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Jan 14, 2013

To: All Bridge Inspection Consultants

Subject: Bridge Re-inspection Schedule Dates

Gentlemen:

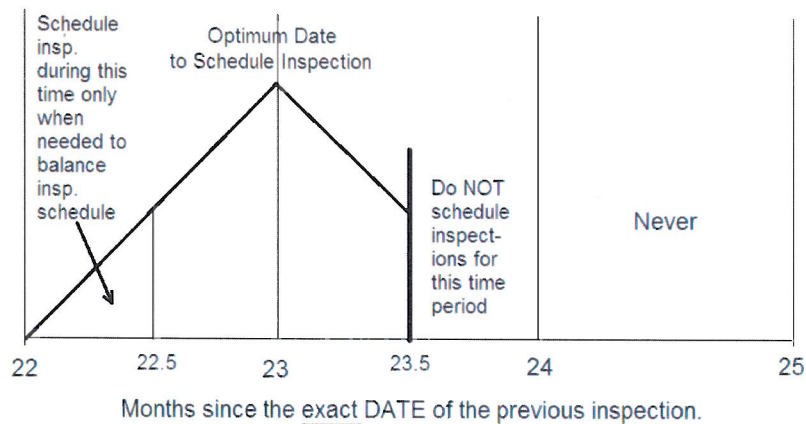
The FHWA has clarified guidance with regards to the timing of NBIS bridge inspection. All bridge inspections for NBIS bridges will occur within the 24 month period allotted between inspections. Specifically, all bridges are to be inspected between 22 and 24 months from the previous inspection.

In order to ensure that this happens for all bridges we are adjusting our guidance to all bridge inspectors to reflect this clarification. Effective immediately, all bridges are to be inspected 23 months from the date of the previous inspection.

When scheduling a large group of bridges for inspection, obviously it is not always possible to hit this date exactly. Therefore the following guidance controls:

When scheduling a large group of bridges your goal is to schedule them all as close to the 23 month mark as possible. When this is not possible, you can schedule them within 15 days of the 23 month mark - one way or the other. If a large number of bridges are due in the same time period then you can use the 15 days between the 22 month mark in the 22 ½ month mark where needed to provide sufficient flexibility for scheduling all bridges. No bridges are to be scheduled after the 23 and half month mark (the following graphic gives you the idea in more detail).

Note: Staying 15 days clear of the time of the 24th month date allows for problems that occur in the field (bad weather, vehicles breaking down, etc.). Project schedules submitted for initial approval are never to show inspections between the 23½ month and the 24th month.



Sincerely yours,

Gregory T. Renman,
Manager, Structural Evaluation

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