

**Oregon Department of Transportation**

Delivery & Operations Division/

Engineering & Technical Services

7163 ­‑ Geotechnical Engineering,

Engineering Geology & Hazmat Section

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**DATE: Wednesday, November 22, 2023**

**TO:** Susan C. Ortiz, P.E., G.E.

State Geotechnical Engineer

**FROM: Curran Mohney Phone: (503) 508-3628**

**Engineering Geology Program Lead**

Oregon Department of Transportation

**SUBJECT: Proposed Revision to Geotechnical Design Manual**

**To Section Number** 20.5.3

**Problem Statement:**

Passive voice is used in the current GDM Section 20.5.3 to describe the layout of Geotechnical Datasheets. This leaves the potential for misunderstanding the mandatory production and mandatory content of Geotechnical Datasheets.

[Provide a copy of the section being revised]

20.5.3 Layout

Geotechnical Data Sheets can be arranged in multiple ways to depict subsurface conditions.

The minimal content to display on a Geotechnical Data Sheet is a plan and profile showing the subsurface

conditions that underlie the subject structure/feature with the profile along the roadway

centerline. This is the principle layout that is to be provided for every structure/feature, but it

does not restrict additional plans on separate sheets that aid in depicting the

underlying geologic conditions. In some instances, a Section or Cross-section may be used in

lieu of a Profile.

Additional profiles offset from centerline or along structure alignments such as wall centerlines

or the sides of bridges may also be produced. Cross-sections may be used in place of, or to

supplement the profile for wide features or where complex geology exists. Sections may also be

drawn at skewed angles to the centerline where needed to best display subsurface conditions or

to show a specific element such as the principal axis of a landslide.

Geotechnical Data Sheets in the contract plans must be stamped by appropriate Professional of

Record (POR) in accordance with the Agency’s Stamping Policy.

**Proposal:**

Use active voice in GDM Section 20.5.3 to describe the layout of Geotechnical Datasheets for clear direction in the creation of Geotechnical Datasheets. Users should receive clear direction that Geotechnical Datasheets are mandatory for geotechnical projects. Expectations for the content of Geotechnical Datasheets should not be ambivalent.

20.5.3 Layout

Geotechnical Data Sheets can be arranged in multiple ways to depict subsurface conditions.

The minimal content to display on a Geotechnical Data Sheet is shows the subsurface

conditions underlying the subject structure/feature in plan and profile along the roadway

centerline. This is the principle layout to be provided for every structure/feature, but it

does not restrict additional drawings on separate sheets that aid in depicting the

underlying geologic conditions. In some instances, a Section or Cross-section may be used in

lieu of, or in addition to the Profile.

Additional profiles offset from centerline or along structure alignments such as wall centerlines

or the sides of bridges may also be produced. Cross-sections may be used in place of, or to

supplement the profile for wide features or where complex geology exists. Sections may also be

drawn at skewed angles to the centerline where needed to best display subsurface conditions or

to show a specific element such as the principal axis of a landslide.

Geotechnical Data Sheets in the contract plans must be stamped by appropriate Professional of

Record (POR) in accordance with the Agency’s Stamping Policy.

**Analysis / Research / Other Supporting Data:**

None

Attached:



**Geotechnical Engineering, Engineering Geology & HazMat Section Response:**

Accepted for consideration as submitted

Accepted for consideration as noted

Proposal tabled, see Remarks

Proposal not accepted, see Remarks

**Remarks:**

[Enter Remarks here]



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