

NTPEP BINDER TASK FORCE MEETING SUMMARY

- Current Task Force Members (NTPEP List):
 - Chair – Mark Brum, MassDOT
 - Vice-Chair – David Howley, ConnDOT
- Task Force Mission
 - *“Establish uniform procedures for approving PG Binder and Emulsified Asphalt Suppliers who furnish products for State DOT use.”*
 - *Focus on terminals that directly supply to HMA plant.*
 - *Provide Industry ability to maintain one QSM, rather than submit multiple QC plans to State agencies.*

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- *Discussion:*
 - *“Approving” is not correct verbiage. NTPEP does not approve, only provides information for State to make approval decision. NTPEP uses the word “compliant”.*
 - *Source “approval” will still be at state level.*
 - *Audit will need to be site specific. Example – some terminals are just a pass through and do not modify, others do modify.*
 - *Will suppliers balk at two audits?*
 - *re-source and this one.*
 - *Discussed that re-source is lab accreditation (testing audit) and this proposal is a production audit.*

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- *Discussion cont.:*
 - *AASHTO R-26 – How many states use R-26 as a guide?*
 - *Many do, but was mentioned that R-26 needs improvement and updating. Thought that Task Force could make recommendation to COMP to modify R-26, other AASHTO specifications.*
 - *Most NTPEP audits cover “solid” materials that are hard to modify once fabricated. Binder is easy to modify at any stage along the journey. Adds different dynamic to an audit program.*
 - *Short discussion of how states currently sample and test to account for potential modification.*
 - *Consensus was that states will need to continue or add random testing regardless of audit program.*
 - *Will audit program include testing? To be determined.....*
 - *Discussed why emulsions were included. Originally was only binder, then added emulsion in per request.*

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- General Comments:
 - Asphalt Institute has been unsuccessful in this type of effort.
 - Industry will try to convince states that local testing is not needed.
 - REOB would not have been discovered without state testing.
 - Will need to show industry there is a benefit for them or will get substantial push back.
 - Program can add another level of confidence to DOT, and cause supplier to think about potential ramification if add something to binder without notifying Agency.
 - Audit program should add value to QC/QSM plan and determine if plan is adequate.

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- Suggestions:
 - Start simple and small.
 - Show suppliers that there is value in it for them.
 - If NEAUPG gets on same page, this will go a long way to get approval from NTPEP.
 - Ensure work plan does not promise something NTPEP can't provide.
 - State's acceptance criteria as example.
 - Don't use audit program to disconnect with local testing and communication with Suppliers.

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- Summary:
 - Group agreed there is value to program.
 - Group agreed that emulsion should not be included. Just too many Suppliers and doubt NTPEP can hire enough auditors to cover the whole country.
 - Group is very interested in what the work plan will entail.
 - Work plan needs to be presented to NTPEP at next year's annual meeting in Columbus, OH.
 - John Blakely (MissDOT), David Kunięga (PennDOT), Edward Trujillo (CODOT), and Robert Sarcinella (NTPEP) volunteered to join task force to assist development of work plan.
- Questions/Comments?
 - Minute or two.