Highway Division
Project Delivery Leadership Team
Operational Notice

PURPOSE:
The purpose of this notice is to provide guidelines to Project Teams developing projects with excess excavation materials.

BACKGROUND / RATIONALE:
Excess excavation materials on commission services construction contracts are being handled a number of ways within ODOT. This includes the following:

1. Identify prospective disposal (material waste) site(s) in the Plans and Special Provisions.
2. Identify mandatory disposal (material waste) site(s) in the Plans and Special Provisions. A mandatory disposal site will require a Letter of Public Interest Finding (LPIF).
3. Make excess material the property of the contractor in accordance with Standard Specifications for Highway Construction, Section 00330.41(a)(5), 00290.20(c)(2), and Geo-Environmental Section Directive GE 14-01(D).

Operational guidelines need to be put in place for Project Teams to identify how disposal of excess excavation materials are to be incorporated into the Plans and Special Provisions for a project.

OVERVIEW/DIRECTION:
On projects with excess excavation materials, look for disposal sites within ODOT right of way as a first option, ODOT owned or controlled sites as the second option, then other available public or private property. If the project involves more than 5,000 cubic yards of excess material and/or the project is located in an environmentally sensitive area, the Project Team shall consider identifying disposal site(s). If no ODOT sites are available, the project has less than 5,000 cubic yards of excess material, or the project is not located in an environmentally sensitive area, the contractor should be allowed to obtain disposal sites within the parameters of Standard Specifications for Highway Construction, Section 00330.41(a)(5).
During early project development, if project teams are considering offering prospective or mandatory disposal sites and viable site(s) are identified, a project environmental coordinator (ODOT or consultant) will perform an initial review of the potential disposal site(s). If the project team decides to move forward with offering a prospective or mandatory disposal site, then the project environmental coordinator will contact the appropriate specialists to perform the additional work to have the site(s) cleared for inclusion into the contract Plans and Special Provisions prior to PS&E.

1 An environmentally sensitive area has, or has the potential to contain, resources that should not be disturbed unless the proper regulatory and resource authorities have been conferred with. “Resources” in this context refers to threatened, endangered, or sensitive species of plants, animals, or their habitats; wetlands; waterways; archaeological sites; historic structures or sites; floodplains or floodways; and visual features.