DATE: July 23, 2010

TO: Region Engineers
Region Delivery Engineers
TSC Managers
Resident/Project Engineers
Region Construction Engineers
Region/TSC Development Engineers

FROM: Gregory C. Johnson
Chief Operations Officer

John C. Friend
Engineer of Delivery

SUBJECT: Bureau of Highway Instructional Memorandum 2010-04
Weight Limit Waivers

Protecting state highways from premature deterioration is an important responsibility of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). MDOT continues to partner with the Michigan State Police (MSP) in regard to commercial vehicle enforcement. As MDOT and MSP work to provide positive improvements for the motoring public in the areas of commercial vehicle safety and size regulation, your assistance in managing construction project equipment traveling on Michigan roadways is requested.

Please be advised that it is not appropriate to issue overweight or oversize waivers for construction vehicles or equipment. MDOT does not have the legal authority to issue such waivers. In some circumstances, when citations are issued by the MSP or local authorities, contractors have made requests for weight limit waivers to MDOT project staff, and the contractors have made it appear as though these requests are typically granted for all MDOT projects. If waivers were issued in the past by MDOT personnel, they were illegal.

When operating overweight or oversize vehicles including construction equipment, on roadways, structures, or portions of roadways that are open to traffic, the contractor must adhere to all state laws and the Michigan Vehicle Code. When operating vehicles or construction equipment on pavements and structures that are closed to traffic within work zones, the contractor must follow the requirements described in Subsection 104.11 of the Standard Specifications for Construction.

If you have any permitting questions, please contact Robert Whaley, Real Estate Division’s Utilities and Permits Engineer, at 517-373-7682 or WhaleyR@michigan.gov. If you have any questions about construction equipment on pavements or structures closed to traffic while
undergoing construction, please contact Chad Rajala, Construction Contracts Engineer, at 517-322-6630 or rjalac@michigan.gov.

Chief Operations Officer

BOH-DEL:DO:JWR:JG:ksk

Subject Index: Permits

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