

SECTION V

SOIL AND FOUNDATION INVESTIGATIONS

NEW CONSTRUCTION

5-01. General. An investigation of foundation conditions and properties of embankment soils should be included in all levee projects. The purpose for such investigation is to supply in the contract documents a sufficiently clear and conclusive description of conditions to be encountered during construction as to eliminate any basis for a contractor's claim of changed conditions. To accomplish this objective, sufficient underground information should be available, and it should be interpreted and presented in the contract documents by qualified geologists and engineers.

5-02. Inspection and requests for investigation. On the basis of the general requirements described in paragraph 5-01, the Embankment Section will make an inspection of the levee alignment and/or any appurtenant structure locations. Following the investigation, the Embankment section will recommend what soils investigation work, if any, will be required, and, upon approval by the Levee Section chief, will make the necessary requests for such work. Determination of the number of borings, tests, and other soils or geologic investigative measures are matters for establishment by the engineer responsible for the design of a structure working with the soils engineer or geologist.

5-03. Soils and investigations notes on drawings. The location of all test holes, pits, or borings will be indicated on the contract drawings. Logs of each hole or pit will also be shown with the laboratory classification of the material, if available; otherwise the field classification will be given, together with depth of hole, reasons why hole was not driven to requested depth (in some cases), depth to water, etc. No interpretation of the soil data will be given; however, the data should be presented in sufficient detail as to give a clear and conclusive description of existing conditions. The specifications will state under Physical Data in the Special Conditions that other data pertaining to the soil investigation are available for the contractor's inspection. The basic idea is to present on the contract drawings the facts of the investigation without giving an interpretation.

CONSTRUCTION INVOLVING LEVEE MODIFICATION OR SET-BACK

5-04. General. In levee projects involving existing levees which are to be modified, enlarged, or set back, an investigation of the soil properties and foundation conditions will be made. It may develop that reconnaissance only is necessary. If explorations are found necessary, proceed as above.