

# Design Standards Letter

**Letter Number: G-2001-04**

**Letter Date: 02/27/2001**

**Effective Date: 02/27/2001**

**Section/Plan No.: None**

**Subject: Working Day Count for Signals and Lighting**

## Body

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It has been brought to our attention that contractors have been experiencing problems getting signal and lighting poles delivered within 90 calendar days as currently allowed for in DSP-90-05A.

Inquiries with the two major pole suppliers for Missouri, Union Metal and Valmont, revealed that fabrication and delivery could be as long as 24 weeks. Union Metal is experiencing a 22 - 24 week delivery time. They expect to remain at 24 weeks until May, when new production equipment catches up with demand. Union Metal hopes to decrease this time to 16 - 18 weeks, but do not expect being able to reduce this time frame any further. Valmont is taking 10 - 12 weeks for poles 13 inches or less in diameter and 14 - 20 weeks for poles 14 inches in diameter and larger. Whichever company is supplying the poles, it doesn't appear that either will be able to meet the current allotted time.

While this may not affect large projects, those projects in which signals and lighting are the major work items will be affected by this delay. To allow for delays in the delivery of poles, DSP-90-05A has now been replaced with DSP-90-05B, which extends the 90 calendar-day period by 14 days, to allow a total of 104 calendar days.

For construction field personnel, it is suggested that an extension of time may be warranted for jobs that have already been awarded through the letting process which contain signal and lighting work items. For current projects, an extension should only be granted if the final completion of the project is directly affected by the late delivery of the poles from the manufacturer. When warranted, this extension should be treated as an "excusable or noncompensable delay" in accordance with Sec 108.14 of the Missouri Standard Specifications.

For designers, we wish to draw attention to the change in scheduling so that this time extension can be taken into consideration when computing working days or completion dates for projects containing signal and lighting work items. Effective for the June bid opening, all applicable jobs let after this date should include DSP-90-05B within the contracts to incorporate the new time allowances.

For the above reasons, it is recommended the districts schedule projects that are time-dependent upon the installation of signal and lighting poles for letting as early as possible prior to the construction season.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kirsten Munck at (573) 526-2919 or Pat McDaniel at (573) 526-2903.

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