March 23, 2017

REVISION OF SECTION 206

STRUCTURE BACKFILL (FLOW-FILL)

**NOTICE**

This is a standard special provision that revises or modifies CDOT’s *Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction.* It has gone through a formal review and approval process and has been issued by CDOT’s Project Development Branch with formal instructions for its use on CDOT construction projects. It is to be used as written without change. Do not use modified versions of this special provision on CDOT construction projects, and do not use this special provision on CDOT projects in a manner other than that specified in the instructions unless such use is first approved by CDOT’s Standards and Specifications Unit. The instructions for use on CDOT construction projects appear below.

Other agencies which use the *Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction* to administer construction projects may use this special provision as appropriate and at their own risk.

**Instructions for use on CDOT construction projects:**

Use in projects having Structure Backfill. The Designer shall determine the locations of Structure Backfill (Flow-Fill) which will require future excavation for utility work or other related work. These locations shall be shown on the plans.

Section 206 of the Standard Specifications is hereby revised for this project as follows:

Delete subsection 206.02 (a) and replace with the following:

1. *Structure Backfill.* Class 1 and Class 2 structure backfill shall be composed of non-organic mineral aggregates and soil from excavations, borrow pits, or other sources. Material shall conform to the requirements of subsection 703.08. Class of material shall be as specified in the Contract or as designated.

Structure backfill (Flow-Fill) meeting the following requirements shall be used to backfill bridge abutments. The Contractor may substitute structure backfill (Flow-Fill) for structure backfill (Class 1) or structure backfill (Class 2) to backfill culverts and sewer pipes.

Flow-Fill is a self-leveling low strength concrete material composed of cement, fly ash, aggregates, water, chemical admixtures and/or cellular foam for air-entrainment. Flow-fill shall have a slump of 7 to 10 inches, when tested in accordance with ASTM C143 or a minimum flow consistency of 6 inches when tested in accordance with ASTM D6103. Flow-Fill shall have a minimum compressive strength of 50 psi at 28 days, when tested in accordance with ASTM D4832. Flash fill is a rapid setting Flow-Fill that may be used when approved by the Engineer and will be tested, accepted, and paid for as Flow-Fill.

Flow-Fill placed in areas that require future excavation, such as utility backfill shall have a Removability Modulus (RM) of 1.5 or less.

Removability Modulus, RM, is calculated as follows:

RM = W1.5 x 104 x C0.5

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where : W = unit weight (pcf)

 C = 28-day compressive strength (psi)

Materials for structure backfill (Flow-Fill) shall meet the requirements specified in the following subsections:

Fine Aggregate1, 4 703.01

Coarse Aggregate2, 4 703.02

Portland Cement 701.01

Fly Ash3, 4 701.02

Water 712.01

Air Entraining Admixture 711.02

Chemical Admixtures 711.03

1 Fine aggregate not meeting the requirements of subsection 703.01 may be used if testing indicates acceptable results for strength and air content.

2 Coarse aggregate not meeting the requirements of subsection 703.02 may be used if testing indicates acceptable results for strength and air content.

3 Fly ash not meeting the requirements of subsection 701.02 may be used if testing indicates acceptable results for strength and air content.

4 Industrial by-product aggregates (foundry sand, bottom ash, etc..) and fly ash not meeting the requirements of subsection 701.02 shall submit a report from the supplier documenting the results of testing in accordance with the Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) described in 40 CFR 261. The report shall include the results of TCLP testing for heavy metals and other contaminants. Materials shall not exceed the TCLP limits of 40 CFR 261.24 for heavy metals

Cellular foam shall conform to ASTM C869 and ASTM C796

Recycled broken glass (glass cullet) is acceptable as part or all of the aggregate. Aggregate including glass must conform to the required gradations. All containers used to produce the cullet shall be empty prior to processing. Chemical, pharmaceutical, insecticide, pesticide, or other glass containers containing or having contained toxic or hazardous substances shall not be allowed and shall be grounds for rejecting the glass cullet. The maximum debris level in the cullet shall be 10 percent. Debris is defined as any deleterious material which impacts the performance of the structure backfill (Flow-Fill) including all non-glass constituents.

