

Standards and Specifications Unit

**Memorandum**

**DATE**: July 16, 2015

**TO**: All Holders of Standard Special Provisions

**FROM**: Larry Brinck, Standards and Specifications Engineer

**SUBJECT**: Revision of Section 216, Soil Retention Covering

Effective this date, our unit is issuing a revised version of the standard special provision, Revision of Section 216, Soil Retention Covering. This revised standard special provision is 6 pages long and replaces the now obsolete standard special provision of the same name dated January 30, 2014. The use of this standard special provision is required on projects having soil retention blanket or turf reinforcement mats (TRM), beginning with projects advertised on or after August 13, 2015. You are free to use it in projects advertised before this date. Please note that the standard special provision shall be used in conjunction with the new Standard Plan M-216-1.

The modifications contained in this revised version allow for the use native grass for agricultural straw in soil retention blankets, and also removes the permissible shear stress test requirement for the blankets and vegetated TRMs. It also provides for the use of earth anchors, which are to be used to support TRMs in steeper slopes, adverse soil, and higher hydraulic stress applications, as shown on the Plans.

Those of you who keep a book of Standard Special Provisions should replace the outdated standard special provision with this revised version. For your convenience, you can find this and this issuance letter in one place on our Construction Specifications web page:

 <https://www.codot.gov/business/designsupport/construction-specifications/2011-Specs>

Please scroll down and visit the hyperlink, “Recently Issued Special Provisions”.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact this office.