

# Memorandum

*Flex your power!  
Be energy efficient!*

**To:** DISTRICT DIRECTORS  
DIVISION CHIEFS, PROJECT DELIVERY

**Date:** November 30, 2006

**From:** MARK LEJA - **Original Signed**  
Chief  
Division of Design

**Subject:** Design Information Bulletin 86 (DIB 86): Selecting Asphalt Binder Type

This transmittal memorandum provides notice that the above-referenced Design Information Bulletin (DIB) is now available on the web site (<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/oppd/dib/dibprg.htm>). This DIB supersedes Index 632.1(b) "Asphalt Binder Type" of the Highway Design Manual.

## **PURPOSE**

This DIB provides guidance on the selection of asphalt binder for projects with flexible pavement.

## **BACKGROUND**

Over the past several years, the Department has been changing its existing grading systems for asphalt binders to the nationally recognized Performance Graded (PG) system. The Department converted its conventional binders from the Aged Residue (AR) systems to the PG system in January 1, 2006. Since we have completed discussions with industry, the Department will now be converting its polymer modified asphalt binders from the Performance Based Asphalt (PBA) system to Performance Graded Polymer Modified (PG-PM) system effective January 1, 2007.

## **APPLICATION**

DIB 86 shall be used in the development of all projects on the State Highway System or funded with state funds. Projects with a bid opening date on or after January 1, 2007 shall use the PG or PG-PM binder grades listed in the table found in DIB 86.

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

Effective immediately all projects, with a bid opening date on or after January 1, 2007, shall conform to the guidance presented in DIB 86. The requirements presented in this DIB will be incorporated into future updates of the Highway Design Manual.

Attachment

c: Deputy District Directors  
Deputy District Directors, Project Management  
District Material Engineers

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bc: MLeja - DOD  
TCraggs - DOD  
THoover – PSP Mgr  
PStolarski – DES METS  
BFarnbach – DOD  
LFong - DOD  
PST Members  
OPD Staff

WKFarnbach/dlt/T/Division of Design/DIB 86 Selecting Asphalt Binder Type