



Florida Department of Transportation

CHARLIE CRIST
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

STEPHANIE C. KOPELOUSOS
SECRETARY

December 17, 2007

DCE MEMORANDUM NO: 23-07
(FHWA Approved: 12-12-07)

TO: DISTRICT CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS

FROM: Brian Blanchard, Director, Office of Construction

COPIES: Bob Burleson (FTBA), David Sadler

SUBJECT: SOD NETTING – SECTION 981

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Brian Blanchard", written over the "FROM:" line of the memorandum.

The current specification, Subarticle 981-3.2, requires “Any netting contained within the sod shall be certified by the manufacturer to be bio-degradable within a period of three months from installation.” This netting is typically found on projects where the contractor uses rolled sod.

Producers of the netting have been working towards a product that will degrade within the three month period required by the specification but have thus far been unable to meet that requirement. Early attempts have shown that the netting degrades too quickly resulting in a failure of the netting to perform its intended purpose of holding the sod together until placed.

Until such time that a product is developed that meets the degradation requirement outlined in the specification and perform as needed by industry, FDOT will waive this requirement.

This memo serves as blanket approval to process a specification change and should be attached to the Work Order or Supplemental Agreement.

If you have any questions, please contact David Sadler at 850-414-5203.

BB/sw