

1. A: Section 2456 – Steel H-Piles, Para. 3.1.1 – Pile Driving. The 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence states “Piles shall be driven to or below the “calculated” tip elevation to reach the required bearing capacity.” The last sentence states “If a pile fails to reach the “calculated” tip elevation or if a pile reaches the “calculated” tip elevation without reaching the required driving resistance, the contractor shall notify the Contracting Officer and perform directed corrective measures.” What happens if the pile reaches bearing prior to reaching the “calculated” tip elevation? Will the pile be accepted at this tip elevation?

A: The actual pile capacity may exceed the required capacity before reaching the tip elevation. However, as stated, the piles shall be driven to the tip elevations which are listed in the table on Sht S-13.

2. Q: Paragraph 3.1.2 – Pre-drilling in this same Section states “Drilling or augering will be permitted only with the approval of the Contracting Officer.” A bid item for predrilling H-Piles was added to the bid schedule by Amd 2. This work is not described anywhere in the specs or on the plans. Is this bid item for the purpose of drilling thru bedrock to the calculated tip elevation if bearing is reached prior to the calculated tip elevation. Will measurement of this quantity be from bottom of pile cap to drilled elevation (includes both soil and rock drilling) or will it only be for the distance necessary to drill from top of rock to calculated tip elevation (includes only drilling in rock)?

A: The description of the work is provided in the bid schedule description and in Section 2456, para. 3.1.2., and a bid quantity is also provided. If a pile cannot be driven to the specified tip elevation, the Contracting Officer will decide if predrilling is needed. The unit bid price should be prepared and documented based on the information provided.