

Explanation of ATL costs exceeding contract amount  
Pine Creek Canyon Material Testing

The contractual dollar amount for material testing on the Pine Creek Canyon Road Project has been exceeded. Prior to the start of the Project the contract for material testing was awarded to the only responsive bidder ATL, Inc. The original contract #040512 had a maximum dollar limit of \$35,000.00, the total billed amount after completion of the Project was \$43,403.00; the total billed amount exceeds the original contract limit by \$8,403.00.

During the course of the Project there were multiple unforeseen conditions that contributed to the overrun in the material testing budget. From the beginning of the Project extensive utility relocations and lack of cooperation from utility companies caused delays and forced work sequencing to be modified. Because of the utility issues, and in order to keep the Project moving forward, work had to be done in multiple "small" sections. With work being done in multiple small sections, as opposed to "long" sections, the need for more frequent testing became necessary to ensure the quality of the finished product. More frequent testing and the fact that ATL, Inc. was working from their Flagstaff office and charging a trip charge every time they needed to be on the job, resulted in an increase in cost.

The Contractor also had trouble getting the ABC material to meet the required specifications for field acceptance. The Contractor submitted on, and had submittal approval for, multiple types of ABC material. When the material was installed in the field and field testing was performed, some of the material failed to meet field testing specification requirements and was rejected. Each time the Contractor would use a different type of ABC material the material testing company, ATL, Inc., would have to take samples and perform laboratory testing on the material to establish a proctor. The increase in proctor sampling and laboratory testing for the ABC material contributed to the increase in cost.

Change orders due to unforeseen site conditions also contributed to the increase in the material testing budget. For each unforeseen condition a change order was issued to resolve the condition; many of those change orders had material testing fees associated with them.

The issues with utility companies, issues with the Contractor, and the unforeseen conditions encountered during this project are the primary reasons for the overrun in the material testing budget. Although the overrun in the material testing budget is unfortunate it is understandable considering the complexities of the project and the difficulties encountered.

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