

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION -Toll Bridge Program

333 Burma Rd.

Oakland, CA 94607

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November 10, 2009

Contract No. 04-0120F4

04-SF-80-13.2 / 13.9

Self-Anchored Suspension Bridge

Letter No. 05.03.01-005803

Michael Flowers
Project Executive
American Bridge/Fluor, A JV
375 Burma Road
Oakland, CA 94607

Dear Michael Flowers,

NOPC 13 - Regarding T-Shaped Fillet Welds for OBG Skin Plate Stiffeners

The Department has reviewed ABF-CAL-LTR-001265, dated October 22, 2009, regarding Supplemental Notice of Potential Claim (NOPC) No. 13. It is the Department's understanding that ABF believes that a Change Order is required because the Engineer modified the approval process for out-of-tolerance weld joints. The weld joints referenced are T-shaped fillet welds for OBG skin plate stiffeners that have exceeded the maximum allowable out-of-tolerance assembly gap and require repairs.

In Submittal ABF-SUB-000200R02, ABF requested to repair a fillet weld with a Complete Joint Penetration (CJP) weld whenever an assembly gap exceeded 5mm. This change in weld type required the Engineer's prior approval. Approval was provided for non-SPCM (Seismic Performance Critical Member) welds via State Letter 05.03.01-003474, but required notification of each incidence. The Department modified the approval process by requiring the submission of a "Notification for the Engineer's Review and Approval," form.

In order to clarify the above and determine the merits of this potential claim, please provide the following information:

1. Confirm whether ABF is requesting a change order for submitting the "Notification for the Engineer's Review and Approval" form for either (1) all assembly gaps in T-shaped fillet welds, including SPCM members, or (2) all assembly gaps and T-shaped fillet welds for non-SPCM members only.
2. Provide a complete listing of where the repairs have occurred through October 2009 and include:
 - OBG segment
 - Weld location and map number
 - Date and time of notification
 - Type of notification (verbal or written)
 - Who was notified and by whom
 - Transmittal No. if any
 - Caltrans approval date and time
 - Verify if the repaired weld joints were SPCM members

3. Provide a description of the impacts incurred and the work processes disrupted, along with an itemized breakdown of the costs.

Please provide the requested information by November 29, 2009. Once the information is submitted, the Department will resume review of the merits of NOPC 13.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gary Purcell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

GARY PURSELL
Resident Engineer

cc: Don Ross
Rick Morrow
Doug Coe
Bill Shedd
file: 05.03.01, 62.02.013