



Illinois Department of Transportation

2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois / 62764

September 23, 2015

CIRCULAR LETTER 2015-15

LED LIGHTING ON STATE HIGHWAYS

COUNTY ENGINEERS / SUPERINTENDENTS OF HIGHWAYS
MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS / DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC WORKS / MAYORS
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS – DIRECTORS
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

The installation of roadway lighting on a state route requires department approval in accordance with BDE Manual 56-3.05(a). Some local public agencies are replacing existing roadway lighting with light emitting diode (LED) roadway luminaires for energy conservation without realizing they have different light distribution characteristics. The resulting roadway lighting may fail to light the roadway properly, which creates safety concerns.

Therefore, a review by the department of all proposed roadway lighting projects to convert from traditional light sources such as high pressure sodium (HPS) or metal halide (MH) to LED is required when on a state route. The review is necessary to ensure the proposed LED roadway lighting meets state roadway lighting guidelines as outlined in the BDE Manual, Chapter 56.

Local public agency lighting project plans are to be forwarded to the districts for review in accordance with BLRS Manual 11-2.01(c). Roadway lighting installed along state routes by permit shall be re-permitted for the new LED light source. Documents submitted for review shall consist of a complete information package in accordance with BDE Manual 56-4.03, which includes detailed information for the proposed LED fixture and a lighting design in AGi32 format.

If you have any questions regarding this Circular Letter, please contact the Local Policy and Technology Unit at (217) 782-5048 or DOT.LocalPolicy@illinois.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Salmon O. Danmole".

Salmon O. Danmole, P.E.
Acting Engineer of Local Roads and Streets

TP/tw