Regional Industry Wide Shortage of Cement

MDOT has verified a regional, industry wide, cement shortage due to the severe 2013/2014 winter conditions and unanticipated private sector demand.

Contractors may not have been able to obtain concrete in order to complete their work based on the shortage. In accordance with the 2012 Standard Specifications for Construction, subsections 108.08 and 108.09, these delays are excusable, but non-compensable. Each request for extension of contract time must be evaluated independently in accordance with the contract documents and the following conditions:

1. The cement shortage work impacted the critical path, meaning it was a critical item at the time of the delay, or it became a critical item (after the delay) by the work being delayed.
2. The reason is not due to the contractor’s inability to perform their work on schedule.
3. Documented correspondence from the contractor detailing the supplier information, anticipated versus actual delivery dates, and efforts to engage different suppliers.
4. Documentation from the original concrete supplier indicating their inability to supply concrete.

All extension of time request submittals on federal aid construction projects must be copied to and approved in conjunction with Construction Field Services (CFS). CFS will ensure statewide alignment on this issue.

Construction/project engineers are to document the following project specific information regarding this issue and provide the documentation to CFS after processing the extension of time request:

- Contract ID
- Days requested
- Days approved with liquidated damages
- Days approved without liquidated damages

Correspondence and questions are to be directed to Jason Gutting at guttingj@michigan.gov.

Please share this construction advisory with local agencies and consultants within your jurisdiction as well as TSC staff.