



## QUALIFIED PRODUCT POLICY FOR SOURCES OF PORTLAND CEMENT, BLENDED CEMENT, AND SLAG CEMENT

### 1.0 General:

The purpose of this Qualified Product Policy (QPP) is to establish the requirements for producers of portland cement, blended cement, and slag cement to be included on Qualified Product List (QPL) 6 and to be included in South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) construction projects. A qualified source is considered to be a qualified cement/slag cement product supplied from a qualified mill or terminal

All domestic cement mills and all cement terminals supplying cement imported from other countries that desire to be listed on QPL 6 must successfully complete an inspection by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Product Evaluation and Audit Solutions program. Producers currently on QPL 6 must be AASHTO compliant or registered for the AASHTO audit program by September 30, 2025 to remain on the QPL.

For more information on this qualification program, visit the AASHTO website at <https://transportation.org/product-evaluation-and-audit-solutions/>. Producers must comply with AASHTO SP01, "Standard Practice for Audits" and AASHTO PBC, "Evaluation of Portland & Blended Cement Suppliers."

### 2.0 Initial Cement/GBFS Source Qualification:

2.1 A producer/supplier of cement/slag cement may request qualification on QPL 6 by submitting the following:

- A letter requesting inclusion on QPL 6 that includes:
  - The name and physical address of the production facility. Domestic cement production facilities must be AASHTO compliant
  - The physical address of all terminals shipping the product to producers for SCDOT projects.
  - The contact information of a producer/supplier representative to be the contact for the QPL
- A one-gallon sample of the product with the representative test report. Test reports must meet the requirements of Section 4 of this QPP.

- A representative delivery ticket/bill of lading meeting the requirements of Section 4 of this QPP
- A copy of the AASHTO audit certificate, audit report, comparison test results, and the responses to any audit deficiencies as follows:
  - Domestic mills producing cement used on SCDOT projects must be AASHTO compliant.
  - Domestic mills supplying cement from other mills for SCDOT projects must be AASHTO compliant.
  - Terminals supplying imported foreign cement for SCDOT projects must be AASHTO compliant.
  - Terminals not owned/operated by an AASHTO compliant mill must be AASHTO compliant.
- The quality control plan for the production facility
- Evidence that the lab performing the quality control testing participates in the CCRL inspection and proficiency sample program

to:

Caleb Gunter, PE  
Structural Materials Engineer  
SCDOT Office of Materials and Research  
(803) 737-6694  
[guntercb@scdot.org](mailto:guntercb@scdot.org)

2.2 Mills and terminals may be inspected by SCDOT prior to qualification.

2.3 The documentation submitted as described in Subsection 2.1 will be reviewed for completion and compliance with applicable AASHTO M 85, AASHTO M 240, ASTM C989, and SCDOT specifications. Causes for rejection include:

- Incomplete submission or missing information
- SCDOT testing of submitted sample fails to meet applicable specification requirements
- Supplier's test report test data show results that fail to meet applicable specification requirements, or fails to meet the requirements of Section 4
- Submitted delivery ticket/bill of lading fails to meet the requirements of Section 4
- The quality control program is deemed inadequate by the Structural Materials Engineer (SME)
- The listed terminals fail to meet the AASHTO qualification requirements of Section 2.1
- An SCDOT inspection discovers conditions (including packaging and storage) that do not meet the requirements of AASHTO M 85, AASHTO M 240, ASTM C989, or SCDOT specifications as applicable.

- 2.4 If all submitted documentation is complete and meets the requirements of Section 2, the producer will be added to QPL 6.

### **3.0 Maintaining Qualification:**

- 3.1 All cement/slag cement sources must renew their SCDOT qualification between January 1 and March 1 of every even numbered year by submitting the following:
- Updated contact information
  - All brands of cement/slag cement supplied for SCDOT projects
  - Address of all terminals supplying cement for SCDOT projects
- 3.2 Terminals and mills required to be AASHTO compliant as listed in Section 2.1 must maintain AASHTO compliance at all times.
- 3.3 Terminals and mills may be inspected by SCDOT at any time. Materials being produced or stored may be sampled for testing.

### **4.0 Required Documentation:**

- 4.1 Every shipment of cement must be accompanied by a mill test report meeting the following requirements:
- Must name the production facility/brand of cement
  - Must include the type of cement
  - Must include specific cement identification
    - Grind date and silo number for domestic sources
    - Voyage number and date of shipment for imported foreign cement sources
  - Must include physical and chemical test results obtained by the supplier on cement samples representative of that being certified
  - Must be issued by one of the following:
    - Source's own QC laboratory within the United States accredited by AASHTO in the test procedures required for the cement physical and chemical tests
    - Independent laboratory within the United States accredited by AASHTO in the test procedures required for the cement physical and chemical tests
  - Must include a certification statement that the cement meets the requirements of the applicable AASHTO specification. (AASHTO M 85 or M 240)
- 4.2 Every shipment of slag cement must be accompanied by a certified test report meeting the following requirements:
- Must name the production facility/brand of the slag cement
  - Must include the grade of the slag cement
  - Must include specific production batch identification

- Must include physical and chemical test results obtained by the supplier on slag cement samples representative of that being certified
  - Must be issued by one of the following:
    - Source's own QC laboratory within the United States accredited by AASHTO in the test procedures required for the slag cement physical and chemical tests
    - Independent laboratory within the United States accredited by AASHTO in the test procedures required for the slag cement physical and chemical tests
  - Must include a certification statement that the slag cement meets the requirements of ASTM C989, Grade 100 or higher
- 4.3 Every shipment of cement/slag cement must be accompanied by a delivery ticket/bill of lading meeting the following requirements:
- Must include the production facility/brand of cement/slag cement
  - Must include the type or grade of cement/slag cement
  - Must include the address of the plant or terminal from which the cement/slag cement is shipped
  - Must include the date of shipment

## 5.0 Removal of Qualification

- 5.1 Mills and terminals that are required to be AASHTO compliant will be removed from QPL 6 if they become AASHTO non-compliant.
- 5.2 Sources that fail to update their SCDOT qualification as required in Section 3.1 may be removed from QPL 6.
- 5.3 Sources repeatedly shipping cement/slag cement without proper documentation may be removed from QPL 6.
- 5.4 Sources may be removed if an SCDOT inspection reveals conditions (including packaging and storage) that do not meet the requirements of AASHTO M 85, AASHTO M 204, ASTM C989, or SCDOT specifications as applicable.
- 5.5 In the event that the source appears to be in compliance with all the requirements of this Policy, but the end product does not meet the Department's specifications, then the Structural Materials Engineer (SME) may take steps towards suspending the source's SCDOT qualification status. If the problem has not been properly corrected within 30 days, the SME will revoke the qualification status of the source until it is demonstrated that all of the issues have been properly resolved.
- 5.6 The Department reserves the right to remove any source from the qualified product list at any time confidence is lost in a supplier's ability or intention to produce and/or store material of uniform characteristics complying with SCDOT specifications.