



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR

EUGENE A. CONTI, JR.
SECRETARY

March 20, 2009

MEMORANDUM TO: Prospective Bidders

FROM: Stuart Bourne, P.E.
State Traffic Management Unit

SUBJECT: Changes to the Implementation Dates for the Work Zone Traffic Control Qualification and Training Program

As you may know the Department is pursuing a Work Zone Traffic Control Qualification and Training Program for anyone working within the NCDOT right of way. This program is part of our compliance with the FHWA Safety & Mobility Rule (23 CFR 630 subpart j). As a result of feedback from our industry partners (mostly due to the economy and our desire not to implement a timeline that we know some will not be able to meet), the NCDOT has postponed the implementation dates of the program one year. The new implementation dates are as follows:

Flagger Qualifications and Training - July 1, 2010
Installer Qualifications and Training - January 1, 2011
Supervisor Qualifications and Training – July 1, 2011

In the next year, the Department will reconsider the on the job training (OJT) requirement for flaggers as we have gotten strong feedback that most small companies and municipalities will not be able to obtain the present requirement of 40 hours of OJT. We plan to investigate the common practice of other State DOT's and intend for our program to be similar to those OJT requirements. We expect our industry partners to take advantage of this implementation delay by continuing to pursue courses and OJT to meet the requirements of the program by the revised dates.

Please do not misunderstand our implementation delays. The NCDOT fully supports the implementation of the Work Zone Qualifications and Training requirements and is committed to seeing this program come to fruition. Working together with the industry we have already made great progress and look forward to seeing our work zones become even safer for the workers and traveling public.

We will continue to work with our industry partners through our Work Zone Qualification and Training Committee meetings and address all the issues that remain in the coming year. Additional information can be found on our web site at:

<http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/wztc/WZTCTrainingProgram/default.html>

If you have questions or want to find out how you can be involved with this committee, contact Stuart Bourne at (919) 250-4159 or sbourne@ncdot.gov

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