

9160000 BITUMINOUS MATERIALS
COMMENTS FROM INTERNAL/INDUSTRY REVIEW

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Comments: (6-27-12)

1. 916-1.1, first sentence:

PG64-22 is included here, even though it is not shown in Section 334, Table 334-2.

PG64-22 is only required in Section 336 for ARB-20 (used when producing material for ARMI's). Suggest to either (1) change Section 336 to use PG67-22 to prepare ARB20 (or ARB30?), or (2) refer to grade AC20, which would not have to be covered in the supplier's QC plan. #2 would allow this to be treated as the RA grades have in the past with respect to QC requirements.

Response: The reviewer is correct. The SMO is conducting research to determine appropriate rotational viscosity values for ARB-20 utilizing PG 67-22 instead of PG 64-22. PG 64-22 will be deleted in the next revision of the specifications after this revision (6 months later 7-13 WB).
No changes made.

2. 916-1.1, #5:

Binder substitution

It would be better if an upper limit for original DSR was defined at the designated temperature for each grade. For example, if $G^*/\sin\delta$ measured on unaged binder at 52°C is less than 2.0, it is unlikely that it would meet the specified requirement at 58°C.

This value might be more difficult to assign when distinguishing PG64-22 from PG67-22, which is further cause for eliminating PG64-22.

Response: This concept will be discussed at the next Asphalt Binder Task Group meeting. However, for this specification revision, the current approach will be used. Additionally, from a contractor's viewpoint at the asphalt plant, binders are stored based on their PG grade. In this respect, the current approach would be simpler for them.

Regarding the comment about eliminating PG 64-22, please see the response to comment #1.
No changes made.

3. 916-1.1, last sentence:

Reference to 334-2.3.4

The subsection referenced (from Section 334) would not be relevant to 916. Since the additional requirements for max. vis. of extracted/recovered bitumen were removed from 334, it isn't necessary to reference this specification anymore. Note that 334-2 does not include PG64-22.

Response: The reviewer is correct. The last sentence of 916-1.1 will be deleted.
Change made.

4. 916-1.3.4:

Superpave PG Asphalt Binder Table.

Removing the viscosity criterion effectively eliminates the ability to readily distinguish between PG64-22 and PG67-22. See remark about Binder substitution.

For BBR testing, PG52-28 is tested at -18°C, not -12°C.

Response: Regarding the comment about eliminating PG 64-22, please see the response to comment #1. (No change made.)

Thank you for the comment regarding the testing temperature for the PG 52-28. The specification has been modified.

Change made.
