



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
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JON S. CORZINE  
*Governor*

KRIS KOLLURI, Esq.  
*Commissioner*

November 22, 2006

To All Bridge Inspection Consultants

Subject: Inspection of Scour Critical Twin Bridges

Gentlemen:

During some recent inspections, it has been observed when inspecting twin bridges (i.e, EB & WB or NB & SB bridges over the same stream) there is often scour damage on both bridges when any damage is found. When the bridges are scour critical, the presence of scour is a serious issue.

Unfortunately, not all twin bridges are scheduled to be inspected by the same crew or even in the same consultant contract. Therefore, it is possible that serious scour damage could be found on the EB twin bridge while the WB twin bridge may not even be inspected for a year. This situation could lead to the damage on the EB bridge being identified and repaired while the WB bridge damage is not found and a subsequent severe storm event could cause damage to the bridge.

In order to reduce the possibility of such a situation, effective immediately, when inspecting scour critical bridges where a twin bridge exists, it is required that a quick check of the twin bridge not scheduled for inspection also be conducted to assure that no scour damage exists that warrants repair.

Should this situation exist on your project and you feel that the extra effort of doing the quick check on the twin bridge would cause budgetary problems, please discuss the situation with your NJDOT Project Manager.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (609) 530-3572.

Sincerely yours,

*Original Signed James Lane*

James Lane, P.E.  
Manager, Structural Evaluation