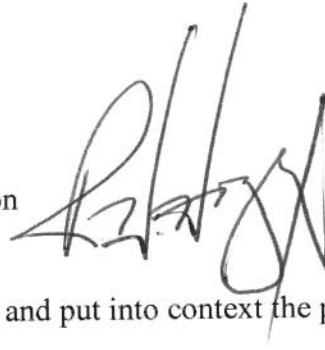


DATE: March 17, 2008

465-08-02

SUBJECT: Adherence to Pavement Policy Manual, Publication 242

TO: District Executives

FROM: Richard H. Hogg, P.E.  
Deputy Secretary for Highway Administration

This Strike-Off Letter is being released to reiterate and put into context the policies within Publication 242, the Pavement Policy Manual.

The Pavement Policy Manual is the Department's working document for all pavement design and policy issues. Statewide adherence to the manual is expected. Although the term "guidelines" is used within the document, it is only with respect to areas where engineering judgement may be exercised as specifically noted in the manual.

Of particular concern are the tables that define specific minimum and maximum allowable paving layer depths, such as Table 9.5 and 10.6 for Superpave materials. These tables are policy. Adherence to the tables is not optional.

Furthermore, note that Pub.242 is in accordance with the requirements set forth by the Stewardship and Oversight Agreement. Section V of the agreement states that "PennDOT will develop Federal-aid projects in accordance with the standards and guides identified in 23 U.S.C. 109, 23 CFR 625 (as well as other FHWA policies identified in the Federal Register, the Federal-Aid Policy Guide and elsewhere) and/or PennDOT standards or manuals approved by FHWA." In accordance with these requirements, any and all deviations or waivers from the policies set forth within Pub. 242 must obtain FHWA approval.

If there are any questions concerning this SOL or issues discussed above, please contact W. James Smith, Director, Bureau of Maintenance and Operations by calling (717)787-6899.

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cc: D. Spila, Policy Office, CKB 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
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Division Chiefs, Bureau of Maintenance and Operations, CKB 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
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Assistant District Executives