

PMPC Asphalt Task Group (ATG Only) Meeting Minutes

Date: September 4th, 2019

Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: DOT Translab – OSM Room 514/Webex/Conference Call

Facilitator: Tim Greutert

Attendees: Tom Pyle, Tim Greutert, Blair Anderson, Tracy Zubek, Pat Imhoff, Cortney VanHook, Chu Wei

Not in Attendance: N/A

1. Introductions/Review Agenda
2. Review Past Action Items
 - a. Draft Section 37 Scoping Document
 - i. Tom to follow up on status of scoping document with Doug
 - b. Assessment of 1 briquette vs 3 briquettes
 - i. Assessment of going from 3 briquettes down 1 briquette
 - ii. Currently being discussed by the SPF working group
 - c. SPF STG/WPG to proceed with specification as NSSP to be used on 5-20 projects
 - i. Caltrans to proceed with SPF as an NSSP
 - ii. Need to establish projects ahead of time as will be using supplemental funds
 - iii. Tracy – does not see an issue with adding SPF as NSSP
 - d. Develop powerpoint presentation demonstrating capabilities of DIME
 - i. Not yet complete; moving date to 10/2/19
3. Introductory Urgent Issues
 - a. Escalation Process
 - i. Tom – dispute document that was provided by Tony/Kee was not what was expected
 1. Process needs to be defined better in the SOP
 2. Need to determine what is going to be in an escalation and guidelines to develop
 3. Development of a general form that is moved up the process and signed/confirmed by the different levels as it moves through the process
 - ii. Pat – there was an escalation process within the RPC that we could use as a standard format
 - iii. Tom – Propose that a standard form be developed

- iv. ACTION – Courtney to help develop a standard form that can be used by all and clearly define problem statement and position of both sides. To be shared with STG by 9/18/19
- b. Membership of STG's
 - i. Need additional people at the STG level
 - ii. Tracy – Would like to have additional industry participation; no one has yet reached out to either Tracy or Pat requesting to get involved
 - iii. Brandon currently looking into getting additional industry participation
 - iv. Tom – suggests getting STG finalized by next EC meeting
 - v. Tim – suggests promoting participation during CalAPA presentation given by Maged
- 4. Review of Work Products
 - a. Statistical Pay Factors
 - i. Tom – ATG has discussed acceptance testing conflict thoroughly. Suggests conflict get escalated to the EC. Possibly get added as a bid item depending on what EC decides
 - ii. Tracy – Progression of conflict goes from shutdown after two tests, to some labs not wanting to partner, to why is Caltrans even running the test. Fine with moving to the next level but a little frustrated that a decision could not be made at the ATG level
 - iii. Tim - SIAD should help us track issues with individual testers; narrow down whether issues are happening at a statewide level or if it is in a specific region
 - iv. Tracy - Percentage of successes when supplier goes to a third party dispute resolution is very high
 - v. Tracy - Projects are getting shutdown based on invalid tests (varying test results that most likely resulted from inaccurate testing, personnel, etc..). There needs to be a way that both parties are able to work together to determine the differences and where they are coming from before shutting down the project. Shutting down costs lots of money
 - vi. Tim – Industry proposal appears to be wanting to change the dispute resolution process
 - 1. Tracy – It's not about changing the process, it's about collaboratively working together
 - vii. Blair – what is being proposed is a huge process change; after one test bring in the third party to witness both parties test

- viii. Blair – why wait until you have a failed test before going down process; why not corroborate at the beginning of the project to establish a certain level of confidence on both sides
 - 1. Tracy – it comes down to the differing testers that are seen on the project
- ix. Tom – to Blair; do you have any issues with moving the proposed resolution back to the WPG for review?
 - 1. Blair – I don't believe the WPG has the right people to make a decision based on this resolution
- x. Tom – propose to get SPF out in the specs and form another group to work continue work on the impasse
- xi. Tracy – How do you propose we work together both Industry and Caltrans?
 - 1. Tim – Huge proponent of allowing accessibility to all labs; “open-door” policy
 - a. Tom – we would have a huge push back from the district labs if proposed
- xii. Blair – Currently the way the specs are written; you stop production after one failed test; SPF specs are going to two consecutive so we could all agree that this is an improvement
 - 1. Possibility if after one failed test automatically invoke third party testing; regardless of if invoked by contractor or not
- xiii. Two questions trying to be solved:
 - 1. Can Caltrans run verification testing on non pay factor tests?
 - 2. Can Caltrans shutdown the contractor after two failed tests that are apart of two non-sequential sublots that is not a SPF test?
- xiv. DECISION – Tom to develop conflict escalation paper and send to all ATG for concurrence before sending to the EC for their review

Unable to discuss remaining agenda items as main topic of discussion was the SPF conflict. Potentially will schedule another meeting to finish discussion of remaining items. Particularly, to discuss bin list and items that can be moved to begin developing scoping document

- 5. Review Bin List
- 6. Roundtable/Review Action Items/Next Meeting

7. Feedback

Action Items:

1. Develop an escalation process document – Cortney – 9/18/19
2. Invite UCPRC to give update on current status of research efforts (separate meeting; Dec/Jan) – Tim – 10/2/19
3. Develop SPF conflict escalation for concurrence by ATG before passing to EC for review – Tom – 9/13/19

Action Items from 8/13/19:

4. Develop draft section 37 scoping document for submission to ATG – Tom – 9/15/19
5. Include an assessment of the one briquette vs 3 briquettes testing for air voids in the SPF data evaluation plan – Tom/Kee – 10/30/19

Action Items from 7/3/19:

1. The ATG would like the STG/WPG to proceed with the SPF specification as an NSSP to be used on 5-20 projects and articulate their plan to do this in writing. The WPG will develop a list of proposed projects based on ability to deliver. – SPF WPG – 8/12/19
2. Develop powerpoint presentation demonstrating capabilities of DIME as it relates to SPF – Tim – 8/20/19
3. Touch base with preservation STG (Doug) if they are ready for section 37 SD development – Tom – 7/10/19 - **Complete**