To: DES DEPUTIES

Date: May 15, 2013

From: BARTON NEWTON
State Bridge Engineer
Deputy Division Chief
Structure Policy and Innovation
Division of Engineering Services

Subject: Implementation of Seismic Design Criteria Version 1.7

Effective July 1, 2013, all ordinary standard bridges without previous Type Selection approval shall be designed in accordance with Caltrans Seismic Design Criteria Version 1.7 (SDC 1.7). Exceptions to deviate from this requirement may be requested following the process delineated in Memo to Designers 20-11 “Establishing Bridge Seismic Design Criteria”.

SDC Version 1.7 incorporates technical revisions, clarifications, additional design provisions and editorial enhancements to SDC Version 1.6. A summary of changes for SDC 1.7 and the unformatted comprehensive document (SDC 1.7 Full Version, OEE Release) may be found at http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/earthquake_engineering/SDC_site/. In order to achieve timely updates of the SDC, the Office of Earthquake Engineering, Analysis and Research (OEEAR) is posting the comprehensive document, which is technically complete, prior to final formatting by Caltrans Division of Engineering Services, Technical Publications Unit. Upon completion, the formatted version will be posted at http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/techpubs/.

This memo should be forwarded to all staff, as applicable. Questions regarding the technical content of the SDC should be directed to Mark Mahan at (916) 227-8404 or mark_mahan@dot.ca.gov.

c: Tim Craggs - Division of Design
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