

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**CONSTRUCTION  
REQUIREMENTS**

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*On State Route 24,  
From SR-13 in Alameda County to  
Gateway Boulevard in Contra Costa County  
EA No. 294901*

**PROJECT DEVELOPMENT - EAST  
OFFICE OF DESIGN, CONTRA COSTA  
DISTRICT 4**

**December 2007**

This document summarizes some of the specific construction requirements that have been identified to date. The requirements identified below may be modified and additional requirements will likely be defined in the final contract documents.

## **1.0 TUNNEL CLASSIFICATION**

The tunnel has been classified as “Gassy” by the State Division of Occupational Safety and Health.

## **2.0 GENERAL WORK REQUIREMENTS**

- Blasting will not be permitted between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.
- Pre-construction and post construction surveys of select residences above and adjacent to the tunnel will be required.
- Monitoring of vibrations at select residences will be the responsibility of the Contractor.
- Water inflows and storm water is required to be collected and treated to NPDES requirements prior to discharge to a storm drain.
- A Paleontological Monitoring Program will be implemented during construction to salvage fossils uncovered by earth moving activities.
- Wheel washes and regular street sweeping will be required.
- Parking and staging of construction vehicles on Caldecott Lane will not be permitted.
- Construction workers will be required to park at remote locations and be shuttled to staging areas or to park inside the staging areas.
- Ventilation fans are required to be fitted with a filtration system to control dust.
- Some of the formations contain naturally occurring hydrocarbons so the excavated materials will be tested and contaminated materials will be required to be disposed of in accordance with state regulations.
- Construction traffic will not be permitted on specified local streets.
- Staging area lighting will be designed to mitigate impacts to motorists and surrounding residences.

## **3.0 WEST PORTAL STAGING AREA**

### **3.1 Noise abatement**

- Prior to the start of project construction activities and as the first order of work, the contractor will be required to submit a detailed noise control plan that will include acoustical measurements and calculations in order to clearly demonstrate that the construction activities will meet the specified noise criterion (86 dBA at 50 feet) for any nighttime (7 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.) operation.
- The contractor will be required to monitor noise to verify that the construction noise limits are being met. If the noise levels exceed the project acoustical standards, contractor’s operations generating the excessive noise shall be ceased until remedial measures are implemented.

*\*These requirements are preliminary, subject to revision, and not for construction.*

- Caltrans will retain a full-time Public Information Officer (PIO) to promptly investigate and respond to noise complaints. The PIO will work with the contractor to address noise concerns, if the findings indicate that the noise levels exceed project noise criterion.
- As one of the first order of work items, the contractor will construct a temporary soundwall along Caldecott Lane that will include both sound insulating and sound absorbing materials to minimize construction noise pollution, including reflective noise.
- The contract special provisions will stipulate that the batch plant (which will be located behind the proposed temporary acoustical soundwall) shall be enclosed to satisfy the project noise criterion.
- The contract special provisions will stipulate that the ventilation fans shall be acoustically insulated to satisfy the project noise criterion.

### **3.2 Hours of Operation**

- The contractor's general hours of operation outside the tunnel (i.e., within staging area) to be limited to 7 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. for project elements other than the tunnel mining and lining operation. Some short-term night work will be allowed for various roadway improvements that require freeway lanes and/or ramp closures.
- The contractor will be allowed 24/7 operation outside the tunnel only for the tunnel construction itself (i.e., mining and lining). However, there are restrictions on activities outside the tunnel even during nighttime tunnel mining and lining.

### **3.3 Construction Staging Restrictions**

The contract special provisions will require:

- Once the tunnel mining has progressed to approximately 200 feet, vehicles transporting excavated material will be prohibited from exiting the tunnel during nighttime hours.
- If the contractor chose to mine the tunnel only from one side, it will be from the east side, with the batch plant located on the same side.
- The contractor to use PG&E electric power source for construction power and lighting that will be in place for longer than 12 hours. There will be some flexibility to use a portable energy source powered by a generator for some periodic tasks, such as replacing a tire on a truck.
- The contractor to prohibit the use of generators during the nighttime hours unless: 1) generators are required for emergency purposes, or 2) the generators are acoustically insulated to satisfy the project's nighttime noise criterion (which is 86 dBA at 50 feet).
- The contractor to shield construction lights as much as possible to minimize light pollution.

Caltrans will actively engage with the contractor and request the contractor silence vehicle backup alarms during nighttime hours (7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.). Strobe lights or flag persons could be utilized to the extent possible, in accordance with state safety regulations and with the California Occupational Health & Safety Administration (CAL OSHA) regulations.

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