

**STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**SPECIAL PROVISION
FOR
INFORMAL PARTNERING**

MAY 3, 2007

The South Dakota Department of Transportation desires to encourage the foundation of a cohesive informal partnership with the Contractor and its principal subcontractors. This partnership is intended to be structured to draw on the strengths of each organization to identify and achieve reciprocal goals. The objectives are effective and efficient contract performance, on schedule, and according to the plans and specifications.

This partnership will be bilateral in makeup, and participation will be voluntary. It is intended that the informal partnering be achieved through weekly meetings (or at another frequency considered more appropriate to achieve the partnering objectives for the project) with the Department project personnel, Contractor, and principal subcontractors. It is also recommended and intended that utility company and local government representatives be included in the informal partnering process as is considered necessary.

The Contractor shall set up the place and time and conduct the meetings with participation from the Engineer, subcontractor, and utility company representatives. The Contractor and Engineer should encourage participation and involvement from subcontractor, utility, and local government representatives.

The meeting forum is intended to improve communications, stay abreast of critical issues to all parties, and to effect a mutually respectful and professional working relationship with all effected parties. The Department is encouraging informal partnering as a method to facilitate the construction of a quality project in a timely manner while addressing project issues as they arise.

It is not anticipated that a full facilitation meeting with an independent consultant be required to initiate the informal partnering process. Therefore, it is not anticipated that there will be any direct costs associated with the initiation of the informal partnering process. The partnering process should begin at the preconstruction meeting and continue through the course of the project to completion.

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