

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL




Oregon

Department of Transportation
Roadway Engineering Section
Traffic Control Plans Unit

INTEROFFICE MEMO

DATE: March 5, 2004

TO: Memo To Designers

FROM: Scott M. McCanna, P.E.
Traffic Control Plans Engineer 

SUBJECT: Barrier Mounds - Temporary Use For Construction/Maintenance

As of the date of this memo, the use of earth berm barrier mounds will not be allowed in temporary construction or maintenance operations to protect blunt ends of either temporary or permanent concrete barrier. For the past eighteen months, ODOT has been voluntarily using other temporary devices from the Qualified Products List (QPL) to protect barrier ends.

Data suggests that earth berms do not meet the requirements of the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) Report 350 for crashworthiness. In February, 2003, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) reinforced ODOT's movement away from the use of the earth berms.

Therefore, a device meeting the Report 350 requirements will be used to protect blunt ends of temporary or permanent concrete barrier on any Oregon State Highway construction or maintenance project.

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