

## DMS - 4615

### FLY ASH FOR SOIL TREATMENT

EFFECTIVE DATE: **MARCH 2009 – NOVEMBER 2025**

**4615.1. Description.** This Specification establishes the requirements and test methods for Class CS and Class FS fly ash used in subgrade or base treatment. It also describes the Fly Ash Quality Monitoring Program (FAQMP). Fly ash is the finely divided residue or ash that remains after burning finely pulverized coal at high temperatures.

**4615.2. Units of Measurements.** The values given in parentheses (if provided) are not standard and may not be exact mathematical conversions. Use each system of units separately. Combining values from the two systems may result in nonconformance with the standard.

**4615.3. Material Producer List.** The **Materials and Tests Division (MTD)** maintains the material producer list (MPL) of all materials conforming to the requirements of this Specification. Materials appearing on the MPL, entitled "[Fly Ash](#)," require no further testing unless deemed necessary by the Project Engineer or **MTD**.

**4615.4. Bidders' and Suppliers' Requirements.** Before fly ash is supplied to a contract, the fly ash must be pre-qualified and accepted into the FAQMP in accordance with the requirements of this Specification.

#### **4615.5. Pre-Qualification Procedure.**

**A. Pre-Qualification Request.** Submit a request to participate in the FAQMP to the Texas Department of Transportation, **Materials and Tests Division**, 125 East 11th Street, Austin, Texas, 78701-2483.

Include the following information in the request:

- supplier name, address, and contact information;
- power plant name and location;
- coal origin and classification used by the power plant;
- class of fly ash being collected;
- capacity of the storage facilities;
- six months of weekly physical and chemical test data meeting Article 4615.6 of this Specification; and
- details of the supplier's Quality Control Program, including measures taken to ensure that fly ash meeting the requirements of this Specification is kept separate from fly ash that does not, including but not limited to fly ash produced during power plant shutdown, start-up, or other transient operational periods.

Fly ash sources will be pre-qualified for the specific class of fly ash as stated in the written request. Any change in the class of the fly ash produced will require recertification of the source under the new class.

- B. Sampling and Testing.** Sampling will be in accordance with Tex-733-I. Testing will be in accordance with the requirements of ASTM C 618 and the additional requirements specified in Article 4615.6. Sampling is at the mutual convenience of the Department and the supplier.

The Department or a designated Department representative will take pre-qualification samples at a frequency of at least one sample per week for 5 weeks. For each fly ash on the FAQMP, producers will submit monthly composite samples at the beginning of each month. Monthly QM samples should be received by the 15th of each month. The Department reserves the right to conduct random sampling of materials for testing and to perform random audits of test reports.

Department representatives may sample material from the plant, terminal, transportation containers, and concrete plants to verify compliance with Article 4615.6.

- C. Criteria for Acceptance.** The laboratory or laboratories performing the physical and chemical tests for the supplier must participate in the Cement and Concrete Reference Laboratory (CCRL) Pozzolan Proficiency Program.

The supplier must have a permanent location and:

- be located in the State of Texas,
- maintain an established terminal within Texas through which all fly ash must pass, or
- agree to reimburse the Department for all sampling expenses based on mileage and per diem costs for Department personnel traveling outside the state or direct costs of sampling and shipping when sampling is accomplished through third-party agreements.

- D. Evaluation.** MTD will notify prospective bidders and suppliers after completion of material evaluation.

1. **Qualification.** The Department will accept to the FAQMP and add to the MPL materials meeting the requirements of this Specification.
2. **Failure.** Suppliers not qualified under this Specification may not furnish materials for Department projects and must show evidence of correction of all deficiencies before reconsideration for qualification.

The Department normally bears the costs of sampling and testing; however, the supplier will bear the costs associated with materials failing to conform to the requirements of this Specification. The Director of MTD will assess this cost at the time of testing.

Amounts due the Department will be deducted from monthly or final estimates on contracts or from partial or final payments on direct purchases by the State.

**E. Reporting Requirements.** Submit the following:

- monthly mill certificate that shows the fly ash complies with the Specification requirements;
- monthly test report with the following information:
  - coal origin,
  - test date, and
  - results of all specified physical and chemical requirements, except available alkalis, but including the requirements of Table 1; and
- monthly split sample from the same material used to generate the monthly test report.

**Note 1**—The split sample size must be approximately 1 pt. or 2.5 lbs. of fly ash. Mail the sample with a Safety Data Sheet (SDS) to the Texas Department of Transportation, Laboratory Building, 6230 E. Stassney Lane, Austin, Texas 78744.

Notify the Department when a change in production occurs, including but not limited to changes in a coal source or major alteration of plant operations.

**F. Periodic Evaluation.** The Department reserves the right to conduct random sampling of pre-qualified materials for testing and to perform random audits of test reports and material management records. Department representatives may sample material from the plant, terminal, transportation containers, and concrete plants to verify compliance with this Specification.

**G. Disqualification.** The Department may remove a source or supplier from the FAQMP and MPL for the following reasons:

- any change in production procedures impacting fly ash quality or composition,
- failure of any sample to meet Specification requirements,
- failure to meet reporting and testing requirements as detailed in this Specification, or
- inactivity or not supplying fly ash to Department projects for a period of 1 year.

**H. Re-Qualification.** Once the disqualification period established by MTD has elapsed, suppliers disqualified and removed from the FAQMP and MPL may begin the re-qualification process by submitting a request in accordance with Section 4615.5.A, including additional documentation identifying the cause of the problem and corrections or changes made that warrant reinstatement. The re-qualification process will then follow all subsequent Sections of Article 4615.5. The supplier will bear all costs associated with re-qualification.

**4615.6. Material Requirements.** Base classification of the class of fly ash on chemical composition. Both classes of fly ash must meet the physical and chemical requirements listed in Table 1, as tested by ASTM C 311.

**Table 1**  
**Supplementary Specification Requirements**

<b>Chemical Requirements</b>	<b>Class CS</b>	<b>Class FS</b>
Calcium oxide (CaO) content, minimum, %	22.0	n/a
Calcium oxide (CaO) variation in percentage points of CaO from the average of the last 10 samples (or less provided 10 have not been tested) must not exceed $\pm$	5.0	5.0
Silicon dioxide (SiO <sub>2</sub> ) plus aluminum oxide (Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> ) content, minimum, %	n/a	75.0
Variation in percentage points of SiO <sub>2</sub> +Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> from the average of the last 10 samples (or less provided 10 have not been tested) must not exceed $\pm$	8.0	8.0
Sulfur trioxide (SO <sub>3</sub> ) content, maximum, %	8.0	8.0
Moisture content, maximum, %	3.0	3.0
Loss on ignition, maximum, %	6.0	6.0
<b>Physical Requirements</b>	<b>Class CS</b>	<b>Class FS</b>
Strength activity index, 7-day or 28-day, minimum, % of control	75	75
Water requirements, maximum, % of control	105	105
Autoclave expansion or contraction, maximum, %	0.8	0.8
Fineness, Amount retained when wet-sieved on 45- $\mu$ m sieve, maximum, %	34	34
Percent retained on 45- $\mu$ m (No. 325), max variation, percentage points from average	5	5
Density, max variation from average, %	5	5

**4615.7. Archived Versions.** Archived versions are available.