Effective Date: 2019-Dec-17

Summary of On-Going Revisions to be included in Next Release of Publication 293

The following is a summary of on-going revisions that the Central Office Geotechnical Section are planning to make in the next release of Publication 293. These revisions have been implemented via Strike-Off Letter or are editorial in nature. This summary also serves as a status update for Publication 293 chapter revisions.

General: Remove instances of language that doesn't support the Gender Neutral policy. References to SLIDE7 or Rocscience software will be revised to "Department Approved Software" with a link to the website of acceptable Department software.

Chapter 1 – Geotechnical Work Process, Tasks and Reports: There is a typographical error on page 1-68, Section 1.5.7.1, Appendix A. "Subsurface Exploration Plan" should be replaced with "Foundation Plans" per DM-4, Section 1.9.4.3.1 (b)

Chapter 2 – Reconnaissance in Geotechnical Engineering: No revisions scheduled.

Chapter 3 – Subsurface Exploration: No revisions scheduled.

Chapter 4 – Laboratory Testing: No revisions scheduled.

Chapter 5 – Soil and Rock Parameter Selection: In Section 5.5.4.4., the reference to AASHTO will be removed and instead will reference the DM-4 for Rock Elastic Modulus. There is currently a contradiction of using GSI for Settlement.

Chapter 6 – Soil Slope Stability: Chapter is complete. CT Step 1 is forthcoming.

Chapter 7 – Settlement: Chapter is under review. CT Step 1 is forthcoming

Chapter 8 – Rock Cut Slope and Catchment Design: Section 8.9.1, Rock Removal, 1st paragraph will be revised as follows: "Rock removal can include slope restoration, trimming, and scaling. With time, the face of the rock cut can weather and deteriorate to the point where rock fall reaches an unacceptable level. When planning the volume of rock to be removed, the project designer needs to consider potential constructability and safety concerns. The extent of planned removal must be sufficient to accommodate the anticipated drilling and excavation equipment. For any slope area needing rock removal, the Designer should also assess any overlying rock outcrops and adjacent areas of questionable stability that may impact worker safety during construction. Construction plans and specifications that identify and specify the extent of rock removal with a reasonable degree of accuracy is key to a successful project". Section 8.12, Contractor Specification Considerations, 3rd paragraph will be revised as follows: "It is very important to provide special provisions which provide both well-defined intent (specifications) and illustrations (plans and details). For example, with moderate and large-size scaling projects, the planned quantity of rock to be trimmed and scaled should be determined by using traditional survey data, aerial photography, or LiDAR Imagery to develop accurate cross-sections. The special provision

should also include when the surveying should be performed (i.e., when trees and brush are free from foliage and before snow covers rock outcrops, formations, and other geologic features of the area to be scaled). Plans should show removal limits and include marked-up photographs or 3-D images."

Chapter 9 – Compaction of Embankments and Fills: CT-Step 1 complete. CT- Step 2 is complete. FHWA approved

Chapter 10 – Acid Bearing Rock: Revisions in progress and CT-2 is forthcoming.

Chapter 11 – Geosynthetic Reinforced Soil (GRS) Slopes: No revisions scheduled.

Chapter 12 – Geocell: No revisions scheduled.

Chapter 13 – Geofoam: No revisions scheduled.

Chapter 14 – Geosynthetics Use Guidelines: Chapter is forthcoming.

Chapter 15 – Rock Slake Durability: No revisions scheduled.

Appendices: Multiple appendices are in progress.

If you have any other typographical errors, editorial mistakes, or necessary guidance, please contact GEOPUB222@pa.gov. We will attempt to update/address all issues in the next release of Publication 293.