1. **SCOPE**

1.1 This procedure establishes the guidelines by which the manufacturer of a retaining wall that is a gravity wall system shall submit his product to the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) for:

- Approval of the wall system.
- Inclusion of that system into the MSDSAR ALDOT list for approved gravity wall systems.

A proprietor whose name and/or product does not appear on the current list of approved gravity wall systems may not use a project currently being advertised for bids the basis for obtaining a gravity wall system approval and inclusion on the list of approved wall suppliers.

1.2 The current approved gravity wall system list is contained in the current listing of the Department’s “Materials, Sources, and Devices with Special Acceptance Requirements”. The current listing can be found on the Department’s website at www.dot.state.al.us.

2. **APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS**

2.1 *AASHTO Standard Specifications for Highway Bridges* with interims

2.2 FHWA-NHI-05-046, *Earth Retaining Structures*

2.3 FHWA-SA-96-038, *Earth Retaining Systems*

3. **SYSTEM APPROVAL PROCESS**

3.1 Proprietors interested in having their gravity wall system approved shall submit a written request to the Product Evaluation Board (PEB) of ALDOT for an application and requirement procedure.

3.2 Upon receipt of the submittal the PEB will contact the Bureau of Materials and Tests and Bridge Bureau for review of the application and submittal package.

3.3 After a review of the submittal the PEB will contact the proprietor to arrange for an oral presentation of the gravity system at ALDOT’s convenience. The
proprietor’s representatives should include personnel who are thoroughly familiar with design criteria and are qualified to answer specific questions regarding compliance of the proposed gravity wall system with referenced design criteria.

3.4 Upon completion of the presentation and receipt of satisfactory submittal requirements, the proprietor shall receive written notification from the Product Evaluation Board that:

- The submitted gravity wall system has been approved as submitted and has been added to the ALDOT list of approved gravity wall system suppliers or;
- Additional submittals as detailed by ALDOT are required prior to obtaining ALDOT approval and inclusion to the ALDOT list of approved gravity wall system suppliers.

4.0 GRAVITY WALL SYSTEM DESIGN CRITERIA

4.1 All components of the gravity wall system shall meet the current requirements of *AASHTO Standard Specifications for Highway Bridges* with interims and publication number FHWA NHI-05-046, *Earth Retaining Structures* or publication number FHWA-SA-96-038, *Earth Retaining Systems*.

5.0 SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

5.1 The gravity wall system proprietor shall furnish the ALDOT Product Evaluation Board three (3) copies of a completed “*Highway Innovative Technology Evaluation Center (HITEC) Report*.” If the proprietor does not have a completed HITEC Report, information concerning a HITEC application can be obtained by contacting Muhammad Amer at 703-295-6392, *mamer@asce.org*.

5.2 Submittal of a HITEC Report does not release the proprietor from further submittals as deemed necessary by ALDOT.