



**Department of Transportation & Public Facilities**  
**Statewide Design & Engineering Services Division**  
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**TRANSMITTAL**

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**TO:** Distribution

**DATE:** April 2, 2020

*CHM*  
**FROM:** Carolyn H. Morehouse, P.E.  
Chief Engineer

**SUBJECT:** Chief Engineer's  
Directive:  
Regional Latitude  
regarding Spec 641  
Due to COVID-19

Governor Dunleavy issued Health Mandate 004 (Travel Guidance) and Health Mandate 009 (Personal Care and Gatherings) earlier this month as part of a comprehensive effort to slow the spread of COVID-19. This guidance memorandum allows certain regional waivers to DOT&PF Standard Specifications for Highway Construction and Airport Construction in support of that effort.

Regions should consider the following modifications to SSHC Section 641 and Airport Specification Item P-641 for the duration of this public health emergency order:

**The requirement that SWPPP preparers hold a valid AK-CESCL certification for projects under 20 acres may be waived.** The CGP requires SWPPP preparers hold such a certification for projects disturbing 20 acres or more. DOT&PF standards 641-1.04.1(a) and P-641-1.4.a(1) respectively require such certification for all projects. Additionally, the Alaska Storm Water Steering Committee has given a one-year extension to storm water preparers whose certification expires in the 2020 calendar year.

**Pre-construction site inspection (641-2.01 and P-641-2.1) may be waived or delayed until after project start.** For projects under 20 acres, the pre-construction site inspection may be waived or delayed depending on the project and location. The CGP requires a pre-construction site inspection if disturbed acreage is 20 acres or more.

**Joint inspections may be waived at the engineer's discretion (641-3.03.1 and P-641-3.3.a).** Subsections 641-3.03.1 and P-641-3.3.a permit the engineer to approve exceptions to joint inspection for safety and sickness. Joint inspections are not required by the CGP.

In order to comply with the CGP, however, inspections must continue and may require solo inspections to comply with the CGP frequency schedule. Please see the Non-Joint Inspection Memo located in the Construction SWPPP Forms.

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