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## OFFICE MEMORANDUM

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**DATE:** December 22, 2010

**TO:** Region Engineers  
Associate Region Delivery Engineers  
Associate Region Development Engineers  
Region Delivery Engineers  
TSC Managers  
Resident/Project Engineers  
Region Construction Engineers  
Region/TSC Development Engineers

**FROM:** Gregory C. Johnson  
Chief Operations Officer

John C. Friend  
Engineer of Delivery

**SUBJECT:** Bureau of Highway Instructional Memorandum 2010-11  
Type D Lights on Plastic Drum Channelizing Devices

A moratorium on light usage was implemented effective with the Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT) August 6, 2009, letting. MDOT and the contracting industry have met numerous times over the past year to discuss the continued usage of lights on plastic drums. An agreement for the continued usage of lights was reached in late September 2010. This agreement will bring Michigan into alignment with several other states that are also utilizing lights on plastic drums. Project development and delivery staff are to follow the guidelines shown below for usage of lights on plastic drums in MDOT construction work zones.

1. These guidelines apply to MDOT owned roadways and facilities in all areas of the state and on all freeway and non-freeway projects. This document and associated guidelines do not apply to MDOT maintenance operations or local agency roadways or facilities.
2. The operating light compliance is 100 percent, and it is the expectation of the Chief Operations Officer that this requirement be enforced statewide in accordance with the Special Provision for Lights on Traffic Control Devices. Documented notification of non-functioning lights is to be provided to the prime contractor and traffic control supplier.
  - If written notification of non-functioning lights is given prior to 12:00 p.m. (noon), 100 percent compliance will be required within the same day before 12:00 a.m. (midnight).

- If notice is given after 12:00 p.m. (noon), 100 percent compliance must be attained as soon as possible, but no later than 12:00 a.m. (midnight) the following day.

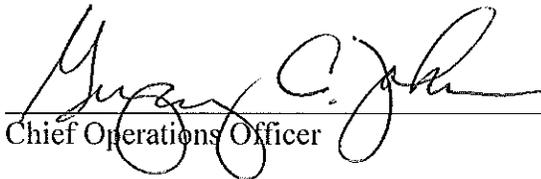
Failure to be in compliance, per these time frames, will result in the application of a contract price adjustment in the amount of \$100 per hour for every hour the lights are non-functioning. The \$100 per hour assessment is not per individual light, but is based on the overall notification of non-compliant lights.

3. Lights are to be placed on all channelizing plastic drums in construction work zone tapers where a shoulder and/or lane is being closed.
4. Lights are to be placed on all channelizing plastic drums in construction work zone tangent sections between lane closure tapers when closing multiple lanes.
5. Lights are to be placed on all channelizing plastic drums in construction work zone freeway crossovers when placing traffic on the opposite side of the freeway.
6. Lights are to be placed on all channelizing plastic drums that delineate direct freeway on and off ramps. Plastic drums with lights are to commence at the ramp gore area on each side of the maintained travel path and terminate at the ramp intersection with the crossroad, unless the work zone terminates prior to the crossroad. Light usage on these channelizing devices is to be based on engineering judgment, dependent on one or more of the following criteria: sight distance, geometrics, interchange/roadway lighting, urban location, high traffic volume, commercial average daily traffic, etc.
7. Project development staff is to include appropriate pay item quantities, plan notes, and/or verbiage in the special provision for maintaining traffic as to where lights on drums are required to be placed.
8. The Special Provision for Lights on Traffic Control Devices is being updated and the use statement will state: *Use in all MDOT trunkline projects. This special provision is not for local agency projects.*
9. The Special Provision for Channelizing Devices is being updated and the use statement will state: *Use in all projects.*
10. These guidelines are effective for all MDOT trunkline projects let on and subsequent to the January 7, 2011, letting.

- a. Projects let on January 7, 2011, are to include these requirements through extra work negotiations and a subsequent contract modification.
- b. Projects in the February 4, 2011, letting and beyond are to be addressed by the project manager and the Specifications and Estimates Unit.

11. Work zones for utility and construction permit projects are to also follow these guidelines.

If you have any questions, please contact Jason Gutting, our System Operations Engineer, at 517-335-2049 or [guttingj@michigan.gov](mailto:guttingj@michigan.gov).



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Chief Operations Officer



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Engineer of Delivery

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