

CONSULTING ENGINEERS
GENERAL MEMORANDUM 08-08

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF ENGINEERING AND
HIGHWAY OPERATIONS
OFFICE OF ENGINEERING

New Bridge Design Standard Practice

December 5, 2008

To: CONSULTING ENGINEERS

The "Bridge Design Standard Practices" are hereby revised to include the enclosed new standard practice entitled "Seismic Design for Connecticut Bridges".

Very truly yours,

Thomas A. Harley, P.E.
Manager of Consultant Design
Bureau of Engineering and
Highway Operations

Enclosure

BRIDGE DESIGN STANDARD PRACTICES

The following standard practice has been established by the Department.

Seismic Design for Connecticut Bridges

2008 Interim Revisions of AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications Customary U.S. Units/4th Edition/2007—The code has been revised with respect to seismic design. These changes make portions of Section 4—Seismic Design and Retrofit of Connecticut Department of Transportation’s Bridge Design Manual obsolete.

New practice:

The seismic design of Connecticut bridges should be performed using the 2008 Interim Revisions of the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications Customary U.S. Units/4th Edition/2007.

Section 4—Seismic Design and Retrofit of Connecticut Department of Transportation’s Bridge Design Manual shall not be used, until such time as the Bridge Design Manual can be updated to reflect the AASHTO revisions.

The seismic design of retaining walls will be waived.

The seismic design associated with the rehabilitation of existing bridges (as described in Section 4.5 of the Bridge Design Manual) will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

This only applies to bridge designs which have not proceeded into final design.

Section 4 of the Bridge Design Manual pertaining to seismic design will be revised accordingly.