

# **Northland Constructors**

## **of Duluth, LLC**

September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Serial Letter 4465.014

Mr. Brett Cahoon  
Kraus-Anderson Construction Co.  
3716 Oneota Street  
Duluth, MN 55807

Re: Duluth Int'l Airport, Passenger Terminal Building (Civil Site Work  
FAA AIP 3-27-0024-48-10, RS&H Job No 213.1882.091

Subject: Work Scope, Lean-mix Concrete

Dear Mr. Cahoon:

It has come to our attention that there will be some over excavation required at the direction of the geotechnical engineer, to reach "native" soils for the footing excavation. Northland Constructors (NC) is under contract for Work Scope 2.10 – Civil and Site Electrical work. In this work scope, division R, Building Earthwork is part of our contract and is described in specification section 02220. In that specification, 3.4 part E, line 4 "Additional Excavation" is described as any removal of unsuitable beyond one foot in depth will be paid as a change to original contract work. Any excavation beyond this one foot envelop should be paid as an extra.

Further in section 02220, 3.5, line 1, it describes the need for building footing to be placed on "undisturbed native soils or lean-mix concrete over undisturbed native soils," the mere mention of lean-mix concrete in this description does not place the responsibility of lean-mix concrete in our scope of work. This section also refers to the slab and footing in the description, but clearly those items are not in our work scope either. Concrete scope of work is described in Work Scope 3.10 Structural Concrete, Sections 03100-03300, concrete formwork, concrete reinforcement, and cast in-place concrete. Although there is no mention of lean-mix concrete in this work scope, clearly this work scope refers to the placement of structural concrete for the building. The omission of lean-mix concrete in the scope of work does not place the responsibility in NC's scope of work. Structural concrete is not in our work scope and NC does not plan on placing this, unless it is a change condition to our contract.

I would also point out that there is a conflict between the plans, specifications, and geotechnical report, in regard to the use of lean-mix concrete. In the plans and section 02220 it shows lean-mix concrete on undisturbed soil, but in the recommendations of the geotechnical report under building foundation support, it states that footings shall be placed on native soil or engineered fill placed directly over native soils, with no mention of lean-mix concrete.

Whatever the decision is regarding use of lean-mix concrete or engineered fill, NC believes that the contract documents clearly state excavation beyond the one foot envelop to be extra work, including the backfill. We also believe that whether the lean concrete is placed in the one foot envelop or below, is not in our scope of work and should have been addressed as a change in contract conditions.

Please contact me directly should you require additional information,

Sincerely,



Nathaniel Fox  
Project Manager  
Northland Constructors of Duluth, LLC