

Memorandum

*Serious drought.
Help Save Water!*

To: DISTRICT DIRECTORS
DIVISION CHIEF, DESIGN
DIVISION CHIEF, MAINTENANCE
DIVISION CHIEF, CONSTRUCTION
DIVISION CHIEF, ENGINEERING SERVICES

Date: November 14, 2014

File:

From: 
THOMAS F. HALLENBECK, Chief
Division of Traffic Operations

Subject: **SUSPENSION OF THE ET-PLUS, ET-PLUS 31, ET-2000 PLUS, AND ET-2000**

Effective November 10, 2014, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) suspended the use of ET-Plus, ET-Plus 31, ET-2000 Plus, and ET-2000 guardrail end treatments in state highway projects until further notice.

Recently, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) released a revised plan submitted by Trinity Industries to re-test the ET-Plus and ET-Plus 31 guardrail end terminal with a 4-inch channel. The crash testing will take place from mid November 2014 to mid January 2015. The FHWA anticipates completion and release of the crash test results by February 2015. The test results and a review of existing information on performance will determine the eligibility of these products to remain on the federally approved products list. In the meantime, Trinity Industries has halted all shipments of ET-Plus and ET-Plus 31 as of October 24, 2014.

For all new and on-going capital outlay projects and oversight projects, the Districts must implement the following:

- Before projects are advertised: Districts must specify alternative in-line terminal systems, not including the ET-Plus and/or ET-Plus 31, in the special provisions. A recently approved terminal system is being added to the Alternative in-line Terminal Systems Non-Standard Special Provisions (NSSP) posted on the Division of Traffic Operations, Office of Traffic Engineering, Traffic Safety Devices Branch web site.
- Projects during advertising: Districts must prepare an addendum to remove the ET-Plus and/or ET-Plus 31 from the special provisions and specify an alternative in-line terminal system.
- Projects in construction: A formal memo and further direction from the Division of Construction is forthcoming.

For maintenance repairs and replacements, please refer to the November 12, 2014, memo from Tony Tavares, Chief, Division of Maintenance.

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District Traffic Safety offices should be consulted to select the appropriate in-line terminal system from the Authorized Materials List (AML). If you or your staff have any questions regarding implementation of this memorandum, please contact Duper Tong at (916) 654-5176, or e-mail at <duper.tong@dot.ca.gov>