

**PART R10**  
**CONSTRUCTION OF EARTHWORKS**

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**1. GENERAL**

- .1 This Part specifies the requirements for the construction of earthworks, including proof rolling, treatment of unsuitable material, excavation, the construction of fill, verges, levees, catch drains and earth side drains / swales.
- .2 Any information known to the Principal regarding the condition or nature of the existing ground, including existing pavements, will be included in report(s) of investigation and/or the Contract Specific Requirements.
- .3 The Contractor shall construct earthworks in accordance with the drawings and the Contract Specific Requirements.
- .4 This Part references the following documents:
  - .1 Part L02 Earthworks and Topsoiling.
  - .2 Part L03 Erosion Control Matting.
  - .3 Part L20 Hydroseeding.
  - .4 Part L21 Direct Seeding.
  - .5 Part L65 Maintenance of Hydroseeded and Direct Seeded Areas.
  - .6 Part L21 Direct Seeding.
  - .7 Part L65 Maintenance of Hydroseeded and Direct Seeded Areas.

**2. QUALITY REQUIREMENTS**

- .1 The Contractor shall prepare and implement an Earthworks Management Plan that includes (where appropriate):
  - (a) calculations of earthworks quantities (in cubic metres solid) and mass – haul diagram;
  - (b) assumed Bulking Factors;
  - (c) table showing the estimated quantities of material excavated from the site, imported and spoiled;
  - (d) nominated dump site;
  - (e) overview of plant proposed to be used;
  - (f) cross reference to Inspection and Test Plans;
  - (g) methodology for managing any industrial by-products or recycled material used as fill;
  - (h) methodology for placement and compaction of material (including management of moisture content), particularly for General Fill, Oversize Material and Type D Material; and
  - (i) details of proposed haulage routes and copy of agreement with Council.
- .2 If not submitted previously, the Earthworks Management Plan shall be submitted at least 28 days prior to the commencement of site work.
- .3 Provision of the Earthworks Management Plan shall constitute a **HOLD POINT**.

### 3. MATERIALS FOR EARTHWORKS

#### Material Classification

- .1 Subject to Clause 3.3 "Unsuitable Material", material is classified in accordance with Table 3.1.

TABLE 3.1 MATERIAL CLASSIFICATION						
Classification	A	B	C	General Fill (GF)	Oversize	D
Material Type	Sand-clay, Sand, Rubble, Quarry or Pit overburden or by-product	Sand-clay, Sand, Rubble, Quarry or Pit overburden or by-product	Sand-clay Sand, Clay, Rubble, Quarry or Pit overburden or by-product	Refer to <b>Contract Specific Requirements</b>	Refer Note (c) below.	Other material
Max. Particle Size (mm)	75	106	150	150	500	500
Particle Size Distribution (% passing)				Refer to <b>Contract Specific Requirements</b>		
75	100	-	-		-	-
37.5	80-100	80-100	80-100		<20	-
0.075	0-25	0-35	0-35		-	-
Max. Plasticity Index	12	15	-		-	-
Max. Linear Shrinkage	6	7	-	-	-	
Max. Weighted Plasticity Index <sup>(1)</sup>	1 000	1 200	1 500	-	-	
Shrink Swell Index I <sub>ss</sub> (%)	0.4	0.7	1.1	-	-	
Mica, shale and similar laminated materials <sup>(3)</sup>	Not permitted	Not permitted	Not permitted	Not permitted	Not permitted	Permitted

#### Notes:

- The Weighted Plasticity Index (WPI) is defined as the value of the plasticity index (PI) times the % passing the 425 micron sieve. The Contractor shall provide the calculations to verify the WPI.
- Mica, shale and similar laminated materials, adherent coatings or other foreign material shall not be present in form or sufficient quantity to produce adverse effect upon the usage and performance of the material.
- Oversize Material does not meet Type A, B or C criteria, but is capable of being compacted in accordance with Table 9.3 "Compaction of Oversize Material".
- Organic material shall not be present in structural fill.

