May 10, 2007

IMPORTANT NOTICE
TO AWARDING BODIES AND INTERESTED PARTIES
REGARDING OVERTIME ON PUBLIC WORKS

The Department has received several inquiries regarding whether it would be appropriate to refer to the contract provisions for a craft, classification, or type of worker in cases where the prevailing wage is based on a collective bargaining agreement to determine the overtime requirements for public works.

Contract provisions that allow for employees to work alternative workweek schedules in which they may work more than 8 hours per day without overtime pay do not apply to work performed on public works. The laws and regulations governing prevailing wages require that employees of contractors on public works be paid not less than 1-1/2 times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 8 hours per day and 40 hours during any one week. In addition, overtime compensation may be required at a higher rate than 1-1/2 times the basic rate of pay, for less than 40 hours in a standard workweek, or for less than 8 hours in a calendar workday as specified in the prevailing wage determination. Contractors are required to pay overtime pursuant to Labor Code sections 1810-1815 and as indicated in the prevailing wage determination. Therefore, please refer to Labor Code sections 1810-1815 and the prevailing wage determination and not the contract provisions for each particular craft, classification, or type of worker to obtain the applicable requirements for overtime hours and rates of pay.