Effective September 1, 2019, all ordinary bridges without a previous Type Selection approval shall be designed in accordance with Caltrans Seismic Design Criteria Version 2.0 (SDC 2.0). All projects with a Type Selection approval before September 1, 2019, shall have the option to either continue using the SDC version approved at the time of Type Selection or may use SDC 2.0 at the discretion of the Project Engineer.

SDC Version 2.0 incorporates technical revisions, clarifications, additional design provisions, and editorial enhancements to SDC Version 1.7, including a code-and-commentary format. A summary of changes for SDC 2.0 and the unformatted comprehensive document (SDC 2.0 Full Version, OEE Release) may be found at:


To achieve timely updates of the SDC, the Office of Earthquake Engineering, Analysis and Research (OEEAR) is posting the comprehensive document, which is technically complete, prior to final formatting by Caltrans Division of Engineering Services, Technical Publications Unit. Upon completion, the formatted version will be posted at:

http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/techpubs/

This memo should be forwarded to all staff, as applicable. For questions or concerns regarding the technical content of the SDC, Consultants and Local Agencies should contact the Caltrans Structure Liaison Engineer. Caltrans staff may contact the Office Chief of OEEAR, Mark Mahan, at (916) 227-8404 or mark.mahan@dot.ca.gov.

c: Janice Benton, Chief, Division of Design
   Ray Zhang, Chief, Division of Local Assistance
   Dennis Agar, Chief, Division of Maintenance
   Thomas A. Ostrom, Chief, Division of Engineering Services
   Chris Mooring, Branch Chief, DES Administration

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