#### Industrial By-products or Recycled Material

- The use of industrial by-products or recycled material is conditional upon the Contractor providing evidence that the material will not cause any detrimental environmental effects and that it complies with Clause R15.6 "Recycled Materials".
- Provision of this evidence and any associated procedures shall constitute a **HOLD POINT**.
- If existing asphalt or stabilised pavement is to be recycled insitu, the maximum particle size shall not exceed 75 mm. The method of breaking the material down and the method of compaction shall be addressed in the Earthworks Management Plan.

**Unsuitable Material**

- .5 "Unsuitable Material" is defined as material which is unsuitable for the support of pavement or layers of fill. It includes material which:
- (a) exhibits deformation, rutting, softness, yielding, distress or instability under proof rolling or the loading from any construction machinery;
  - (b) contains topsoil, peat or any organic material;
  - (c) contains soluble material such as gypsum or salt rock, or
  - (d) is susceptible to scouring and/or is classified as Emerson Class number 1 or 2.

**4. SITE PREPARATION****General**

- .1 This Clause specifies the requirements for preparation of the site prior to the commencement of construction, which may include demolition of existing structures, clearing and grubbing and stripping of topsoil.
- .2 Site preparation shall be restricted to the minimum area practicable and shall not take place outside the area defined by the plan area of the Works ("Footprint") and an additional 1.0 m beyond the Footprint. Clearing and grubbing and stripping of topsoil shall not take place more than 14 days prior to earthworks commencing.

**Clearing and Grubbing**

- .3 All vegetation shall be removed in accordance with Part CH50 "Environmental Protection Issues". Loose material, rubbish and existing structures (including fences, retaining walls, concrete slabs, service pits, tree stumps, kerbing, abandoned services and obsolete underground drainage lines) within the zone of earthworks construction defined in Clause 4.1 "General" shall be removed to a depth of not less than 300 mm below the:
- (a) subgrade level and batters in areas of cut; and
  - (b) stripped surface in areas of fill.
- .4 Unless specified otherwise, grubbed holes (and any area requiring filling due to the removal of a structure) shall be backfilled with Type A Material compacted in accordance with Clause 14 "Verification Requirements". Refer to Part CH50 "Environmental Protection Issues" for requirements relating to the removal of cleared, grubbed and demolished materials.

**Topsoil Stripping and Management of Topsoil**

- .5 The Contractor shall strip any topsoil present within the Footprint in accordance with Part L02. Unless specified otherwise, the depth of stripping shall be 100 mm and the topsoil shall be windrowed or stockpiled prior to respreading on completed batter slopes.

**5. PROOF ROLLING**

- .1 Proof rolling is the process of identifying any unsuitable material by moving heavy plant over the subgrade or existing surface and observing the resultant deformation in the underlying material. Material which is observed to move under the loading of the plant is deemed to be Unsuitable Material.
- .2 Proof rolling shall:
- (c) in fill, cover all of the existing underlying material which will be covered by fill;
  - (a) in cut, cover all of the formation;
  - (b) be carried out as soon as practicable, and in any case not later than 2 days, after topsoil stripping / clearing and grubbing (in areas of fill) or completion of the formation (in areas of cut);
  - (c) where soft ground conditions are present, be carried out after ground improvement processes (e.g. placement of geogrid, ballast and / or working platforms) have been completed; and
  - (d) be undertaken prior to any hauling over the prepared area.
- .3 The plant shall move at walking pace (between 3 and 10 km/h) when undertaking proof rolling.

- .4 Except for small areas, proof rolling shall be undertaken by a minimum of 3 passes of heavy plant which complies with the following:
  - (a) a pneumatic multi-wheel roller with a mass > 24t; or
  - (b) a fully loaded tandem truck or water cart of minimum 10 kl capacity which:
    - i) has ground contact pressure under either the front or rear wheels of not less than 450 kPa per tyre;
    - ii) has a ground contact area which is not less than 0.035 m<sup>2</sup> per tyre, and
    - iii) follows a rolling pattern that ensures the entire ground surface is subject to the specified number of passes.
- .5 In small areas where the above plant will not fit, at least 6 passes of the heaviest plant practicable shall be used for proof rolling. A leg rammer may be used, but a plate compactor is not acceptable.
- .6 For the purposes of this clause, “pass” means the movement of the plant in a single direction. If the observation of deformation is inconclusive or the extent of unsuitable material is unclear, additional passes shall be undertaken until a determination regarding the suitability of the material can be made.
- .7 The Contractor shall ensure that plant complying with the above requirements is on site during all earthworks, fill, subgrade and pavement operations. If payment for proof rolling is to be made at Daywork rates, separate payment will not be made for the transportation of the plant around the site. Proof rolling shall not be carried out over any Utility Services without prior notification to the Utility Service Authority.

