

## Toole, Deborah

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**From:** Powell, Jr., Rudy  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 24, 2010 2:35 PM  
**To:** Toole, Deborah  
**Subject:** FW: Approval for Proposed Spec 3420902 Portland Cement Concrete - Sampling Frequency.  
**Attachments:** 3460902.FHWA\_2.doc; RE: Proposed Specification 3460902

I'll explain.

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**From:** Powell, Jr., Rudy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 09, 2010 3:46 PM  
**To:** 'Monica.Gourdine@dot.gov'  
**Cc:** Chris.Richter@dot.gov; Brautigam, Duane  
**Subject:** FW: Approval for Proposed Spec 3420902 Portland Cement Concrete - Sampling Frequency.

A few changes were made based on the comments received from FHWA. The changes are highlighted in yellow. Your last email is attached. We don't feel any additional changes are needed as requested by you. We hope this satisfies your concerns and approval will be received. Let me know if you have any questions.

Rudy Powell  
State Specifications Engineer  
Florida Department of Transportation  
605 Suwannee Street, MS 75  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450  
850-414-4280

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**From:** Toole, Deborah  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 09, 2010 3:37 PM  
**To:** 'Monica Gourdine'  
**Cc:** 'Ann Allshouse'; Burlerson, Bob; acarlisle@ftba.com; Blanchard, Brian; Sadler, David A; Jones, Greg; Powell, Jr., Rudy; Hurtado, Dan; Steinman, Paul J.; Toole, Deborah  
**Subject:** Approval for Proposed Spec 3420902 Portland Cement Concrete - Sampling Frequency.

**This is a second submittal. FHWA comments from the first submittal have been responded to.**

Please review the attached draft specification and return your approval/comments as soon as possible, we would like to implement this with the January 2011 Workbook.

Thank you.....Debbie

Deborah Toole  
Specifications Development Specialist  
State Specifications\Estimates Office  
605 Suwannee St., MS-34  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0458

[deborah.toole@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:deborah.toole@dot.state.fl.us)

850-414-4114

## Toole, Deborah

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**From:** Toole, Deborah  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 09, 2010 2:28 PM  
**To:** 'Monica Gourdine'  
**Cc:** 'Ann Allshouse'; Burleson, Bob; acarlisle@ftba.com; Blanchard, Brian; Sadler, David A; Jones, Greg; Powell, Jr., Rudy; Hurtado, Dan; Steinman, Paul J.; Toole, Deborah  
**Subject:** Approval for Proposed Spec 3420902 Portland Cement Concrete - Sampling Frequency.  
**Attachments:** 3460902.FHWA\_2.doc

**This is a second submittal. FHWA comments from the first submittal have been responded to.**

Please review the attached draft specification and return your approval/comments as soon as possible, we would like to implement this with the January 2011 Workbook.

Thank you.....Debbie

Deborah Toole  
Specifications Development Specialist  
State Specifications\Estimates Office  
605 Suwannee St., MS-34  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0458

[deborah.toole@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:deborah.toole@dot.state.fl.us)  
850-414-4114

**Tracking:**

**Recipient**

'Monica Gourdine'  
'Ann Allshouse'  
Burlison, Bob  
acarlisle@ftba.com  
Blanchard, Brian  
Sadler, David A  
Jones, Greg  
Powell, Jr., Rudy  
Hurtado, Dan  
Steinman, Paul J.  
Toole, Deborah

**Recall**

Succeeded: 6/9/2010 3:36 PM  
  
Failed: 6/9/2010 6:05 PM  
Failed: 6/9/2010 3:36 PM  
Failed: 6/9/2010 3:36 PM  
Succeeded: 6/9/2010 3:36 PM  
Failed: 6/9/2010 3:36 PM

## Toole, Deborah

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**From:** Powell, Jr., Rudy  
**Sent:** Friday, May 14, 2010 11:52 AM  
**To:** Monica.Gourdine@dot.gov  
**Cc:** Jeffrey.Ger@dot.gov; Brautigam, Duane; Toole, Deborah; Derek.Soden@dot.gov; Ann.Allshouse@dot.gov; Bergin, Michael  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed Specification 3460902

The responses to your questions have been expanded and are highlighted in yellow below.

