

APPENDIX G

RESPONSIBILITY FOR STRUCTURAL DESIGN

G-1. General. ER 1110-345-53 covers the Engineer of Record (EOR) responsibility for structural steel connections. ETL 1110-3-447 covers the EOR responsibility for all other structural design. Design action for in-house or A-E design of all structural systems will remain with the USACE designer or the A-E firm respectively; transfer of this responsibility to the construction contractor will not be permitted.

G-2. Structural Steel Connections. Design responsibility for structural steel connections is covered as a unique process because of a previously common (but inappropriate) practice of transfer of this responsibility to the construction contractor. As a policy of the USACE, such practice will not be permitted. The EOR shall design all connections within steel structures. For in-house or A-E design, the connection shop drawings will be reviewed and approved by the EOR. In cases where simple connections are not shown in the contract documents, the design responsibility will be retained by the USACE designer or the A-E firm respectively, through the shop drawing review and approval process. The A-E shall be held fully accountable for the design of the structural steel connections in accordance with the "Responsibility of the Architect-Engineer Contractor" clause set out in FAR 52.236-23. Offices preparing contract documents or having jurisdiction over A-E prepared designs will ensure that all critical structural steel connections are completely detailed and shown on the contract drawings. Construction contractors shall not be permitted to design steel connections. The construction contractor shall be required to submit all structural steel shop drawings through the resident engineer for USACE EOR or A-E EOR review and approval.

G-3. Other Structural Design. Since structural designs encompass materials other than structural steel, the following requirements address extension of the role of the EOR to those structural systems. The same rules apply which prohibit the transfer of design responsibility for other structural designs to the construction contractor. Primarily these other structural systems would be limited to reinforced concrete and reinforced masonry. While it is the general practice for USACE to provide complete designs of members and connections, there may be occasion when other unique building constraints may make it appear advantageous to pass this design responsibility to the construction contractor. This practice, however, is not permitted. The construction contractor will be required to submit all shop drawings of reinforced concrete and reinforced masonry through the resident engineer for USACE EOR or A-E EOR review and approval.