**6. EXCAVATION**

**General**

- .1 Where excavation is carried out adjacent to existing sealed pavements, saw cutting or planing shall be carried out to the depth of the existing pavement/asphalt. Excavation by cold planing shall be carried out in accordance with Part R30 Cold Planing.

**Classification of Rock**

- .2 This sub-clause only applies where the Contractor is entitled to additional payment for rock excavation under the terms of this Contract. Material is deemed to be rock if the production rate specified in Table 6.2 cannot be achieved.

<b>TABLE 6.2 ROCK CLASSIFICATION</b>	
<b>PLANT</b> (Refer CCF Plant Specs)	<b>EXCAVATION RATE</b> <b>cubic metres (loose) per hour</b>
Class 20 Excavator	30
Class 20 Dozer - Crawler	150
Class 60 Excavator	120

- .3 The machine employed shall be in good condition, with matching heavy duty, single tyne ripper or rock bucket fitted with rippers and operated by an experienced operator.
- .4 If the Contractor considers that rock has been encountered and seeks payment pursuant to this subclause, a **HOLD POINT** shall apply.

**7. PREPARATION OF THE EXISTING SURFACE UNDER FILL AND THE SUBGRADE IN CUT**

**General**

- .1 This Clause applies at the completion of clearing and grubbing and topsoil stripping in accordance with Clause 4 “Site Preparation” in areas of fill and at the completion of excavation in cuts.

**Assessment and Treatment of Existing Material**

- .2 Prior to the placement of fill or pavement, the Contractor shall arrange for a Joint Inspection of the ground surface for the purpose of identifying unsuitable material.
- .3 Provision of the notice shall constitute a **HOLD POINT**.

- .4 The assessment will be undertaken in the form of a visual assessment and by proof rolling of the areas of ground surface in accordance with Clause 5 "Proof Rolling". The Contractor shall trim these areas prior to proof rolling. For the purpose of undertaking proof rolling in areas of cut, the Contractor may elect to excavate and trim the earthworks to within 50 mm of the final subgrade level before undertaking the final trim.
- .5 Prior to placing fill or pavement, any unsuitable material identified shall be
  - (a) removed and replaced with suitable compacted material; and/or
  - (b) or treated (e.g. by installing geotextile or stabilising the material),
 to make the subgrade fit for its intended purpose.
- .6 If the lowest layer of fill is of a thickness less than 150 mm, the existing surface shall be trimmed to a level such that the lowest layer of fill is at least 150 mm thick.
- .7 Where the material underlying a fill is either existing pavement or the existing formation of an unsealed road, the area shall be scarified and Type A Material placed such that the thickness of loose material is not less than 150 mm, prior to compaction in accordance with Clause 9 "Fill Construction".
- .8 Following Proof Rolling and/or treatment in accordance with this Clause, the Contractor shall ensure that water does not pond on the surface and the earthworks material properties do not deteriorate.

**8. GEOTEXTILES**

**General**

- .1 This Clause applies where the earthworks design incorporates geotextile for the purpose of filtration, drainage or separation. Geotextiles shall be supplied in accordance with in Part R85 Supply of Geotextiles and shall be placed in accordance with the Manufacturer's Instructions, unless amended by this Clause.

**Site Preparation over Soft Soils**

- .2 The site shall be prepared by clearing and grading the area required. All sharp objects and large stones shall be removed. If the earthworks design specifies that site preparation in accordance with Clause 4 "Site Preparation" is not required, the topsoil and vegetation mat may remain with any trees and shrubs cut flush with the ground surface.
- .3 Geotextiles shall be placed without puncture or tears ahead of associated construction works and be covered by relevant construction materials or suitable protective sheeting within 48 hours of placement. Geotextiles used in trench drains shall be placed so as to conform loosely to the shape of the trenches. The geotextile shall fully envelop the drainage material in the trench.

