

ENGINEERING GUIDANCE 98-04

SUBJECT: Errors and Omissions on AIP Projects

PURPOSE: There is a need for a uniform approach when mistakes are made on AIP projects and additional costs are incurred. Besides treating sponsors fairly and uniformly, the FAA has the responsibility to determine that all costs claimed by a sponsor are reasonable and necessary. This guidance is for occurrence of errors or omissions in the plans and specifications and increased construction costs result.

CANCELLATION: This Engineering Guidance replaces Safety & Standards Guidance No. 94-01, dated November 19, 1993.

DISCUSSION: Errors are defined as mistakes or inaccuracies in the plans and specifications. Examples include applying the wrong standard, incorrect calculation, or specifying the wrong size item. Omissions are defined as failure to incorporate all needed items. Examples include omitting an element of a standard, omitting an element of a useable unit or oversight of field conditions.

GUIDANCE: When errors or omissions occur, the FAA should not participate in the added costs if two conditions exist:

1. The error or omission must be clearly due to the engineer's oversight, such as an inappropriate use of FAA standards, building codes, fire codes, etc. It may also be the result of a field condition that was readily apparent, such as manholes, catch basins, or overhead power lines, but which was overlooked by the engineer. In those cases where a proposed modification is not approved, FAA's involvement should be carefully reviewed to determine who was responsible for the work proceeding.

2. The mistake must cause the cost to increase above the amount considered necessary had the project been correctly designed in the first place. For example, an omitted regulator would usually not add cost above that necessary for an original correct design. Catching improper setbacks before construction begins would also not add costs. However, if grading had started in one area and had to be abandoned, the cost of wasted grading would not be eligible. In any case, if the mistake causes unit prices to increase, that increase would not be eligible.

APPROVAL: _____ signed _____
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