

SECTION 204 MUCK EXCAVATION

204.01 Description. This work consists of the removal and disposal of mixtures of soil and organic matter, commonly called muck. This work also consists of backfilling the area where muck is excavated.

204.02 Construction Methods. Excavation and backfilling shall be carried progressively across the area being excavated. Work shall be coordinated so the open trench between excavation and backfill areas does not exceed the working range of excavation equipment. The length of open trench completely excavated to acceptable foundation material shall be at least 20ft (6 m) at all times when backfill is being placed. Excavation shall be made to ensure the slopes remain stable until backfill has been satisfactorily placed. Any alternative procedures for excavation and backfilling must be approved in writing.

The depth to which excavation shall be carried will be determined by the Engineer as excavation proceeds. Variations from the estimated depths on the Plans are expected.

Excavation shall be accomplished by dragline or an approved alternate method. Equipment shall operate on the unexcavated soil and shall not operate on the surface of backfill unless approved. The water level in the excavation shall not be lowered by pumping unless approved. The Contractor shall conduct its operations in a manner that will allow the Engineer to determine that all unsuitable material has been removed. Muck excavation shall be conducted and protected in a manner which will prevent the entry of undesirable material into the excavated area. The Contractor is required to provide access and measuring devices to permit the Department to inspect the work and take measurements or soundings for the purpose of determining quantities for payment. The Contractor shall not place fill in an area where muck has been excavated, until the Engineer has given authorization to proceed. The Engineer will determine when additional muck excavation is required.

The Contractor shall secure approved disposal areas. No disposal shall be made within 100ft (30 m) of the right-of-way. Materials placed in disposal areas shall be graded to obtain a smooth, free draining surface. The Engineer will determine when the finished condition is proper and complete.

Excavated muck shall be considered unsuitable material. It shall be the Contractor's responsibility to remove all unsuitable material.

204.03 Method of Measurement. The quantity of muck excavation will be measured in cubic yards (cubic meters). The volume will be measured to the limits shown on the Plans, or as directed, computed by the method of average end areas. Areas will be based on cross-sections taken of the original ground prior to muck excavation and cross-sections taken after unsuitable materials have been excavated. Allowance will not be made for excavation beyond the lines, grades, and typical cross-sections shown on the Plans established by the Engineer.

The excavation and removal of slides within the excavation will not be measured.

204.04 Basis of Payment. The quantity of muck excavation will be paid for at the Contract unit price per cubic yard (cubic meter). Price and payment will constitute full compensation for excavating and satisfactorily disposing of muck, backfilling of material, and removing and disposing of obstructions and encumbrances not otherwise provided for; for securing disposal areas; for constructing necessary haul roads; for maintaining the work in a finished condition until acceptance; for furnishing water transportation for the inspection; and for all labor, equipment, tools, and incidentals required to complete the work.

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