



*New Mexico* DEPARTMENT OF  
**TRANSPORTATION**

July 31, 2015

J. Don Martinez  
FHWA, New Mexico Division  
4001 Office Court Dr. Suite 801  
Santa Fe, NM 87507

RE: Request for Sole Source Proprietary Construction Project Scheduling Computer System Software (Statewide Certification)

Dear Mr. J Don. Martinez,

I am sending this letter to document the need for and request approval for the sole source use of Primavera P6 Professional Project Management Software for statewide use in scheduling of construction projects.

I Travis Johnson, Construction Liaison Engineer, of the New Mexico Department of Transportation, do hereby certify that in accordance with the requirements of 23 CFR 635.411(a)(2), that this proprietary item is essential for synchronization of NMDOT construction staff knowledge (training) and project schedules. The extent of the certification is state wide for all construction projects receiving federal funds.

**Certification Documentation:**

**1. Primavera P6 will benefit the public by:**

- Creating a uniform knowledge base in the NMDOT for more consistent and efficient project management. Utilizing only Primavera P6 as the construction scheduling software of the NMDOT will promote efficiency and consistency in the review, understanding, and interpretation of contractor proposed project schedules. Additionally, a work force uniformly educated in Primavera P6 will be better adapted to cross train its employees and fill gaps in positions due to vacancies. Knowledge and methods for reviewing baseline and updated schedules will be more consistent and efficiently shared between project offices and districts as the need arises.

**2. Unique needs being addressed that result in no equally suitable alternative:**

- The New Mexico State Department of Transportation currently utilizes Primavera P6 as their design scheduling software and has existing program support for Primavera P6 at the general office.
- New Mexico State Department of Transportation Standard Specifications for Highway and Bridge Construction require;

**Susana Martinez**  
Governor

**Tom Church**  
Cabinet Secretary

**Commissioners**

**Ronald Schmeits**  
Chairman  
District 4

**Dr. Kenneth White**  
Secretary  
District 1

**David Sepich**  
Commissioner  
District 2

**Butch Mathews**  
Commissioner  
District 5

**Jackson Gibson**  
Commissioner  
District 6

The CPM Baseline Schedule shall consist of network diagrams and associated bar graphs and shall include a tabulation of each activity shown on the detailed network diagrams. Provide, at a minimum, the following information on the CPM Baseline Schedule:

1. Activity description;
2. Early start date (each activity);
3. Late start date (each activity);
4. Original duration, in workdays (each activity);
5. Total float and free float (each activity);
6. Sequence and interdependence of activities;
7. Workdays each week;
8. Contractor designated holidays;
9. Number of shifts per Day;
10. Number of hours per shift;
11. Scheduled Completion Date;
12. Anticipated weather events based on historical data; and
13. Resource Loading

**3. Critical decision points that would justify a higher standard:**

A survey was conducted by FHWA on Critical Path Method Usage from November 18, 2014 thru December 30, 2014. The survey was sent to all Districts as well as the State Construction Bureau. As part of this survey participants were asked the types of scheduling software that are typically submitted by the contractor. It was found that only three types of software are currently being used; Primavera P6, Microsoft Project; and Primavera Suretrak. It was also determined that 67% of the contractors were using P6, 28% were using Microsoft Project, and only 6% were using Suretrak. In addition NMDOT currently utilizes Primavera P6 for its design scheduling software and has existing program support within its general office for the software.

**4. Evaluation of the pool of potential products and a description of why these products cannot meet the contracting agency's needs:**

Unlike MS project Primavera is geared towards complex scheduling and has features that set it apart. Primavera P6 has the capability of loading a greater number of activities than Microsoft project. Primavera P6 is accessible to multiple users at one time so that Project Managers and Augmentation may review contractor schedules concurrently if necessary. Primavera P6 allows reviewers to utilize different viewing tools including basic and resource loaded views. Resource loading is also a key

requirement of the contract standard and specifications and Primavera P6 software exceeds in ability to managing this function. New and old schedules can be layered in P6, to determine schedule impacts, i.e. update over baseline.

Suretrak is outdated Primavera software that was discontinued in December of 2010 and is becoming obsolete for use in future NMDOT projects.

**5. An estimate of additional costs, if any incurred as a result of this proprietary product requirement:**

The retail price of Primavera P6 is approximately \$2,500 for each licensed user. The NMDOT assumes that this cost is passed on to the department as part of the contractor's bids. At present the contractor includes the cost for providing CPM scheduling software, hardware and training as part of his overall bid as an incidental cost to the project for those projects deemed appropriate to require CPM scheduling. However this cost represents an investment to the contractors that will be absorbed by the department over several projects and should minimally affect overall project costs. The direct and greater cost associated with scheduling of nearly all NMDOT construction projects is the cost of producing the Critical Path Method Schedule and the cost of CPM training. As NMDOT staff is becoming more fluent in the software the need for CPM decreases and CPM training is being deleted from the contracts by change order. Change orders deleting CPM training have resulted in a cost savings to the department of \$1,700 to \$3000 per project. The Department expects that if all projects are being scheduled by the same software change orders deleting CPM training will be more frequent and result in further cost savings for the tax payer. Several change orders deleting CPM training from contracts are included in this letter as documentation.

The NMDOT is currently developing a Special Provision that will incorporate the use of Primavera P6 as the Department's sole project scheduling software for construction projects requiring a Critical Path Method Schedule. The Special Provision is anticipated to require contractors to provide a minimum standard of hardware, Primavera P6 Professional Project Management Software, and Critical Path Method Schedule Training. The Special Provision will also detail Contractor requirements for set up, maintenance, and removal of hardware and software at the project office as necessary. Bid items are anticipated to be established for the Critical Path Method Schedule, hardware, and Critical Path Method Training. It is anticipated that during project development and prior to PS&E the District ADE of Construction and Project Development Engineer will evaluate the need for a Critical Path Method Schedule and incorporate the proper Special Provision and Bid items into the contract. When available a draft Special Provision regarding Critical Path Method Schedule software and hardware will be submitted to FHWA for review and comment prior to authorization.

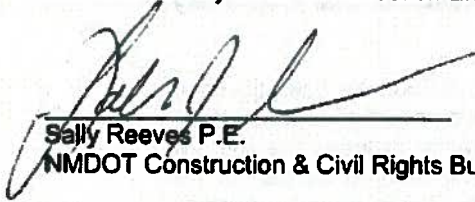
In summary, the NMDOT requests your approval to use Primavera P6 as blanket proprietary item on all federally funded construction projects from October 1, 2015 thru October 1, 2020 at which time the product will be re-evaluated to assess its success and applicability should market conditions or technologies change.

Sincerely,



**Travis Johnson, P.E.**  
**NMDOT Construction Liaison Engineer**

**Concurrence By State Construction Engineer**



**Sally Reeves P.E.**  
**NMDOT Construction & Civil Rights Bureau**

**Concurrence BY FHWA:**



**J. Don Martinez**  
**FHWA New Mexico Division**