

OFFICE OF STATE AID ROAD CONSTRUCTION

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DATE: July 01, 2005

SUBJECT: Material Pits:

Section S-107- LEGAL RELATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITY TO PUBLIC; of the MISSISSIPPI STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS FOR STATE AID ROAD AND BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION 2004 EDITION is hereby amended as follows:

901-S-107.23--Material Pits: Delete the first and second paragraph on page 1-66 and replace with the following paragraphs:

Before a pit (quarry) is opened (area cleared or overburden disturbed), furnish to the County Engineer a letter from the Executive Director of the Department of Archives and History, P. O. Box 571, Jackson, Mississippi 39205 (telephone number 601/576-6850), stating that the pit site is satisfactory from an archaeological and historical standpoint. Additionally, the contractor will furnish the Engineer either a copy of the " Notification of Exempt Operations" or a copy of the (permanent or temporary) Class II Permit approval from the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Geology.

For material pits located in Clarke, Covington, Forrest, George, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Jones, Lamar, Pearl River, Perry, Stone and Wayne Counties, the Contractor will be required to make special considerations regarding gopher tortoises. In addition to the normal required documentation associated with material pits, the Contractor shall, for each site used to obtain or dispose of materials associated with material pits located in these Counties, provide the Engineer with a letter from a qualified biologist certifying that the site was inspected prior to any clearing of vegetation or disposal of project materials and that the site is not inhabited by gopher tortoises, or appropriate avoidance measures have been installed. No individual lacking the proper State or Federal license shall touch or otherwise harass a gopher tortoise.

All costs involved in obtaining letters of clearance shall be born by the Contractor