Sediment Basin Design Guidance Revisions

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Overview

- Background
- Proposed Programmatic Changes
- Proposed Structural Changes
- Discussion





Background



Background

- Recent sediment basin issues prompted investigation into causes and solution
- Some basins not constructed per plan
- Mass grading has occurred before adequate basin volume is available
- Properly constructed basins still prone to high sediment concentrations in outflow
- Design guidance needs to be modernized



Background





Properly Constructed Basin





Properly Constructed Basin





Sediment Basin Effluent





Sediment Basin Effluent





Sediment Basin Effluent







Current Detail



Proposed Programmatic Changes



Proposed Programmatic Changes

- Require Preliminary EPSC plan (PEPSC) prior to full construction approval
- Require side slope stabilization on construction detail
- Eliminate low flow orifice as dewatering mechanism; replace with skimmer
- Transition sediment basin design guidance from Exhibit to Standard Drawing





PEPSC Plan Background/Needs Statement

- In early stages, developments can reach full disturbance very quickly
- Contractors are often not highly involved in formulation of clearing/grading plans-additional involvement should be solicited
- PEPSC Plan would allow for MSD to implement additional oversight over sediment basin design





Proposed Structural Changes



Proposed Structural Changes – Skimmers

- Skimmers draw from top of water where only finest sediment particles are
- Slow, consistent outflow promotes further settling
- Skimmers are industry standard





Skimmers





Proposed Structural Changes – Forebays and Porous Baffles

- Forebays help spread out concentrated flow and trap heaviest particles and trash
- Porous baffles help reduce turbulence promoting sedimentation





Proposed Design Standards

- Basins must still meet 80% TSS removal efficiency for 10yr, 24-hr storm
- Outflow through three spillway devices:
 - Primary Riser (10-yr, 24-hr WSE at 6" max above riser)
 - Floating Skimmer (drain within 48 hrs)
 - Emergency Spillway (pass 100 yr, 24 hr storm)





Proposed Standard Drawing - Layout



5. Anti-seep collars should be fitted on all penetrations through the embankment/dam.

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Proposed Standard Drawing - Section



Challenges

- Sediment basins will hold water longer
 - Standing water of 6-12" likely in sediment basins at all times.
 - Contractor will either need to drain with sediment bag or treat with Mosquito tablets
- Increased upfront cost for skimmer
 - \$3000-\$5000 range for reuseable proprietary product
 - Could allow custom fabrication but would need engineered design
- Basin size and layout constrained by overall development



Questions

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