1. SOIL BORING INFORMATION [102] (Revised 1-16-14)

The Department routinely conducts subsurface investigations and laboratory testing to collect soil, rock and groundwater information (“geotechnical information”) within the anticipated limits of upcoming projects and maintains a comprehensive set of this information in its geotechnical file. For this contract, geotechnical information has been collected by the Department and logs of boring summarizing this information have been included in the Special Provisions and Plans. “Logs of Borings” in the Special Provisions and Plans are based on an interpretation of the field investigation and laboratory testing data, and do not include all the geotechnical information that may be available. The geotechnical information contained in the “Logs of Borings” has been edited or abridged and may not reveal all the geotechnical information which might be useful or of interest to the bidder.

The comprehensive set of geotechnical information is considered too voluminous to include in the bidding package. The geotechnical information that the Department has is available for review or copying upon request. Rock core samples are regularly retained as well. All bidders are expected to fully review all of the geotechnical information prior to submitting their bid. The prime bidder is responsible for ensuring that a firm submitting a subcontractor quote for the prime's use is aware of all available geotechnical information.

Submission of a bid without fully reviewing the Department's comprehensive set of geotechnical information or accepting a quote from a subcontractor without verifying that the subcontractor reviewed all available geotechnical information is a business decision by the bidder. Failing to fully review all available geotechnical information waives the contractor from making any claim, whether termed "superior knowledge", "justifiable reliance", "differing site condition", or otherwise, against the Department for any information that may be included in the comprehensive geotechnical information file and not shown, or not fully shown, in the “Logs of Borings” contained in the contract documents.

Soil, rock, and groundwater conditions shown on the logs of boring apply only at the specific boring locations and at the time the borings were made. They are not warranted to be representative of subsurface conditions at other locations or times. Groundwater conditions commonly vary seasonally and from that encountered during drilling. Determination of a material's classification is based in part on judgment and opinion. The Department assumes no responsibility for any variation or misinterpretation of the classification of materials.

Utilize the Question and Answer forum to request additional geotechnical information or to submit questions regarding the geotechnical information. To review all available geotechnical information, submit a request in writing to the Department’s Geotechnical Section to schedule a time to review the available geotechnical information. Requests for access should be made a minimum of 10 business days prior to the bid opening.