



BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
1263 S. Stewart Street
Carson City, Nevada 89712

RUDY MALFABON, P.E., *Director*

In Reply Refer to:

November 16, 2016

Johnny Intersection

Traffic Engineer

123 Signal Street

Carson City, NV 89706

RE: Electronic Traffic Related Product Selection Directions

Dear Mr. Intersection:

The Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) is improving its process for selection of patented or proprietary electronic traffic related products. In order to assure compliance with state and federal regulations, NDOT has created a process to document that products specified on state and federal funded projects conform.

NDOT is requiring that agencies requesting the selection of patented or proprietary electronic traffic related products within the State of Nevada submit completed forms for the relevant products so that NDOT can review and approve the products as appropriate. Typically these products are limited to the following:

- Traffic signal controllers
- Conflict monitors
- Detector systems
- Pedestrian push buttons
- Emergency vehicle preemption devices
- Pull box locator balls
- Communications Systems

The procurement of electronic traffic related products through projects must be compliant with state and federal regulations when state and federal funding is included.

If a competitive bid is not possible for the specific electronic traffic related product and a patented or proprietary item must be selected, there are two processes that can be followed that are compliant with 23 CFR §635.411, Certification or Public Interest Finding (PIF). A certification is used when the product is required for synchronization of the existing traffic system or if no suitable alternative exists. A PIF is used when there are other suitable products available, but there is a demonstrable reason that is in the best interest of the public to select a particular product. In order for NDOT to be in compliance, forms that identify the specific information for Certification or PIF will be used.

Directions for submitting patented or proprietary electronic traffic related products to NDOT for approval for use on state and federal projects are as follows (PDF forms for certification and PIF are attached with this correspondence):

Required information for both Certification and PIF

Manufacturer: The name of the manufacturer of the electronic traffic related product should be provided in this section. This field is limited to 50 characters, which should be sufficient for the majority of device manufacturer's names.

Name/Model: The name, model, or both name and model of the electronic traffic related product should be provided in this section. The field is limited to 50 characters, which should be sufficient for the majority of device names and/or models.

Description of device: A brief description of what the product does. This field is limited to 250 characters, so it is important to be concise.

Description of need: A brief description of why the product is needed. For example, the following items might be discussed if relevant:

- How the product addresses a safety issue
- How the product improves operations
- How the product improves system reliability
- Why the item is necessary to work with other electronic traffic related products
- Other

This field is limited to 250 characters, so it is important to be concise.

Economic/Cost analysis: A brief descriptions of the cost implications of using this product. This discussion may include, but is not limited to the following:

- The actual cost
- Operations and maintenance costs
- Additional costs or cost savings compared to other similar devices (if applicable)

- Engineering cost analysis
- Benefit/cost
- Opportunity cost

This field is limited to 250 characters, so it is important to be concise.

Jurisdiction/Extent: A brief description of where the product will be installed/operated. This may be statewide, a specific district or districts, a specific municipality or municipalities, a specific county or counties, a specific highway, highways, highway segment or highway segments, or a specific project. This field is limited to 50 characters, so it is important to be concise.

Limitations/Conditions: A brief description of any unique operating conditions requiring use of this particular product. This might be conditions like the following:

- Extreme weather
- A high number of pedestrians
- Snow
- Location in a downtown environment
- Other

This field is limited to 250 characters, so it is important to be concise. If there are no limitations or conditions this should be noted within the space provided.

Required information for certification

Date of certification: The date the product is certified.

Certification expiration: The date the certification of the product expires. The default value is 2 years from the date of certification; however it can be modified to be between 1 and 5 years with justification.

Justification for certification beyond 2 years: A brief description of the justification for why the product certification should be shorter or longer than the default 2 years. This may be because of things such as the following:

- Product life-cycle
- Experimental product
- Changing technology
- Project specific selection
- Other

This field is limited to 250 characters, so it is important to be concise.

Justification for certification: Check boxes to identify if the certification is necessary for synchronization with existing facilities or if no suitable alternatives are available.

Synchronization may be based on the following, which needs to be indicated via the appropriate check box:

- **Function** – the proprietary product is necessary for the satisfactory operation of the existing facility
- **Aesthetics** – the proprietary product is necessary to match the visual appearance of existing facilities
- **Logistics** – the proprietary product is interchangeable with products in an agency's maintenance inventory

If the product is unique and no equally suitable alternative exists, then the product may be certified based upon this.

Required information for PIF

Date of PIF: The date the PIF is issued.

PIF Expiration: The date the PIF of the product expires. The default value is 2 years from the date of the issuance of the PIF; however it can be modified to be between 1 and 5 years with justification.

Justification for PIF beyond 2 years: A brief description of the justification for why the PIF should be shorter or longer than the default 2 years. This may be because of things such as the following:

- Product life-cycle
- Experimental product
- Changing technology
- Project specific selection
- Other

This field is limited to 250 characters, so it is important to be concise.

Justification for PIF: The PIF justification should document the reason why the electronic traffic related product should be selected even though there other suitable devices available. This section should identify the other devices and indicate why the selection of the preferred device is in the public interest. This section may reference previously discussed items such as cost implications, specific needs, or other critical factors.

Please direct any questions regarding this new process to NDOT Traffic Operations at +1 (775) 888-7080 (Signals, Lighting and ITS Principal Engineer).

Sincerely,

Denise M. Inda, P.E., PTOE
Chief Traffic Operations Engineer
Nevada Department of Transportation

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