

INFORMATION HANDOUT

For Contract No. 03-3F3404

At 03-Sac-160-L7.0

Identified by

Project ID 0312000219

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

United States Coast Guard Letter

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
District Eleven

U.S. Coast Guard Island
Building 50-2
Alameda, CA 94501-5100
Staff Symbol: (dpw)
Phone: (510) 437-3514
Fax: (510) 437-5836

16593
Three Mile Slough (0.1)
September 29, 2014

California Department of Transportation
Attn: Mr. John Rodriguez, Acting District Director
District 3, 703 "B" Street
Marysville, CA 95901

Dear Sir:

Please refer to Caltrans proposed deviation from the governing drawbridge operating regulations for the CA Rte 160 drawbridge, mile 0.1 Three Mile Slough, near Rio Vista, CA., as discussed during the meeting in Rio Vista on July 16, 2014, and further conveyed in your letter dated August 6, 2014.

We understand the subject bridge is in need of extensive reconditioning, including sand blasting lead based paint to bare metal and repainting. The work can be performed with the moveable span either open or closed to navigation and due to the need to enclose the lift cables, operating the bridge during the work is not practical. This is an infrequently required, large scale evolution that will not require repeating for many years.

Waterway traffic has the right of way over land traffic. In order for this bridge to exist, the owner elected to propose and construct a vertical lift bridge to meet land traffic needs while not interfering with navigation. When considering these types of projects, the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), the Federal regulatory agency for all bridges over navigable waters of the U.S., expects bridge owners to minimize navigational impacts, within reason, while still accomplishing the work required to maintain the bridge.

Performing the work with the lift span in the full open to navigation position, providing the least navigational impact, has immediate approval and full support from the USCG. The timing of the project would not be a factor as weather, emergency levee repairs, contract obligations to move fill and rock, recreational traffic and other waterway operations would not be affected.

Performing the work with the lift span in the closed to navigation position and taking away the rights of navigation in favor of land traffic may be proposed, with the understanding that Caltrans adheres to certain additional considerations. Due to the negative economic impacts on tug and barge operations and recreational vessel traffic through Three Mile Slough, the lift span may not be secured closed to navigation prior to 12:01 am. on January 5, 2016 and normal operation of the lift span must resume on or before 11:59 pm. on April 10, 2016.

When Caltrans has a contractor and the work plan is finalized, please submit a formal written proposal to my office not less than 30 days prior to the planned start date, on Caltrans letterhead with an approved signature, in compliance with Title 33 Code of Federal Regulations Part 117.35. Include plan and elevation drawings of the bridge, on 8 ½ x 11 inch format showing all

16593
September 29, 2014

floating equipment, scaffolding , containment (with dimensions) and the position of the lift span, as needed to perform the work. Include start and completion dates, hours of work and emergency contact information we may use to contact a Caltrans point of contact 24/7 during the work. The bridge operator will be expected to remain on the bridge during the work to communicate on the marine radio and respond to any calls from vessels requesting updates or information on the conditions at the bridge. We will provide USCG approval, in kind, with lighting requirements and standard conditions typically required for these types of project.

I can be contacted by telephone at (510) 437-3516 to discuss this project.

Sincerely,



DAVID H. SULOUFF
Chief, Bridge Section
Eleventh Coast Guard District
By direction of the District Commander

Copy: Mayor, City of Rio Vista, CA
Highway 12 Association
Office of Congressman John Garamendi
Eleventh Assembly District