The Contractor may use aggregate which does not meet the above specifications if the aggregate conforms to the following gradation:

**Sieve Size Percent Passing**

25.0 mm (1 inch) 100

75 μm (No. 200) 0‑101

1 The amount of material passing the 75 μm (No. 200) screen may exceed 10 percent if testing indicates acceptable results for strength and air content.

The Contractor shall submit a structure backfill (Flow-Fill) mix design for approval prior to placement. The mix design shall include the following laboratory test data:

1. ASTM C231, Air content
2. ASTM D6023, Unit Weight
3. ASTM C143, Slump or ASTM D6103 flow consistency
4. ASTM D4832 28-day Compressive Strength
5. Removability Modulus (RM)

The Contractor shall submit a Process Control (PC) Plan with the mix design to the Engineer. The PC plan shall address the batching, mixing, testing and placement of the structure backfill (Flow-Fill).

In subsection 206.03, delete the thirteenth through fifteenth paragraphs and replace with the following:

Compaction of structure backfill (Flow-Fill) shall not be performed.

The maximum layer thickness for structure backfill (Flow-Fill) shall be 3 feet unless otherwise approved by the Engineer. The Contractor shall not place structure backfill (Flow-Fill) in layers that are too thick to cause damage to culverts, pipes and other structures, or that will cause formwork or soil failures during placement. Structure backfill (Flow-Fill) shall have an indention diameter less than 3 inches and the indention shall be free of visible water when tested in accordance with ASTM D6024 by the Contractor prior to placing additional layers of structure backfill (Flow-Fill).Testing structure backfill (Flow-Fill) in accordance with ASTM D6024 will be witnessed by the Engineer. Damage resulting from placing structure backfill (Flow-Fill) in layers that are too thick or from not allowing sufficient time between placements of layers shall be repaired at the Contractor’s expense.

The Contractor shall secure culverts, pipes and other structures to prevent floating and displacement of these items during the placement of the structure backfill (Flow-Fill).

When Flash Fill is used, it shall be batched with a volumetric mixing truck. Volumetric mixing trucks to produce Flow-Fill and Flash Fill shall have a computer batching system, capable of producing the approved mix design and printing tickets. For Flash Fill, the batch weights of cement and/or fly ash per cubic yard shall be with 2 percent of the mix design batch weights and the batch weight of water per cubic yard shall be within 2 percent of the mix design batch weight.

Prior to the placement of structure backfill (Flow-Fill), the Contractor shall sample the structure backfill (Flow-Fill) in accordance with ASTM D5971. The Contractor shall test the structure backfill (Flow-Fill) unit weight in accordance with ASTM D6023. For Flash Fill, the measured unit weight shall be within 5.0 percent or 5.0 pcf, whichever is larger, of the approved mix design unit weight. The Contractor shall test the structure backfill (Flow-Fill) for slump in accordance with ASTM C143 or flow consistency according to ASTM D6103.

The Contractor shall sample and test the first three loads of structure backfill (Flow-Fill) for each placement and then randomly once every 50 cubic yards. Sampling and testing will be witnessed by the Engineer

When structure backfill (Flow-Fill) is placed in areas that require future excavation, the unit weight of the placed structure backfill (Flow-Fill) shall not exceed the unit weight of the approved mix design by more than 2.0 pcf.

Structure backfill (Flow-Fill) shall not be allowed to freeze during placement and until it has set sufficiently according to ASTM D6024. Frozen structure backfill (Flow-Fill) shall be removed and replaced at the Contractor’s expense.

When the Contractor substitutes Structure Backfill (Flow-Fill) for Structure Backfill (Class 1) or (Class 2), the trench width may be reduced to provide a minimum 6 inch clearance between the outside diameter of the culvert and the trench wall.