



Subject: Use of 300 mm Flashing Beacons on Signs	
Date: October 4, 2012	Author: Jennifer Hardy
Bulletin Number: 2012-05 Bulletin Type: Requirement	Effective Date: Immediately
Audience	Standards Affected
Ministry Managers, Electrical Services; all holders of the Electrical and Traffic Engineering Manual; all Project Managers and Traffic Engineers; all District Engineers; all Design Consultants; Provincial Sign Program	Electrical & Traffic Engineering Manual, Electrical & Signing Materials Standards, Standard Specification for Highway Construction

Background:

Highway signs that utilize flashing beacons, if not specified otherwise by the Regional Traffic engineer (RTE), currently utilize 200 mm flashers.

Larger 300 mm diameter beacons have recently been trialed on several signs in the province to increase their conspicuity. Ministry and public feedback has been positive indicating the signs are visible from greater distances, and provide superior visibility in low light conditions (i.e. fog or heavy rainfall). Conversion costs were low as power consumption between 200 mm and 300 mm beacons was minimal, and the Ministry already inventories 300 mm heads for all their primary 3-colour signal displays.

Policy:

New or replacement A/C powered overhead warning signs shall use 300 mm flashing amber beacons. New or replacement solar powered overhead warning signs may continue to use 200 mm flashing beacons.

The size of flashing amber beacons on new or replacement side mounted signs should be 300 mm. At the discretion of the District Engineer, in consultation with the RTE, 200 mm diameter beacons may still be utilized on side mount signs.

Procedure:

Existing 200 mm diameter flashing beacons on signs should be replaced with larger 300 mm flashers through attrition. This should typically occur when the parent sign upon which the flashers are mounted is replaced.

The mounting location, flash rate, and flash pattern should remain as per Section 400 of the Electrical and Traffic Engineering Design Guidelines.

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