

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION -Toll Bridge Program**

333 Burma Rd.

Oakland, CA 94607

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July 28, 2011

Contract No. 04-0120F4

04-SF-80-13.2 / 13.9

Self-Anchored Suspension Bridge

Letter No. 05.03.01-009789

Brian A Petersen  
Project Executive  
American Bridge/Fluor, A JV  
375 Burma Road  
Oakland, CA 94607

Dear Brian Petersen,

**Installation of Washers on Mechanical Piping Bolted Connections**

It has come to the attention of the Department that mechanical piping supports for Bid Items 121, 122, 123, 125, 126 and 127 are not being completed in conformance with the Contract Plans and Specifications. Hardened steel washers are not being used on the bolted connections for pipe supports.

Section 10-4.02, "PIPE, FITTINGS AND VALVES," PART 3 "EXECUTION," "Hangers and Supports," of the Contract Special Provisions, states "Unless stated otherwise, use...ASTM A325 heavy hex head bolts with hardened steel washers and heavy hex nuts for bolted connection..." Contract plan sheet 54 of 1204, general notes for pipe supports #5 states, "Provide all necessary nuts, bolts, pins, washers, etc. to complete pipe support assemblies." These requirements were never contractually waived in either the contract specifications nor the contract plans.

The Department acknowledges that the bolted connections for pipe clamps were designed by Tolco without washers. These in-place connections do not necessarily need to have washers installed. However, Tolco must provide certification that their design for their pipe clamps is adequate without washers for the Bay Bridge applications. As discussed and agreed on the WDC discussion on 7/26/11, the Department considers bolted connections completed prior to the date of this letter as "fit for purpose"; these connections do not have to have washers installed, provided that bolt holes have not been elongated or enlarged in the field. All bolted assemblies, including the Tolco assemblies, completed after the date of this letter shall include hardened steel washers.

The cost of including hardened steel washers in the bolted assemblies after the date of this letter shall be considered 'item work' as these costs should have been included in *ABF/JV's* original bid.

If you have any questions, please contact William Shedd at (510) 385-6912.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. Shedd for:" followed by a stylized signature.

W. Shedd for:  
PETER SIEGENTHALER  
Resident Engineer