

Helical Foundations and Tiebacks Committee

The committee held its most recent meeting at the DFI Annual Conference in Boston, Mass., on October 19, 2011. Among the topics discussed was the next Helical Foundations and Tiebacks Committee Seminar. It was decided to host the seminar in Denver, Colo., in June 2012. The chairman of the planning committee is Moncef Souissi with CTL Thompson. Other planning committee members are Greg Keefer, James Cherry and Mark Bryant. The venue is to be determined. Themes discussed for the specialty seminar were environmental benefits and building codes for helical piles. The specialty seminar will include a committee meeting in the morning with the seminar starting around 10:00 am.

Old business discussed at the meeting included completion of the Standard Specifications for Helical Anchors, Helical Compression Piles and Helical Soil Nails. Technical Activities Manager Mary Ellen

Bruce has taken our responses to TAC, and all three standard specifications have been revised accordingly. The reformatted specifications will now be resubmitted to the TAC after Chairman Perko makes a few minor clarification changes. The goal is to complete the process by the end of the year.

Also discussed was the University PowerPoint® presentation. Mike Melworm prepared a response to the TAC comments. He sent it to Chairman Perko a few weeks ago. There were a few questions that Chairman Perko will answer. After these changes, the presentation will be re-submitted to the TAC. Also discussed was the Helical Research Initiative. Wei-Chung Lin finished the Announcement of Opportunity and agreed to create a pledge form that can be sent out to the HFT Committee membership for fundraising.



The remainder of the meeting focused on two items of new business: a projects fund request proposal to the DFI Board of Trustees

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and IBC 2015 Code Development. The committee decided to propose to hire a consultant to write a State of Practice paper on helical piles and present applications. The proposal was due in December 2011. The committee also appointed a sub-committee to work on proposed revisions to the 2015 IBC. James Cherry is the chairman of the codes sub-committee. The deadline for these changes to ICC was January 3, 2012. Volunteers for the sub-committee were Mark Bryant, Gary Seider and Kyle Olsen. I will report on their efforts in the next committee report. The next committee meeting will be held at the specialty seminar in June.