



Florida Department of Transportation

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ANANTH PRASAD, P.E.
SECRETARY

May 27, 2011

DCE MEMORANDUM 07-11
(FHWA Approved: May 24, 2011)

TO: DISTRICT CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS

FROM: David A. Sadler, Director, Office of Construction

COPIES: Robert Robertson, Bouzid Choubane, Tim Lattner, Chris Richter, Chad Thompson, Abraham Scott, Brian Blanchard, Bob Burleson

SUBJECT: SUBSTANDARD BURLAP-POLYETHYLENE SHEETING

This office has been informed by the State Materials Office (SMO) that substandard burlap-polyethylene sheeting has been used on projects in a number of instances. Specification 925-3.1 requires this material to meet the requirements of AASHTO M-171 which is shown below and specifically states that the material must have a minimum burlap weight of 9 oz. /square yard. There have been recent projects on which burlap not meeting these requirements has been used.

Please make the CEI staff in your district aware that burlap-polyethylene sheeting must fully comply with specification 925-3.1 and AASHTO M-171.

AASHTO M-171, 6.3: White Burlap-Polyethylene Sheeting shall consist of burlap weighing not less than 9 oz./square yard extrusion coated on one side with white opaque polyethylene at least 0.004 in. thick and meeting the other requirements of 6.2. The polyethylene material shall be securely bonded to the burlap so that there will be no separation of the materials during handling and curing of the concrete.

For questions or discussion of this matter, contact Steven Plotkin at (904) 360-5501, Rodney Chamberlain at (850) 414-4276 or Mike Bergin at (352) 955-6666.

DS/pw