

## **Environmental Board**

### **August 15, 2012**

## **Revegetation Requirements and Standards**

### **Code Requirements**

#### **25-8-182 DEVELOPMENT COMPLETION.**

- (A) Development is not completed until:
  - (1) **permanent revegetation is established;** and
  - (2) the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department:
    - (a) receives the engineer's concurrence letter; and
    - (b) certifies installation of the vegetation for acceptance.
- (B) Development must be completed under Subsection (A) before the City may accept maintenance responsibility for streets, drainage facilities, or utilities, or issue a certificate of occupancy or compliance, unless the City and the applicant enter into an **agreement to ensure completion of the revegetation** within a named period.

### **ECM Requirements**

#### **1.4.7 VEGETATIVE PRACTICES**

##### **B. Permanent Vegetative Stabilization of Disturbed Areas.**

1. **Description.** Planting vegetation such as grasses, forbs and/or sod on critical disturbed areas. Permanent vegetative stabilization for disturbed areas may be achieved either by means of seeding or by sodding. When seeded, newly-installed permanent vegetation must be protected by hydromulch or soil retention blanket (refer to Standard Specification 605S Soil Retention Blanket).

2. **Purpose.** To stabilize the soil, to reduce damages from sediment and runoff to downstream areas, improve wildlife habitat, enhance natural beauty.

3. **Conditions Where Practice Applies** Disturbed, graded or cleared areas which are subject to erosion and where a permanent, long-lived vegetative cover is needed.

4. **Design Criteria.** • Standard Specifications

For areas that are seeded refer to **Standard Specification 604S – Seeding for Erosion Control** or **609S – Native Grassland Seeding and Planting for Erosion Control (whichever is applicable)**. For areas that are sodded refer to Standard Specification 602S – Sodding for Erosion Control.

REVEGETATION BOARD

## **STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS**

### **ITEM NO. 604S**

#### **SEEDING FOR EROSION CONTROL - 08-18-10**

**604S.1 Description, 604S.2 Submittals, 604S.3. Materials, 604S.4 Construction Methods, 604S.5 Non-Native Seeding, 604S.6 Native Grass Seeding, 604S.7 Mulch,**

#### **604S.8 Measurement**

Work and acceptable material for "Seeding for Erosion Control" will be measured by the square yard (meter: 1 meter equals 1.196 square yards) or by the acre (hectare: 1 hectare equals 2.471 acres), complete in place, with **a minimum of 95 percent coverage for the non-native mix, and 95 percent coverage for the native mix.** Bare areas shall not exceed **16 square feet (1.5 square meters), and the height of vegetation shall stand at a minimum of 1 1/2 inch (40 millimeters).** Bare areas shall be re-prepared and reseeded as required to develop an acceptable stand of grass.

### **ITEM NO. 609S:**

#### **NATIVE GRASSLAND SEEDING AND PLANTING FOR EROSION CONTROL - 08-18-10**

**609S.1 Description, 609S.2 Submittals, 609S.3. Materials, 609S.4 Construction Methods, 609S.5 Native Grassland Seeding and Planting, 609S.6 Management Practices,**

#### **609S.7 Measurement**

Work and acceptable material for "Native Grasslands for Erosion Control" will be measured by the square yard (square meter: 1 square meter equals 1.196 square yards) or by the acre (hectare: 1 hectare equals 2.471 acres), complete in place, with **a minimum of 95 percent coverage with no bare areas exceeding 16 square feet (1.5 square meters) and a 1 1/2 inch (40 millimeters) stand of grass.** Bare areas shall be reprepared and reseeded as required by the Engineer or designated representative in order to develop an acceptable stand of grass.

# Permanent Stabilization

## City of Austin

### ECM Appendix P-1, Erosion Control Notes

#### **Permanent Vegetative Stabilization:**

D. Permanent erosion control shall be acceptable when the grass has grown at least 1½ inches high with **95% coverage, provided no bare spots larger than 16 square feet exist.**

#### **Standard Specifications Item 604S**

##### **604S.8 Measurement**

Work and acceptable material for "**Seeding for Erosion Control**" will be measured by the square yard (meter: 1 meter equals 1.196 square yards) or by the acre (hectare: 1 hectare equals 2.471 acres), complete in place, with a minimum of **95 percent coverage** for the non-native mix, and 95 percent coverage for the native mix. Bare areas shall not exceed 16 square feet (1.5 square meters), and the height of vegetation shall stand at a minimum of 1 1/2 inch (40 millimeters). Bare areas shall be re-prepared and reseeded as required to develop an acceptable stand of grass.

#### **Standard Specifications Item 609S**

##### **609S.7 Measurement**

Work and acceptable material for "**Native Grasslands for Erosion Control**" will be measured by the square yard (square meter: 1 square meter equals 1.196 square yards) or by the acre (hectare: 1 hectare equals 2.471 acres), complete in place, with a minimum of **95 percent coverage** with no bare areas exceeding 16 square feet (1.5 square meters) and a 1 1/2 inch (40 millimeters) stand of grass. Bare areas shall be reprepared and reseeded as required by the Engineer or designated representative in order to develop an acceptable stand of grass.

