

VandenBerghe, Alissa (Consultant)

From: James_Hurst@schirmereng.com
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2009 3:38 PM
To: White, John
Cc: Preedy, Matt; John_Younghusband@schirmereng.com; Bob_Carasitti@schirmereng.com
Subject: Fire Modeling for Bored Tunnel (Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project)

Hi John,

Thanks for the invitation to your recent contractor's forum. It was very informative.

I suggested to Matt, following the presentation, that it is appropriate to start thinking about having some fire and smoke modeling done for the tunnel design, now that the initial sizing (based on the ventilation system and other design considerations) is nearing completion.

Fire and smoke modeling at this time achieves the following:

- Provides the ability to evaluate the effectiveness of the ventilation system for smoke control,
- Brackets the limits of the tunnel size and ventilation system capacities based on the impact of vastly different design fires that are possible, and
- Eliminates unplanned and significant design changes late in the game that could occur if an unexpectedly severe design fire is adopted as the standard in NFPA 502. There is currently no consensus on the selection of a design fire among industry experts and no timetable has been established.

This is an important issue and one that might be better served to be handled directly by WSDOT. Waiting for a fire protection consultant to be selected as part of the Design Team that is awarded the contract might set the project behind schedule. I would gladly further this discussion with you and Matt and am very interested in your thoughts. I look forward to your reply. Thank you.

Regards,
Jim

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