None of the language is new language. It has all been in the specs since 7/02 with FHWA approval. We inadvertently omitted this language in the last workbook and are merely putting it back. There have been no reported issues with this language since it was implemented so the clarity of the language is proven.

The Department does not feel any changes are needed.

Rudy Powell  
State Specifications Engineer  
Florida Department of Transportation  
605 Suwannee Street, MS 75  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450  
850-414-4280

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**From:** Monica.Gourdine@dot.gov [mailto:Monica.Gourdine@dot.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 13, 2010 9:44 AM  
**To:** Powell, Jr., Rudy  
**Cc:** Jeffrey.Ger@dot.gov; Brautigam, Duane; Toole, Deborah; Derek.Soden@dot.gov; Ann.Allshouse@dot.gov  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed Specification 3460902

Rudy,

We still have some concerns with language contained in the specification and require clarification before the specification can be approved. Please address the concerns we have highlighted in response to your answers.

Question/Response 1 - Accept response.

Question/Response 2 - The language in question is vague. Allowing the use of data from non-FDOT projects with different quality assurance and testing certification requirements would make the quality of that data questionable.

Question/Response 3 – The language in question is vague. Please provide specific information about criteria for testing samples.

Thank you,

Monica Gourdine  
Program Operations Engineer  
Federal Highway Administration  
Florida Division Office

Phone: (850) 942-9650 x3036

**From:** Powell, Jr., Rudy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 12, 2010 10:59 AM  
**To:** Derek.Soden@dot.gov  
**Cc:** Jeffrey.Ger@dot.gov; Monica.Gourdine@dot.gov; Brautigam, Duane; Toole, Deborah  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Specification 3460902  
**Attachments:** RE: Proposed Specification 3460902

See responses in red to your comments. No changes are needed to the language. Thanks for the comments.

Rudy Powell  
 State Specifications Engineer  
 Florida Department of Transportation  
 605 Suwannee Street, MS 75  
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450  
 850-414-4280

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**From:** Blazo, Susan  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 12, 2010 10:50 AM  
**To:** Powell, Jr., Rudy  
**Cc:** Brautigam, Duane; Plotkin, Steven; Plotkin, Steven; Bergin, Michael  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed Specification 3460902

Rudy, I forwarded this to Mike Bergin and he states that the responses you provided to FHWA comments are good as is. Since this is a special provision and the language is the same as the current Standard Specification Section 346 we agree that there is no need for changes. Thanks.

Call me or email me if you have any questions. Thank you.

Susan Blazo  
 Structural Materials Information Specialist  
 State Materials Office  
 5007 NE 39th Avenue  
 Gainesville FL 32609  
 (352) 955-6669  
 Fax: (352) 955-6680  
[susan.blazo@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:susan.blazo@dot.state.fl.us)

As a reminder, Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from state officials regarding state business are public records available to the public and media upon request. Your e-mail communications may be subject to public disclosure. (Florida Statute, Chapter 119)

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**From:** Powell, Jr., Rudy  
**Sent:** Friday, May 07, 2010 2:30 PM  
**To:** Blazo, Susan; Plotkin, Steven  
**Cc:** Brautigam, Duane  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Specification 3460902

I have provided some responses to the questions from FHWA. See below in red. New language is not being proposed. This subarticle was not included in a recent change so we are just putting the exact same language back in. So, these questions are on the existing language which was added in 7/02. I am not aware of any issues with this language so I don't feel any changes are needed. Let me know your thoughts.

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**From:** Derek.Soden@dot.gov [mailto:Derek.Soden@dot.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 07, 2010 11:40 AM  
**To:** Powell, Jr., Rudy  
**Cc:** Monica.Gourdine@dot.gov; Jeffrey.Ger@dot.gov  
**Subject:** Proposed Specification 3460902

Rudy,

A couple of questions on the proposed specification:

