strikethrough on the word each. In addition, all pay items that are struck through should also be struck.

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Comments:

Two suggestions. 1. Section 104-6.2 Remove “approved” from second sentence. 2. May want to specifically prohibit the use of natural hay bales in the specification. I realize it is prohibited in the manual, but I am not sure how many would be aware of this fact.

In Section 104-9. I am unclear as to where the gutter buddies are going to fit in.....this section seems a little unclear.....”rolled erosion control products” are square yards; length in feet for synthetic bales and sediment barriers; number of “inlet protection devices”.

The last paragraph is confusing....according to it all those items are paid for in feet, but above that “inlet protection devices” are paid for by each. Also, currently we pay for the gutter buddy once and they re-use it....according to this, we will pay for it each time it gets moved. If this is the case, then the cost should be less.

I’m just not sure this is the best approach.

Is this the appropriate section for hydro seed if it is used for erosion control?

I do not believe we should be paying to correct an area disturbed by the contractor, especially if it is off our right-of way. That should be the contractor’s responsibility to restore all areas back to original condition at no cost to the Department.

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Comments:

104-6.2 The file shown on the link is also posted on the FDOT Drainage website. Suggest using the link to this site, <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/rddesign/dr/files/Erosion-and-Sediment-Control-Manual-June-2007.pdf> as we have more control over the document.

104-6.4.7, in line 3, why strike the reference to the Design Standards? They still contain information pertinent to this section of the specs. Last sentence, suggest adding "are in good repair" between "Reusable barriers that..." and "...have had sediment..." to give at least a basic standard for reusability and a basis for the Engineer to reject worn devices.

104-6.4.8.3, The inspection requirements listed here exceed those listed in 107-7.1 and I-7 of the E&SC Manual. Suggest harmonizing these requirements and not restating them in multiple locations. In reference to the last sentence in this section, is this a good idea? This material is uncompacted, contains an unknown amount of fines, organics and trash and by definition would seem to be very vulnerable to erosion. 104-6.4.12 Last sentence:

Suggest adding "in accordance with the E&SC Manual" between "...required toxicity testing information..." and "...to the Engineer for review..." as this Specification does not have any requirements for toxicity testing. Also, rather than just submitting it for review, suggest that the standard be increased to "review and approval prior to using" to avoid use of materials/concentrations that the Department does not approve of. Payment section: The descriptions for 104-5 and 104-16 are shown as being removed but the pay item numbers are not. Suggest showing them with strikethroughs as well.

Roger Singleton, President
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Comments:

Permanent Erosion and Sediment Control features in a plan like retention ponds and sediment ponds should be listed so that they are not assumed to replace temporary sediment control devices used early on in a project. Products like silt fence for perimeter sediment control or frame and filter for inlet protection.

Products accepted for use as sediment control should be categorized for the performance needed for a specific use and comparisons to other products should be made based on results in solving a particular problem.

For instance: The performance requirements of inlet protection (concentrated flow) requires structure, flow, efficiency, height and reliable performance. Equal performance cannot be expected when comparing silt fence and the Silt-Saver Frame & Filter Assembly. Silt fence is designed for control of sheet flow. Inlets are designed to receive concentrated flow. Using a product (silt fence) outside its design criteria only promotes failure. The Frame & Filter are designed for concentrated flow.

Please excuse me if I have misunderstood the use of silt fence for inlet protection. The Erosion and Sediment Control Designer and Reviewer Manual of 2007 shows silt fence around inlets. Not one training manual supports the use of silt fence in concentrated flow. I believe that this is an incorrect use of silt fence.

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Comments:

I would like to add a new section – 104-6.2 Maintain Drainage: When existing drainage systems are interrupted during each phase of construction provide for temporary drainage using impervious materials such as lined swales, temporary curbing on asphalt or concrete, temporary piping and inlets, slope drains. The intent is to keep concentrated flow of water on impervious surfaces until discharged without creating scour. I think that if this is done routinely on projects, erosion problems are reduced 90% and the need for

temporary erosion control measures are also reduced to just where there is sheet flow of stormwater on exposed soils. Under 104-6.4.12 Chemical Treatment – I would like to see more explanation of toxicity testing. Who requires the toxicity testing; what tests are required.? I have always heard that alum needs to be buffered to prevent fish kills because it can cause abrupt changes in pH.

While reviewing 104-6, 104-3 paragraphs 1, 3, 4, 5 have statements that could be improved. 1 - "Do not dump any residue from dust", substitute the following - Materials or debris, solid or liquid, shall not be discharged into surface waters or wetlands, except as allowed by permit. Any non-permitted materials discharged into surface waters or wetlands shall be retrieved immediately or as required by applicable federal and state laws. 2 - "Do not frequently ford live streams" - leave out "frequently" unless this is permitted. 3 - "Except as necessary for construction" - leave out this phrase. 4 - "Where pumps are used to remove highly turbid waters" - treat water to meet state water quality standards prior to discharge.
