

Illinois Department of Transportation

2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois / 62764

February 19, 1999

Statewide Permits No. 2 and No. 12

County Engineers/Superintendent of Highways
Municipal Engineers/Director of Public Works
Consulting Engineers

#99-02

The Office of Water Resources (OWR) of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) recently revised Statewide Permits No. 2 and No. 12 that allow the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to approve preliminary bridge designs and hydraulic reports without coordination with IDNR to obtain an individual construction permit. Significant revisions to the permit and their effect on the processing of hydraulic reports are presented in this circular letter.

[Statewide Permit No. 2](#)

- Replacement projects for existing bridges or culverts that have been the source of demonstrable flood damage cannot be approved under the provisions of the statewide permit. (To document that this requirement has been addressed, flood damage that can be attributed to existing structures should be described in the Preliminary Bridge Design – Hydraulic Report form BLR 5901 submitted for a project.)

[Statewide Permit No.12](#)

- The provisions of the statewide permit do not apply to bridges located over “public waters” and the permit includes a listing of waterways that are designated as “Public Bodies of Water”. (Recent disruptions during construction of waterways designated for public use initiated the exclusion of bridges over public waters from the statewide permit.)
- The statewide permit has been revised to allow any “registered professional engineer” to determine, document and certify that the existing structure has not been the cause of demonstrable flood damage. (Previously, the certification could only be provided by IDOT and local agency officials. This revision is intended to expand the use of the statewide permit in the area of non-governmental projects.)

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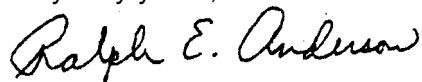
- The statewide permit now states that it is applicable to the widening of existing bridges. However, the permit may be applied to bridge widening projects only when the existing piers and the proposed pier extensions are aligned with the direction of the approaching flow upstream of the bridge. (The IDNR Office of Water Resources now requires that construction permits be obtained for widening projects and the permit was revised to reflect this requirement.)

Local agencies should continue to submit all hydraulic reports directly to the Department for projects that require approval by IDOT prior to letting. When preparing hydraulic reports for projects that may be approved by IDOT without coordination with OWR under the provisions of Statewide Permit No. 2 or No. 12, the permit certification statements provided in Circular Letter #95-13 should continue to be used. When preparing hydraulic reports for projects that require coordination with IDNR to obtain an individual permit, a completed copy of the Joint Application Form (NCR Form 426) should be included with the information submitted to the Department. Hydraulic reports that cannot be approved by IDOT under the provisions of the statewide permits will be forwarded by the Department to IDNR to obtain an individual construction permit. Although a project may not comply with all the provisions of the statewide permits, inclusion of the certification statements required by the statewide permits will expedite the review of the project by the IDNR Office of Water Resources.

The revision of the statewide permits will affect the review time for bridges replacing existing structures that have been the cause of flood damage and for bridges over public waters. The review of other projects should not be affected by the statewide permit revisions. A revised copy of Statewide Permit No. 2 and No. 12 is attached. IDNR is in the process of revising or updating all their statewide permits. Information on the status of other statewide permits can be obtained by contacting the Office of Water Resources' Downstate Regulatory Programs Section in Springfield at 217/782-3863 or the Northeastern Illinois Regulatory Programs Section in Schaumburg at 847/705-4341. A list of active downstate Illinois statewide permits showing original dates of issue and last revisions dates has been attached for your information.

If you have any questions, please contact John Morris at 217/782-5928 or Tom Cartmel at 217/782-5929.

Very truly yours,



Ralph E. Anderson
Engineer of Bridges and Structures