1. Section 346-9.2.1 – what kind of communication is required between the contractor and the Engineer to establish the new LOT size, such that the Engineer can adjust the verification testing frequency? **Typical project communication. Special requirements are not needed. No changes needed.**
2. Section 346-9.2.1, second paragraph – What, exactly, is meant by “previous project”? Does the other project need to be an FDOT project, or can the test results come from any project with testing requirements similar to those required by the Department? Can the contractor use results from a concurrent project? **A project within the last 60 days that used that particular mix design. No changes needed.**
3. Section 346-9.2.1, second paragraph, third sentence:
  - a. What is meant by “the last tests...”? **Strength tests as stated in the first paragraph. No changes needed.**
  - b. Are the test results to be from concrete cast in the last 60 days, or just tested? **Either, but it would typically be cast. No changes needed.**
  - c. What is meant by “..may also be established by a succession of samples on the current project”? Does this refer to samples tested in addition to the criteria given in the preceding paragraph? **To get to 5 or 10 consecutive tests, either data from the previous project or the current project may be used. No changes needed.**

Thanks,  
Derek

Derek Soden, P.E.  
Assistant Division Bridge Engineer  
Federal Highway Administration  
Florida and Puerto Rico Divisions  
545 John Knox Road, Suite 200  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 942-9650 x-3037  
[derek.soden@dot.gov](mailto:derek.soden@dot.gov)

Fax: (850) 942-8308

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**From:** Powell, Jr., Rudy [mailto:Rudy.PowellJr@dot.state.fl.us]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 12, 2010 10:59 AM  
**To:** Soden, Derek (FHWA)  
**Cc:** Ger, Jeffrey (FHWA); Gourdine, Monica (FHWA); Brautigam, Duane; Toole, Deborah  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Specification 3460902

See responses in red to your comments. No changes are needed to the language. Thanks for the comments.

Rudy Powell  
State Specifications Engineer  
Florida Department of Transportation  
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**Cc:** Brautigam, Duane; Plotkin, Steven; Plotkin, Steven; Bergin, Michael  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed Specification 3460902

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Call me or email me if you have any questions. Thank you.

Susan Blazo  
Structural Materials Information Specialist  
State Materials Office  
5007 NE 39th Avenue  
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(352) 955-6669  
Fax: (352) 955-6680  
[susan.blazo@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:susan.blazo@dot.state.fl.us)

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**Subject:** FW: Proposed Specification 3460902

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**Subject:** Proposed Specification 3460902

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1. Section 346-9.2.1 – what kind of communication is required between the contractor and the Engineer to establish the new LOT size, such that the Engineer can adjust the verification testing frequency? **Typical project communication. Special requirements are not needed. No changes needed.**
2. Section 346-9.2.1, second paragraph – What, exactly, is meant by “previous project”? Does the other project need to be an FDOT project, or can the test results come from any project with testing requirements similar to those required by the Department? Can the contractor use results from a concurrent project? **A project within the last 60 days that used that particular mix design. The Language pertains to approved FDOT mix designs that are used on other projects. The mixes have specific identification numbers that make the mix unique. Data to verify the reduced frequency must come from an FDOT approved laboratory meeting the requirements of Section 105. These are the same requirements that we have for all approved laboratories. Also understand that this is an effort to reduce the cost of construction to contractors and producers that consistently provide a quality product. No changes needed.**
3. Section 346-9.2.1, second paragraph, third sentence:
  - a. What is meant by “the last tests...”? **Strength tests as stated in the first paragraph. The tests indicated here are compressive strength tests as defined in 346-9.2 the first sentence. No changes needed.**
  - b. Are the test results to be from concrete cast in the last 60 days, or just tested? **Either, but it would typically be cast. We only test concrete that the contractor has made cylinders on and don't typically test casted concrete unless there's a problem, but in this case we are referring to tested samples. These are based on Lots of concrete placed on a previous project, with the same contractor and concrete producer using the same mix design. No changes needed.**
  - c. What is meant by “..may also be established by a succession of samples on the current project”? Does this refer to samples tested in addition to the criteria given in the preceding paragraph? **To get to 5 or 10 consecutive tests, either data from the previous project or the current project may be used. The intent is to allow the contractor the opportunity to establish the data on a current project. The preceding paragraph, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph of 346-9.2.1, talks about the limits that would be allowed for a specific class of concrete. The second paragraph talks about where the data can come from. No changes needed.**

Thanks,  
Derek

Derek Soden, P.E.  
Assistant Division Bridge Engineer  
Federal Highway Administration

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