## LCRA

### **Lake Austin Watershed Ordinance Technical Manual**

#### **Chapter 3 Erosion and Sediment Control Best Management Practices**

##### **3.2.8 Vegetation & 3.2.9 Irrigation**

##### **Inspection and Maintenance Guidelines:**

- Newly applied vegetation should be inspected weekly and after each rain event to locate and repair any erosion.
- Erosion from storms or other damage should be repaired as soon as practical by regrading the area and applying new seed.
- **If the vegetated cover is less than 80%, the area should be reseeded.**

# **TCEQ**

## **TPDES General Permit No TXR150000**

### **Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction Activities**

#### **Section B – Definitions**

**Final Stabilization** - A construction site status where any of the following conditions are met:

(a) All soil disturbing activities at the site have been completed and a uniform (i.e., evenly distributed, without large bare areas) perennial vegetative cover with a density of at least **70% of the native background vegetative cover** for the area has been established on all unpaved areas and areas not covered by permanent structures, or equivalent permanent stabilization measures (such as the use of riprap, gabions, or geotextiles) have been employed.

(b) For individual lots in a residential construction site by either:

(1) the homebuilder completing final stabilization as specified in condition (a) above; or

(2) the homebuilder establishing temporary stabilization for an individual lot prior to the time of transfer of the ownership of the home to the buyer and after informing the homeowner of the need for, and benefits of, final stabilization. If temporary stabilization is not feasible, then the homebuilder may fulfill this requirement by retaining perimeter controls or other best management practices, and informing the homeowner of the need for removal of temporary controls and the establishment of final stabilization.

(c) For construction activities on land used for agricultural purposes (e.g. pipelines across crop or range land), final stabilization may be accomplished by returning the disturbed land to its preconstruction agricultural use. Areas disturbed that were not previously used for agricultural activities, such as buffer strips immediately adjacent to surface water and areas that are not being returned to their preconstruction agricultural use must meet the final stabilization conditions of condition (a) above.

(d) **In arid, semi-arid, and drought-stricken areas only**, all soil disturbing activities at the site have been completed and both of the following criteria have been met:

(1) Temporary erosion control measures (e.g., degradable rolled erosion control product) are selected, designed, and installed along with an appropriate seed base to provide erosion control for at least three years without active maintenance by the operator, and

(2) The temporary erosion control measures are selected, designed, and installed to achieve **70 percent vegetative coverage within three years**.

## **Travis County**

Has adopted COA standards in ETJ and eastern watersheds and LCRA standards in western watersheds

## **TxDOT**

### **Storm Water Management Guidelines for Construction Activities**

#### **9.0 Completion of Project and Release of Contractor**

It is the Department's intent to fully release the contractor after the project has been completed and stabilized. Final stabilization is achieved when all soil disturbing activities at the site have been completed and **70% of the native perennial vegetative cover** (for unpaved areas and areas not covered by permanent structures) has been established; or equivalent permanent measures, such as the use of rip rap, gabions, soil retention blankets, or other geotextiles have been employed.

**Lewis, Russell**

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**Subject:** FW: Drought Reveg / Developer's Contracts

**Attachments:** Reveg update memo 2.doc

**From:** Lewis, Russell

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 17, 2012 12:29 PM

**To:** 'lisa.lamb@aceatx.com'; Lazarus, Howard; Guernsey, Greg; Li, Victoria J; 'Brooke Bulow'; Adair, Lyle; Amanda Wyrick; Barney, Rebekah; Beckett, Bruce; Bogard, Michael; Boger, Matt; Brent Hendricks; Brown, Walter; Carlton, Kristin; Chapman, David; Delaplane, Frank; Garcia, Mario; Gomez, Eric; Hawkins, Stephen; Holmes, Bonny; Houlton, Phillip; Hughes, Tom; Rasberry, Ricky; Terry O'Connor

**Cc:** Hines, Jadell; Barba, Leon; Cantu, Ruben [PDRD]; Johnson, Kit

**Subject:** Drought Reveg / Developer's Contracts

All,  
Attached is the drought reveg memo we sent out last fall. It indicated that developers contracts would be automatically extended to expire four months after AWU again allowed twice per week watering.  
Effective Mon July 16, twice per week watering is allowed and since ~May 1 AWU has been giving 30 day variances to allow more frequent watering to establish new vegetation.  
Per our policy, developer's contracts which were written since May 1, 2011 will now expire Nov 16, 2012 and new contracts will be for four months. Please pass this information on to the regulated community.

C. Russell Lewis, P.G.  
City of Austin  
Program Manager  
Environmental Inspections  
512-974-2183



7/31/2012





## MEMORANDUM

**FROM:** C. Russell Lewis, P.G.  
Program Manager, Environmental Inspection Section  
Planning and Development Review Department

**DATE:** 10/17/2011

**SUBJECT:** Revegetation Policy Update for 2011 Drought Conditions

### **Policy update - 10/17/2011**

Due to the ongoing drought and shrinking water supplies in Central Texas the CoA PDRD policy below is extended. Developer's contracts written after May 1, 2011 for commercial development will now expire four months after Austin Water Utility allows at least two days/week watering. During this time commercial and single family development which has not completed revegetation and /or landscape requirements must maintain erosion and sedimentation controls and temporary stabilization of disturbed soils until permanent stabilization is achieved. Questions can be directed to PDRD Environmental Inspection Section at 974-2278.

### **Original policy statement - Aug 4, 2011**

**PDRD Environmental Inspection Policy in response to AWU water use restrictions and "Exceptional Drought" conditions in Central Texas**

Any Developer's Contracts for landscape or revegetation which are dated between May 1, 2011 and Oct 31, 2011 are automatically extended to expire April 30, 2012. During this extended period, erosion and sedimentation controls must remain in place, be inspected weekly and maintained when required, and there must be temporary stabilization of disturbed soils using mulch, matting, or other acceptable methods as required in ECM 1.4.4 to minimize erosion of disturbed soil. Enforcement of requirements for initiating "permanent stabilization" (ECM 1.4.4.B) will be suspended during the extension for projects meeting the requirements above.

This policy will be reviewed during Oct 2011 and will either expire on 10/31/11 or it will be extended as necessary.