Guardrail / Guiderail
Technical Committees Conference Call
August 27th, 2014

Attendees: Kenny Anderson (IN DOT), John Eiche (NV DOT), Merrill Zwanka (SC DOT), Temple Short (SC DOT), Doug McAvoy (VA DOT), Bill Real (NH DOT), Kevin Jones (IA DOT), Phil Shawk (Gregory Industries), Doug Gayne (ME DOT), Joseph Kerstetter (TN DOT), Randy Pace (NC DOT), Lori (MO DOT), Kathryn Malusky (AASHTO), Brian Korschgen (AASHTO), Brian VanNess (Trinity), David Price (R.G. Steel), Larry (KS DOT), Rick Carpenito (MA DOT), John Greco (MA DOT)

1. Update on work plan
   Nothing specific was discussed. Any revisions to the work plan need to be finalized by November 1st to be included in the yearly NTPEP ballot.

2. Review responses from email sent on 7/21/14
   Randy did receive some feedback regarding the spreadsheet he sent out on July 21st. One product we need to add to the list is weathered steel guardrail. We are going to gather emails and resend by September 5th as several of the emails were not received. States need to look at the list of products and tests and give additional items they want to see included in the audit.

3. Review Executive Summary
   We discussed the audit process, testing, and potential fees. The audit fees will probably be $6,250 (+$500 every 5 years for desktop review) plus sample testing fees. The sample testing fees will be determined by how many samples we take, how many tests we run, and which lab performs the testing. The manufacturer will be responsible for this fee.

   What is the benefit to manufacturers? One benefit would be reduction in paperwork if the states accept NTPEP and don’t require brand registration and CoCs. They also would like it to replace other audits and certifications such as AISC. Is there a way to get FHWA blessing on audit program so states don’t need to collect paperwork? It would still be up to the state to decide how to handle the situation, FHWA most likely would not “bless” the program. Each state currently handles the Buy America and paperwork requirements differently. We need to explain the benefit to FHWA and states.

As part of the audit process we would select materials or shipments of product provided to states and have them provide the bill of ladings and reports for these preselected shipments. North Carolina currently performs something similar.

We discussed split sample testing versus verification testing for the audit program. I think we have decided that verification testing is the best choice. Verification testing would be performed by a NTPEP selected laboratory (hopefully a state lab). We need to
have proper procedures in place for failures that occur as part of this verification testing of samples obtained at the facilities.

States and manufacturers are looking for a timeline for the audit program and when it may start. The work plan hopefully will be updated and finalized (balloted) by January 2015. This program is still a work in progress and some issues still need to be worked out. We are hoping to begin performing NTPEP audits by summer 2015.

4. Next Conference Call – Late October (still finalizing the date/time)