**Initial Layer Thickness Requirements for Separation Applications**

- .4 The minimum required initial layer thickness for fill material placed directly over the geotextile shall meet the requirements specified in Table 8.3.

<b>TABLE 8.3 – MINIMUM INITIAL LAYER THICKNESS</b>	
<b>Nominal Maximum Fill Particle Size D<sub>85</sub> (mm)</b>	<b>Minimum Initial Layer Thickness (mm)</b>
< 150	The larger of 3 times Maximum Fill Particle Size or 200 mm minimum.
150 – 225	450 mm.
225 – 400	Two times Maximum Fill Particle Size.

**Joining**

- .5 Joining of geotextiles shall be by overlap or by sewing. Unless otherwise specified, the minimum overlap shall be 500 mm. Where the geotextile is used for drainage blankets the encapsulated overlap shall be one metre unless otherwise specified. As an alternative to overlapping, sewing of seams is permitted. Sewing of joins shall comply with the following:
  - (a) Seam Type: J seam or double J seam.
  - (b) Stitch Type: Double thread lock stitch. Two lines of stitching shall be used.

- (c) Thread Type: Polyester thread 300 tex (minimum).
- .6 If it is necessary to measure geotextile for payment purposes, the measurement shall be based on the final surface area covered, with no allowance for any overlaps

**Filling over Installed Geotextile**

- .7 Construction equipment shall not stand or travel directly on the laid geotextile. A minimum cover of 200 mm (uncompacted) of cover material shall be placed over the geotextile prior to construction equipment travelling over the area concerned. Rock armour placed directly on geotextile shall be placed with a drop height not exceeding 1.5 m.
- .8 The mechanical equipment shall be selected and operated so as not to cause rupture of the geotextile. Vibratory and heavy compaction plant shall not be used on the initial lifts of filling material.

**9. FILL CONSTRUCTION**

**General**

- .1 Type A Material shall be used within 0.5 m of the underside of the pavement.
- .2 Fill material shall be placed and compacted uniformly in layers in accordance with Table 9.1:

<b>TABLE 9.1 – FILL CONSTRUCTION</b>			
<b>Maximum Particle Size of Fill Material (mm)</b>	<b>Layer Thickness (mm loose)</b>	<b>Compaction</b>	<b>Moisture Content when Compacted</b>
150 or less: Types A, B and C	150 to 200	In accordance with Clause 14 "Verification Requirements and Records".	OMC ± 2%
150 or less: General Purpose	150 to 200	In accordance with the <b>Contract Specific Requirements.</b>	In accordance with the <b>Contract Specific Requirements.</b>
> 150	Minimum layer thickness of one and a half times the maximum particle size, or 300 mm, whichever is greater.	In accordance Table 9.2 "Compaction of Oversize Material"	In accordance with the Earthworks Management Plan.

**Placement of Oversize Material**

- .3 Material with a maximum particle size of 150 mm or more shall:
  - (a) not be placed within 150 mm of the underside of the pavement;
  - (b) have the top surface of the material blinded with Type A or B Material to fill surface voids before the placement of subsequent layers; and
  - (c) be compacted using of vibrating drum rollers in accordance with Table 9.2 "Compaction of Oversize Material".

<b>TABLE 9.2      COMPACTION OF OVERSIZE MATERIAL</b>		
<b>Minimum Roller Classification* (Refer CCF Plant Specs)</b>	<b>Maximum Layer Thickness</b>	<b>Minimum Number of Passes</b>
Class 5	300	6
Class 10	500	6
Class 12.5	750	6

\*the minimum static mass on the vibrating drum shall be 4.5 tonnes.

**Placement of General Fill**

- .4 General Fill shall be placed and compacted in accordance with the requirements specified in the **Contract Specific Requirements**. Compaction of General Fill shall be determined by Standard Compaction in accordance with AS 1289.5.1.1.

**Placement of Type D Fill**

- .5 Where the use of Type D materials is permitted, it shall be placed and compacted in accordance with the Earthworks Management Plan to achieve a stable fill.

