

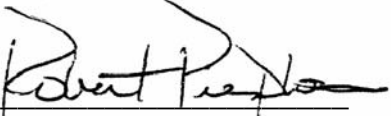


Construction Policy Bulletin

CPB 07-3 Resident Engineer Policy

References: *Construction Manual* Section 1-103, "District Construction Organization"
Construction Manual Section 1-105, "Construction Project Organization"

Effective Date: July 1, 2007

Approved: 
ROBERT PIEPLOW
Chief, Division of Construction

Approval Date: June 20, 2007

Background

The complexity of Caltrans construction contract documents and construction engineering activities has increased significantly since the responsibilities of the resident engineer were last reviewed. Caltrans has implemented advanced construction engineering requirements, such as traffic management plans, time-impact analysis, managed time-related overhead, and A+B bidding; and has increased the emphasis on environmental documents and permits, and storm water management. In addition, effective communication with contractors, resource agencies, and other stakeholders is critical to project success. The skills, knowledge, and qualifications of the resident engineer need to be commensurate with the advanced construction engineering requirements of these attributes.

Caltrans must also comply with the Business and Professions Code, the Streets and Highways Code, and requirements of the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors and the California Architects Board.

Existing Policy

A resident engineer is not required to be a licensed professional engineer and is not required to attend the Resident Engineer Academy before receiving an assignment as a resident engineer.

New Policy

The resident engineer must be in responsible charge of the work and be a licensed professional engineer in the state of California. The resident engineer should diligently pursue completion of the Caltrans Resident Engineer Certificate Program.

The resident engineer may be a licensed Landscape Architect or licensed Architect, as applicable, on projects where the work is predominantly of a specialty nature (that is, such things as landscape work and building work).

Responsibility

Deputy District Directors and Region Division Chiefs for the Division of Construction must:

- Be aware of the registration status of employees, and align assignment requirements to the qualification and experience level of the individual, taking special note of Business and Professions Code, Sections 6703 and 6705¹ and Streets and Highways Code, Section 137.6².
- Ensure an employee assigned as a resident engineer is properly licensed.
- Ensure an employee assigned as a resident engineer diligently pursues completion of the Caltrans Resident Engineer Certificate Program.

Implementation

Resident engineer assignments made after July 1, 2007, must comply with this policy.

¹ The Business and Professions Code (BPC), Section 6703 states in part, “The phrase ‘responsible charge of work’ means the independent control and direction, by the use of initiative, skill, and independent judgment, of the investigation or design of professional engineering work or the direct engineering control of such projects.”

BPC, Section 6705 states, “A subordinate is any person who assists a registered professional engineer in the practice of professional engineering without assuming responsible charge of work.”

² Streets and Highways Code (SHC), Section 137.6 states, “The design of, the drafting of specifications for, and the inspection and approval of state highway structures shall be by civil engineers licensed pursuant to the Professional Engineers Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 6700), Division 3, Business and Professions Code).

“The approval of plans for, and the inspection and approval of, temporary structures erected by contractors in connection with the construction of state highway structures shall also be by such licensed civil engineers.”