Minutes

Suppliers Subcommittee Meeting

Office of Materials and Research Conference room

May 17, 2011

Attendees:

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Milt opened meeting with introductions.

OLD BUSINESS:

NTPEP Reinforcement Program Update: All rebar failures will be reported to the NTPEP rebar technical committee chairman. The rebar technical committee will review the information and report to other states for their information. Also this information will be shared on the NTPEP website. This process will be expanded to include welded wire. A survey will be sent to all states to see what other

areas may be included into this process and presented at the AASHTO Subcommittee on Materials to expand the program to other materials. The NTPEP website is NTPEP.ORG.

Mechanical Couplers and Ultimate butt weld splices: There is a meeting this afternoon to discuss the changes in specifications which will be modeled after the Caltrans process. In lieu of using control bars and measuring the "necking", the control bars will be used to established the yield strength and then compare the samples which will have to obtain 125% of the yield strength. This may eventually become a Qualified Products List (QPL).

Thermo Plastic Availability: Thermo Plastic material should be readily available this year with 6 to 8 weeks notice given for delivery. Resin supply may be somewhat limited due to overseas production. Price increase of 15 to 20% is expected in June 2011 and another is expected by the end of the year. Possible solution may be to explore the option of using a Thin Line which is a 40 mil spray application of thermo with a higher resin content. This may be a viable option for primary and secondary road restriping program. Need to explore this option with the traffic engineering section.

NEW BUSINESS:

Aggregates: Discussion on fractionation vs blending. Depending on the quarry operation, either one will work and provide a quality product. The key is the quality control programs established at the quarries to product a consistent product. Supply is not an issue right now with DOT being about 60% of the quarry demand compared to a couple of years ago when DOT was only about 40% of the quarry demand and private industry was 60% of the demand.

Liquid Asphalt: Prices are climbing due to increase fuel cost and other options need to be considered such as sulfur replacement of 25% of the AC but there may be some concerns with workability with such additives. Rubber may be another option as a modifier. There is a proposed research project to investigate the use of AC alternatives and modifiers.

Cement: The production of cement may be effected at some plants by the restriction of using tires as fuel.

Next Meeting: November 22, 2011