

# Memorandum

*Making Conservation  
a California Way of Life.*

To: DEPUTY DISTRICT DIRECTORS, Construction  
DEPUTY DIVISION CHIEF, Structure Construction  
CONSTRUCTION MANAGERS  
SENIOR CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS  
RESIDENT ENGINEERS

Date: November 8, 2024

File: Division of Construction  
CPD 24-8



From: RAMON HOPKINS, Chief  
Division of Construction

Subject: **ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATIONS FOR HOT MIX ASPHALT AND CONCRETE**

This directive provides guidance to resident engineers on environmental product declaration (EPD) requirements for hot mix asphalt and concrete materials and products. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is striving to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045. Collection of EPD information will assist in initial quantification of global warming potential (GWP) in terms of carbon dioxide equivalents of these materials and products. This information will help establish future GWP value ranges by material use type and geographical locale. The information will be considered in establishing future contract requirements for hot mix asphalt and concrete materials and products.

The attached standard special provision, Section 6-1.08, "Environmental Product Declarations for Hot Mix Asphalt and Concrete," will require EPD informational submittals for those hot mix asphalt and concrete items using those specification sections referenced within its table. The submittal requirements are applicable when both the project and minimum quantity criteria are met. Projects affected are those with bid openings after February 1, 2025, that are greater than a total bid of \$1 million and have 175 or more original working days. For hot mix asphalt, the minimum quantity threshold is 2,250 tons from a plant for each job mix formula. For concrete, the minimum quantity threshold is 250 cubic yards from a plant for each mix design. Required EPDs must be facility-specific, product stage declarations in conformance with definitions in Section 6-1.06B, "Definitions," of the *Standard Specifications*.

Buy Clean California Act requirements for reinforcement and structural steel in Section 6-1.06, "Buy Clean California Act," of the *Standard Specifications*, use EPDs and authorized material lists to assure established maximum allowed global warming potential values are not exceeded. This is done as a prerequisite of the reinforcements and structural steels used in the project. In contrast, the new EPD requirements for hot

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mix asphalt and concrete materials and products will require EPD informational submittals for collecting GWP values. These informational submittals are required to be submitted within 30 days of initial placement of such materials. Failure to provide a required EPD informational submittal within 30 days will require a \$6,000 performance failure withhold be assessed by the resident engineer for each missing EPD. If the missing EPD is submitted before contract acceptance, the performance failure withhold is returned. If the missing EPD is not submitted by contract acceptance, the performance failure withhold becomes a permanent deduction.

Contractors will submit EPDs through the Data Interchange for Materials Engineering system and provide proof of submission to the resident engineer. The Data Interchange for Materials Engineering system registration information for contractors is included in the specification. The project's assigned material representative from the Division of Engineering Services, Materials Engineering and Testing Services will review the informational submittal to verify the EPD is valid, facility-specific, and meets contractual requirements, except for required submission timeframe, which the resident engineer must actively monitor. The material representative will contact the resident engineer in the event the EPD is not compliant with the contract. The resident engineer will notify the contractor of noncompliance and assess the performance failure withhold if a compliant EPD cannot be resubmitted within the original 30-day period from initial material placement. The preconstruction conference of such projects should include a discussion of EPD informational submittal requirements for hot mix asphalt and concrete materials and products.

If you have questions or comments regarding this directive, contact Mohan Bonala, Division of Construction, at [Mohan.Bonala@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Mohan.Bonala@dot.ca.gov) or (916) 764-8134.

Attachment:

1. Standard special provision, Section 6-1.08, "Environmental Product Declarations for Hot Mix Asphalt and Concrete"