**Miscellaneous**

- .6 Where new embankment fill is to be placed against an existing surface which is steeper than 3 horizontal to 1 vertical, benching shall be carried out to allow placement of fill in layers. The width of benches shall be 1 m minimum.
- .7 The Contractor shall maximise the usage of suitable material excavated from the site, which may involve double handling, to minimise the requirement for imported fill.
- .8 Any noise mounds shall not contain material with a particle size greater than 150 mm and shall contain more than 20% finer than 0.075 mm particle size. Notwithstanding Sub-Clause 9.1 "General", fill in noise mounds may be compacted in layers up to 300 mm loose depth.

**10. COMPLETED SURFACE OF THE SUBGRADE AND BATTERS**

- .1 The levels of points not detailed on the drawings shall be determined by linear interpolation. The surface shall be constructed to within the tolerances specified in Clause 14 "Verification Requirements and Records" at all interpolated and discrete points.
- .2 Lines, grades, cross-sections, levels, dimensions and tolerances specified in the Contract documents do not include an allowance for a layer of topsoil.
- .3 Notwithstanding the batter interfaces described by the interface string information, batters shall be constructed to the slopes shown on the drawings. The slope of all batters shall be even and consistent from top to bottom and free from abrupt changes in level. Tops of batters shall be rounded over the width shown on the drawings to reduce erosion
- .4 The Contractor shall ensure that subgrade has a tight dense surface and does not deteriorate after proof rolling or verification testing. Completed sections of subgrade shall be maintained in a well drained condition.
- .5 Where the subgrade occurs in rock, the excavated surface shall be blinded with subbase material and graded, shaped and compacted to produce a tight dense surface.

**11. TREATMENT OF THE CONSTRUCTED SURFACE****General**

- .1 For the purpose of this clause only "Constructed Surface" means any location within the Site where the ground surface is disturbed or altered, excluding a hard surface such as pavement, footpath, compacted rubble or exposed bedrock.
- .2 The Contractor shall:
  - (a) apply the treatment specified in the Contract Specific Requirements to the Constructed Surface; and
  - (b) comply with this clause until Completion.
- .3 Material placed near the surface of batters (including imported topsoil) shall exhibit sufficient plasticity such that:
  - (a) the surface is highly resistant to surface scour and erosion;
  - (b) in cuts, any material which becomes detached is prevented from reaching the road shoulder; and
  - (c) there is no undermining or destabilisation of any existing batter slopes or structures.
- .4 The Contractor shall repair any surface scour and erosion that occurs prior to the establishment of permanent or temporary stabilisation or revegetation.

**Cut-off Drains**

- .5 Cut off drains are not to be constructed unless specified on the drawings. If specified, open trench "V" drains shall be constructed and maintained on the top of batters for the full length of the cutting prior to commencement of excavation in cuttings.

**Spreading of Topsoil**

- .6 Topsoil shall be spread on all of the Constructed Surface. The layer thickness shall be as uniform as practicable and the surface of the topsoil after spreading shall be free of lumps greater than 50 mm maximum dimension.
- .7 Any remaining topsoil stockpiles shall be rounded off with batters of maximum slope of 6 horizontal to 1 vertical. All topsoil won from the works shall be used before any topsoil is imported.

**Weed Control**

- .8 The Contractor is responsible for the control of all declared and environmental weeds on the Constructed Surface. Weed control shall be undertaken in accordance with Part L02. The Contractor is responsible for determining the details of the slashing frequency and/or herbicide application (including chemical used and application rate).

**Surface Treatment**

- .9 If details of the treatment of the Constructed Surface are not provided, the Contractor is responsible for determining all details necessary for ensuring that the treatment is successful for the design life of the treatment, such as the method seedbed preparation / sowing and fertiliser application.
- .10 Provision of these details shall constitute a **HOLD POINT**.
- .11 Treatments applied to the Constructed Surface shall comply with the following:
- .1 Part L03 Erosion Control Matting.
  - .2 Part L20 Hydroseeding.
  - .3 Part L21 Direct Seeding.
  - .4 Part L65 Maintenance of Hydroseeded and Direct Seeded Areas.
  - .5 Where vegetation from the works has been mulched and is suitable for use on the earthworks in accordance with the Environmental Management Plan, the mulch shall be spread at an even thickness over the specified area.
  - .6 Part L21 Direct Seeding.
  - .7 Part L65 Maintenance of Hydroseeded and Direct Seeded Areas.
  - .8 Where vegetation from the works has been mulched and is suitable for use on the earthworks in accordance with the Environmental Management Plan, the mulch shall be spread at an even thickness over the specified area.

