

To: Tom Atkins  
Montana Department of Transportation

RE: Comments regarding proposed specification changes

Please accept and consider the following comments that have been submitted to the MCA by member companies.

Specification Revision 606.03.3 Metal Beam Guardrail Erection

**In the field holes do not always line up and links are not always correct and there needs to be some way to cut guardrail & make bolt holes in the guardrail. If it is neatly done and any holes or cuts are painted with an approved galvanizing paint, cutting and drilling should be allowed.**



Proposed Specification Revision ~ 606.03.3 Metal Beam Guardrail Erection

Install metal beam guardrail, including the terminal sections and bridge approach sections as shown in the Detailed Drawings and meeting the contract requirements. Splice the metal rail sections with the lap in the direction of traffic. Locate all rail splices at the posts. Construct splices, laps, and terminal connectors as shown in the Detailed Drawings and meeting the contract requirements. Splice the terminal connectors for attaching the rail sections to the bridge ends by lapping as shown in the Detailed Drawings. Tighten the bolts through the splices and mounting bolts "snug tight".

Ensure the bolts project at least 1/4 inch (6 mm) beyond the nut. Place the bolt heads on the traffic side of the guardrail.

**Drilling or cutting in the field is only allowed for special connections and sampling. Do not use cutting torches to cut guardrail or make bolt holes. Obtain Project Manager approval prior to drilling bolt holes or cutting guardrail for special connections.** Paint holes, slots, or cut ends in metal guardrail caused during installation with an approved galvanizing paint. Spot paint all bruised, broken, scaled, or damaged spelter coating on metal parts following the paint manufacturer's recommendations after the guardrail is installed.