PWL Subcommittee Agenda

April 3, 2023

- PWL Project Selection
  - On some mill 2 fill 2 projects, may mill through to aggregate base. Be sure to communicate issues such as this to the region.
  - Slope correction over concrete can cause variable thickness from centerline to shoulder. Don't typically use PWL for these projects, but would like to if there is support.
    - David H.: Issues may arise with variable underlying conditions with the gauge (offsets).
    - Dan K.: Coring would alleviate the gauge offset issue.

- Implementation of PWL on VMA/AC
  - Maybe form task group for this.
  - David H.: Would this be 1-tailed or 2-tailed?
  - James P.: 2-tailed makes sense, especially for No. 6 mixes which have and upper and lower limit on VMA.
    - Using Gsb from contractor to calculate VMA without verification could be an issue.
  - David H.: Regions are still new to AC testing with ignition ovens. Some contractors still use ignition oven as well. Want to make sure equipment for AC compares.
  - Scott S.: Depending on mixes, number of washing cycles varies. May be unnecessary to over wash mix.
  - Need a formal procedure for testing.
  - Developing and IA program may alleviate some of these issues.

- PWL Core Projects
  - Some want to eliminate gauges entirely from core-only projects. Currently using gauges for acceptance testing.
    - Looking at a reduced testing frequency (compared to gauges) for coring shoulders.
      - Scott S.: SWR is ok with this. 2 cores per mile.
      - Taylor C.: NCR is ok with this.
  - Waive density test strip on core projects. Start production density right away.
    - Industry still wants to core to correlate for process control. QC can correlate gauge if desired without a density test strip.
    - If there are issues, since it's production testing, it will affect subsequent tonnage in analysis.
      - Only applies to F&t or could only affect remainder of lot 1 until they finish it – depending on length of TS.

- Core testing procedures (FHWA compliance)
  - Testing location
    - LJD Cores
      - Depending on joint type (notched wedge, butt, etc.) location can change.
      - Taking core on the joint, can introduce additional variability such as tack at the interface. Damage is also more likely right on the joint.
      - In Michigan, they average the Gmm for the sublots. In Iowa they do 6-inch from the edge in case there is a wedge. Michigan takes cores right at the joint.
  - Companion cores
    - Witnessing contractor testing of QV cores is not FHWA compliant.
    - Department can take cores at all locations and only test 1 per lot unless it doesn't conform. Then can test other cores for dispute resolution.
    - HTCP course just for testing cores.
    - IDOT takes 4 samples and tests one of them. Samples are being witnessed on site.
    - Region labs will need core drys.
    - Dispute resolution will also need to be included in the future core only projects.
    - Summarize options:
      - Department testing in regions labs of 20% of cores to verify contractor data using F&t.
      - Certify consultants and test in contractor labs.
        - Debbie S: There may not be industry consensus on using contractor labs.
- BTS will summarize the different acceptance options available and send out for more discussion. Brief summary listed below:
  - Keep the same process except have a DOT representative test at the contractors lab
  - Do f&t testing. I think we would need 2 cores at all locations. Contractor would cut all the cores. Contractor would take one and DOT would take the other one. DOT would test a few cores and if we match we are good. If we don't, then the DOT would have to test the remaining cores. DOT would need to get a Core Dry machine.
  - DOT would do all the testing. They could also consider consulting out the work.
  - Also considered requiring the contractor to have a mobile lab at the project to get quicker results.
  - Remove density test strip. Contractor would still be allowed to take a few cores on the first day of placement
  - Remove QV gauges. Core at the shoulders at a reduce frequency.
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- PWL Construction items
  - Test strip communication
  - Production Data sharing
    - If data isn't shared there may be surprises such as gauge correlation issues.
  - Density Dispute Resolution
    - Dispute with cores needs to be looked at. Can't use gauges to determine extents if there are no correlated gauges.
    - Timeframes for disputes have been updated.
  - Early zone on test strip before rolling pattern established.
    - First zone is 50 feet away from the start.
    - Taylor C.: had a zone start at 75 ft from start, which included the first 50 tons of production. No issues.

- 2023 Spreadsheet update review

- Spreadsheet training for Region PWL reps

- PWL STSP rollout
  - LJD ($0.40 to $0.20) - 2024 projects
  - PWL STSP (density disincentive to shoulders) - May 2023 let

- PWL training
    - Derek F.: Can we use daily Gmm instead of 4-pt running average.