

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

No:PWD 91 CRM 2003

Karnataka Government Secretariat,
Multistoried Buildings,
Bangalore, Dated: 16-03-04.

CIRCULAR

Sub:- Use of imported bitumen in the road works

-0-

M/S SRI VENKATESHWAR ENTERPRISES, NO.334, 1ST floor, 1st main, 41 cross, 8th block, Jayanagar Bangalore-82, have approached this department regarding the use of 60/70 grade imported bitumen packed in drums from organization of petroleum exporting countries, (OPEC) as the state & Central Government has under taken extensive construction and repair of road works through out the Karnataka state. The use of appropriate and good quality bitumen is very essential. It gives longer life to the roads. Therefore, it is, but essential that the road works be closely monitored both for cost and quality.

In spite of the earlier instruction on similar lines in relation to the use of good quality bitumen, Government continued to receive complaints with regards to the inferior quality of bulk bitumen being used in some of the road works. It has been brought to the notice of the Government that in bulk bitumen adulteration with other sub standard material continues. It is time that officer of PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT and other concerned GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS and Government Corporations realize that they have to use quality material. In the present day world, latest technologies are being adopted to handle the high quality bitumen and this high quality bitumen are easily available on a very competitive rate and price. The bitumen grade 60/70, which is already in use, is available in poly bags and drums and it is highly, competitive in price and cheaper than domestic products in quality, price and availability. The department must avoid use of bitumen supplied in bulk.

Contd. 2

Some of the specific advantage of the use of the aforesaid products as indicated by the above enterprises are as below:

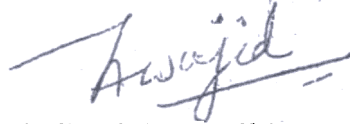
1. Bitumen is available both in poly bags and steel drums.
2. Packed in poly bags and drum as opposed to bulk negating any possibility of adulteration.
3. One -Way transportation charges as opposed to the more expensive two ways for tankers that convey bulk.
4. Handling and storing is easier and cheaper when compared to bulk.
5. Recovery from tanks at melting stage is higher when compared to bulk.
6. Heating as and when required, therefore, reduction in heating cost.
7. Bitumen need not be stored in heated tanks round the clock.
8. Subject to proper documentation, no import duty for WB/ADB aided projects and therefore, a substantial reduction in price.
9. Technical parameters analyzed by ASTM method, which is an internationally accepted procedure.
10. Quality control is more stringent since the product is being sold all over the world.
11. Price competitive compared to domestic product.
12. Immediate delivery against confirmed orders.

Further it is informed that test are conducted in the laboratory of DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, SURATHAKAL, KARNATAKA and the results are as under:

TYPES OF TEST	RESULT	METHODS OF TEST REF.
Specific gravity at 27 ^o C	0.99	IS 1202-1978
Softening point ^o C	54	IS 1205-1978
Ductility at 27 ^o C, cm	100	IS1208-1978
Flash point ^o C	292 ^o	IS 1209-1978
Fire point ^o C	325 ^o	
Penetration at 25 ^o C, 100 gms, 5 sec., 1/10 mm	60-70	Is1203-1978

However, the procuring agency may get the quality tested in their Laboratories

Considering the above points, while purchasing the bitumen of grade 60/70 special consideration may be given to the products offered by M/S SRI VENKATESHWARA ENTERPRISES, Administrative office located at No.334,1st floor, 1st Main , 41 Cross , 8th Block Janyanagar Bangalore-560 082, and Regd. office at No.147/1, Souza Complex near MRPL cargo gate, katipalla, Mangalore -30. subject to the cost being not higher than that supplied by refineries, satisfy the laboratory tests for grade & quality in the department and to be used wherever situation warrants. While purchasing the bitumen the provisions of Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act to be followed scrupulously.



(Shaik Abdul Wajid)

Under Secretary to Government,
(Communication)
Public Works Department

To

1. The Chief Engineer, C&B (SOUTH)(NORTH) National Highways/ KSHIP/RD&PR
2. Managing Director/GM (works)/DD/Karnataka Land Army Corp Ltd.
3. Managing Director Karnataka Road Development Corporation Limited.,
4. Chief project Officer, KSHIP.
5. Executive Engineers, PWD of all divisions.
6. The Chief Executive Officers of Zilla Panchayats.