

INCLUDE IN ALL TENDERS THAT REFERENCE THE GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS, EDITION 16, 2019

AMENDMENT TO SPECIFICATION 1.2, GENERAL, OF THE 2019 GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS AND SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS FOR HIGHWAY AND BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION RE: 1.2.16.3 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRUCTION OPERATIONS PLAN

Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors has a responsibility to ensure that Alberta's provincially managed transportation and water management infrastructure is designed, constructed, and maintained in a manner compliant with all environmental requirements of the Department and environmental regulations. Depending on the scope of work, a project's Environmental Construction Operations (ECO) Plan may require ancillary plans and or deliverables requiring professional and/or specialist authentication. The General Specifications and Specification Amendments for Highway and Bridge Construction is being amended to inform service providers of this requirement. Additional active amendments covered under the previous version of AMC_C291 to address the ECO Plan Exemption List (published in 2020) are included within.

- i) The following paragraph is added to the beginning of Section 1.2.16.3, Environmental Construction Operations Plan:

If the Environmental Risk Assessment identifies that this Project is on the ECO Plan Exemption List, the Contractor will not be required to prepare an ECO Plan. If the Project is exempt from ECO Plan requirements, the Contractor must still comply with conditions found within the current version of the Department's ECO Plan Exemption List and all applicable legislation, regulations, and Environmental Permits. The ECO Plan Exemption List can be found here: <https://www.alberta.ca/transportation-and-water-project-environmental-requirements.aspx>

- ii) The paragraph starting with "The Contractor must prepare and implement..." of Section 1.2.16.3, Environmental Construction Operations Plan, is replaced in its entirety with the following:

If the Project is not exempt, the Contractor shall prepare and implement an Environmental Construction Operations Plan (ECO Plan) for the Contractor's work related to the Project in accordance with the current version of the Department manual entitled "Environmental Construction Operations (ECO) Plan Framework", and in compliance with applicable legislation, regulation and Environmental Permits. The ECO Plan shall address all environmental conditions and sensitivities including, but not limited to: erosion control measures under the Contractor's control during the Project, statutory and regulatory requirements and appropriate mitigations measures to address risks identified in the Environmental Risk Assessment and the tender document.

If required, the following ancillary plans and/or deliverables:

- [Pre-disturbance Assessments of Borrow Areas](#)¹;
- [Pre-disturbance Sweeps](#)²; and
- [Water Management Plans](#)³

shall be authenticated by an applicable qualified professional registered in the Province of Alberta (e.g., Professional Agrologist, Professional Biologist, Professional Engineer) to the satisfaction of the Consultant, and appended to the ECO Plan.

The Environmental Risk Assessment, included in the Project's tender document, will identify any additional ancillary plans and/or deliverables requiring professional authentication.

- iii) The paragraph starting with "The Contractor must submit its ECO Plan..." of section 1.2.16.3,

¹ As per *Alberta Transportation pre-disturbance assessment guide for borrow excavations*. Updated December 2013.

² As per Specification Amendment AMC_295 to the *General specifications and specification amendments for highway and bridge construction*. Edition 16. Published February 2023

³ As per Specification Amendment AMC_B026 to the *Standard specifications for bridge construction*. Edition 17. Published October 2023

Environmental Construction Operations Plan, is replaced in its entirety with the following:

The Contractor shall submit its ECO Plan to the Consultant a minimum of 14 calendar days prior to the pre-construction meeting in accordance with Section 1.2.8.1.1, Pre-Construction Documents. The Consultant will review the ECO Plan, and will advise the Contractor a minimum of 7 calendar days prior to the pre-construction meeting on whether or not the ECO Plan provides sufficient detail with respect to the Project and appears to be compliant. The Contractor shall address any issues or concerns with regard to the proposed ECO Plan to the satisfaction of the Consultant prior to the pre-construction meeting. Nothing in this section in any way relieves the Contractor of its responsibility to comply with the applicable legislation, regulation and Environmental Permits.

- iv) The paragraph starting with “The Department conducts ECO Plan audits...” of section 1.2.16.3, Environmental Construction Operations Plan, is replaced in its entirety with the following:

The Department conducts ECO Plan audits annually on select projects throughout Alberta during the construction season. If notified of an ECO Plan audit, the Contractor shall make themselves available to participate in the audit. The Contractor shall allow safe entry of auditors onto the Work area, provide documentation as requested and address any questions put forth by the auditors. The Contractor shall address audit findings as directed by the Consultant.

- v) The paragraph starting with “The cost of preparing the ECO-Plan...” of section 1.2.16.3, Environmental Construction Operations Plan, is replaced in its entirety with the following:

The cost of preparing and updating the ECO Plan and all ancillary plans and/or deliverables, participation in ECO Plan audits, and performance of all Work necessary to ensure compliance with the applicable legislation, regulations or Environmental Permits will be considered incidental to the Work, and no separate or additional payment will be made.

- vi) The paragraph starting with “The costs of correcting an infraction of the ECO Plan ...” of Section 1.2.16.3, Environmental Construction Operations Plan, is replaced in its entirety with the following:

The costs of correcting an infraction of the ECO Plan or regulatory requirement as well as any costs associated with a Work suspension are the responsibility of the Contractor; and the Contractor will not have any claim for standby costs or a completion date extension resulting from such cases.