

Bell, Tammi [DOT]

From: Bell, Tammi [DOT]
Sent: Thursday, April 10, 2008 3:41 PM
To: Bell, Tammi [DOT]
Subject: Electronic Notification Letter

TO: County Engineers, City Representatives, and Consultants
Tammi Bell Iowa DOT - Local Systems tammi.bell@dot.iowa.gov

CC: District Local Systems Engineers, Service Bureau
and Office of Local Systems

FROM: Office of Local Systems

SUBJECT: Electronic Notification Letter

DATE: April 10, 2008

The following message is being sent on behalf of the Eric Souhrada, Office of Bridges and Structures. If you have questions, **please do not hit the reply option in your e-mail note**. Please contact Eric by e-mail at eric.souhrada@dot.iowa.gov or by phone 515-233-7720.

The Department of Transportation (DOT) has developed an electronic notification letter that is automatically generated each month listing bridge structures in the bridge data base that are twenty five months past the last inspection date. The maximum frequency between bridge inspection cycles is twenty four months with a thirty day grace period for a total of twenty five months. The grace period is to allow for the effects of severe weather, optimizing scheduling with other bridges or other unique situations.

The first and second notifications were sent in March and April. Both of these listed over 1,200 structures with inspection dates twenty five months past the previous inspection. We believe most, if not all, have been inspected within the required frequency; but the inspection dates have not been entered into the data base. The National Bridge Inspection Standards (NBIS) allows 180 days to update the SI&A data.

In the past, the DOT mailed a hard copy of the SI&A forms to the counties and cities in September of each year. As of 2006, all counties and cities have access to their SI&A forms online through the Office of Transportation Data. Bridge owners can access the online system any time using a designated password issued by the DOT. Because of the online access to the SI&A forms, the DOT no longer mails out hard copies of the SI&A forms to the local entities. Therefore, the 180 day period allowed to complete and update the SI&A data is no longer necessary with the online

access.

The DOT has just recently completed a series of meetings regarding the NBIS at which local bridge owners were encouraged to update their SI&A forms within 30 days of the inspection. The purpose for developing the electronic notification system was to aid the DOT in its oversight of county/city bridge inspection as mandated by the NBIS. Therefore, we ask that the inspection date be entered into the database no longer than 30 days after the inspection.

Please do not hit the reply option in your e-mail note.

Thanks

Eric D. Souhrada, P.E.
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Mailings are available at the Local Systems Weekly Mailing web address
http://www.iowadot.gov/local_systems/mailling/main_mailing.htm