

Dear

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is requiring all states to have traffic control devices in a work zone to be crashworthy and to qualify these devices under testing and acceptance guidelines of the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) Report 350. The work zone devices have been classified into 4 categories. Following is a list of the categories with examples (not inclusive) of devices in each category and the date the category has to be in compliance:

Category 1	traffic cones, single piece drums, tubular markers, delineators	Oct. 1, 1998
Category 2	barricades, portable sign supports, (items under 45 kg)	Oct. 1, 2000
Category 3	truck mounted attenuators, impact attenuators, longitudinal barrier	Oct. 1, 2002
Category 4	flashing arrow panels, changeable message boards, temporary signals	Date will be set by Oct.1, 2000

The purpose of this letter is to discuss how the State of Kansas will phase in the devices in Category 2. FHWA allows in their requirements that “agencies can phase out existing devices as they complete their normal service life.” Therefore, KDOT met with representatives from Missouri DOT, Iowa DOT, Nebraska DOR, and representatives from the respective states’ AGC and ATSSA organizations to develop a consistent policy concerning phasing out noncompliant Category 2 devices. Following is the resulting policy:

All new Category 2 devices purchased after October 1, 2000 shall be NCHRP 350 compliant. By January 1, 2002 all Category 2 devices shall be NCHRP 350 compliant. Previously let projects will be grandfathered in. Any projects under contract after January 1, 2002 will be at the individual states’ discretion as to whether the devices are changed- ordered to 350 compliance or if previously used devices will be allowed. The contractors will certify that all devices purchased after October 1, 2000 are compliant.

I realize the above dates are off in the future, however we wanted to provide enough time for planning future purchases or for manufacturing compliant devices.

If you have any questions please call Mike Crow or Lee Roadifer at 785-296-3618.