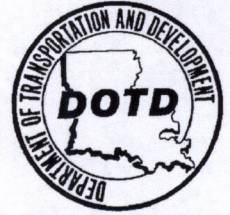


BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

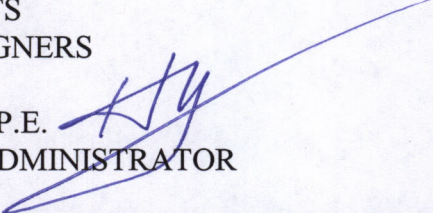
STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9245
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225-379-1321



WILLIAM D. ANKNER, Ph.D.
SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL CONSULTANTS
ALL BRIDGE DESIGNERS

FROM: HOSSEIN GHARA, P.E. 
BRIDGE DESIGN ADMINISTRATOR

SUBJECT: BRIDGE DESIGN TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM NO. 6 (BDTM.6)
SUSPENSION OF EMPIRICAL DECK DESIGN

DATE: SEPTEMBER 2, 2009

Effective immediately for all projects prior to 60% final plan stage, use of the empirical design method for bridge decks set forth in Section 9.7.2 of the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications, 4th Edition, shall be suspended. All bridge decks shall be designed using traditional deck design methods set forth in Section 9.7.3 and shall use Class AA(M) concrete (minimum $f'c = 4$ ksi).

This technical memorandum will be posted on the Bridge Design Website: http://wwwsp.dotd.la.gov/Inside_LaDOTD/Divisions/Engineering/Bridge_Design/Pages/Technical-Memoranda.aspx

Please contact Ms. Zhengzheng "Jenny" Fu (225-379-1321, zhengzheng.fu@la.gov) if you have questions or comments.

HG/zzf

Cc: Mr. Ed Wedge (Consultant Contract)
Mr. Gary Penteck (Off-System Bridge Program)
Mr. Arturo Aguirre (FHWA)