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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

**INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE**

**October 5, 2023**  
**Revised 12/20/2023**

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO: ASSISTANT DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR - OPERATIONS**

**FROM: HAYLYE BROWN, P.E.** <sup>DS</sup> *HB*  
**STRUCTURES & FACILITIES ENGINEER ADMINISTRATOR**

**RE: SNBI CHANGES TO INSPECTION INTERVALS**

The purpose of this memorandum is to serve as notification of the new guidelines for Inspection Intervals based on the final NBIS regulations published June 6, 2022 to become effective within 24 months.

Notable changes:

The 23 CFR 650.311: Inspection interval (link: [https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-23/chapter-I/subchapter-G/part-650/subpart-C/section-650.311#p-650.311\(a\)\(1\)\(ii\)](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-23/chapter-I/subchapter-G/part-650/subpart-C/section-650.311#p-650.311(a)(1)(ii))) Method 1 requires 12 month routine inspection for bridges where the deck, superstructure, substructure, culvert, or scour condition rating is coded 3 or less or NSTM condition is coded 4 or less.

The 23 CFR 650.313: Inspection procedures (link: <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-23/chapter-I/subchapter-G/part-650/subpart-C/section-650.313>) defines a critical finding as meeting any of the following criteria:

- A. Full or partial closure of any bridge
- B. An NSTM condition coded three (3) or less;
- C. A Deck, Superstructure, Substructure, or Culvert Condition coded two (2) or less;
- D. The channel condition or scour condition coded (2) or less; or
- E. Immediate load restriction or posting, or immediate repair work to a bridge, including shoring, in order to remain open.

**Effective 1/1/2024**, LADOTD Reduced Interval policy for 12 month interim inspections will be updated to match Method 1 as required by 23 CFR 650.311 above. LADOTD Reduced Interval policy for 6 month interim inspections will be updated to match Critical Finding criteria as required in 23 CFR 650.313 above. This will replace the guidance found in Table 5-1 and Table 5-3 of the Bridge Inspection Manual.

12/20/2023 update: The 23 CFR 650.311 requires Routine inspection at 12 month intervals based on the criteria defined above, but it also states, “where condition ratings are coded three (3) or less due to localized deficiencies, a special inspection limited to those deficiencies (and conducted by a certified team leader) can be used to meet this requirement in lieu of a routine inspection.”

If a special inspection is conducted in lieu of a routine inspection, please include the following in the Inspection Remarks: “On (Date) MM/DD/YYYY, A special inspection limited to (list deficiencies inspected) was conducted by (team leader) in lieu of a routine inspection.

Should you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Doolittle at (225) 379-1329.

HGB: SSD

Cc: Mr. Kevin Reed  
Mr. Todd Donmyer