**12. TEST PROCEDURES**

- .1 The Contractor shall use the following test procedures (refer [http://www.dpti.sa.gov.au/contractor\\_documents](http://www.dpti.sa.gov.au/contractor_documents)) to verify conformance with the Specification:

TEST		TEST PROCEDURE
Sampling of Soil, Aggregates and Rocks		TP 226
Preparation of Samples		AS 1289.1
Site Selection by Stratified Random Technique		AS 1289.1.4.2
Field Density:	Nuclear Method	AS 1289.5.8.1
Moisture Content:	Oven Drying Method	AS 1289.2.1.1
	Microwave Method	AS 1289.2.1.4
Maximum Dry Density:	Standard Compaction*	AS 1289.5.1.1
	Modified Compaction	AS 1289.5.2.1
	Three Point Method	TP 164



TEST	TEST PROCEDURE
Dry Density Ratio	TP 320
Emerson Class	AS 1289.3.8.1
Particle Size Distribution	TP 134
Plasticity Index	TP 141
Linear Shrinkage	AS 1289.3.4.1
Shrink Swell	AS 1289.7.1

\* Used for General Fill only.

### 13. HOLD POINTS

.1 The following is a summary of Hold Points referenced in this Part:

CLAUSE REF.	HOLD POINT	RESPONSE TIME
2.	Earthworks Management Plan	5 working days
3.3	Proposed use of industrial by-products or recycled material as fill	2 working days
6.4	Notification that rock has been encountered	1 working day
7.3	Notice prior to a Joint Inspection of existing material	1 working day
10.10	Provision of earthworks surface treatment details	2 working days

**14. VERIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND RECORDS**

.1 The Contractor shall supply written verification that the following requirements have been complied with and supply the verification with the lot package.

CLAUSE REF.	SUBJECT	PROPERTY	TEST PROCEDURE	TEST FREQUENCY	ACCEPTANCE LIMITS
3.1.	Fill Material Properties	Grading	TP 134 AS 1152	One test per lot	Refer Table 3.1
		Plasticity Index	TP 141	One test per lot	Refer Table 3.1
		Linear Shrinkage	AS 1289.3.4.1	One test per lot	Refer Table 3.1
		Emerson class number	AS 1289.3.8.1	One test per day's production	Classified as Emerson Class number 3 or better
		Weighted Plasticity Index	Refer Clause 4	One test per lot	Refer Table 3.1
8, 9, 10, 11	Earthworks levels and position	Variation in subgrade level:	As specified in Part CH30	As specified in Part CH30	Within + 0, - 40 mm of design level
		Variation in lateral position:	As specified in Part CH30	As specified in Part CH30	Within $\pm$ 50 mm of design level
		Variation of reduced levels of fill batters:	As specified in Part CH30	As specified in Part CH30	Within $\pm$ 75 mm of design level
		Variation of reduced levels of open drains:	As specified in Part CH30	As specified in Part CH30	Within $\pm$ 50 mm mm of design level with the proviso that, notwithstanding tolerances, open drains shall be self-draining.
9	Earthworks Compaction	Type A Material in top 150 mm of fill	TP 320	1 test per 500 square metres with a minimum of 4 tests per lot*.	Compaction: Not less than 95% Modified Moisture Content: OMC $\pm$ 2%
		Type A Material other than in top 150 mm of fill	TP 320	1 test per 400 cubic metres or part thereof with a minimum of 4 tests per lot*.	Compaction: Not less than 92% Modified Moisture Content: OMC $\pm$ 2%
		Type B & C Material	TP 320	1 test per 400 cubic metres of compacted material or part thereof with a minimum of 4 tests per lot*.	Compaction: Not less than 90% Modified Moisture Content: OMC $\pm$ 2%
		General Fill	TP 320	1 test per 400 cubic metres of compacted material or part thereof with a minimum of 4 tests per lot*	Refer Contract Specific Requirements

\* Every layer shall be tested