GUIDELINES FOR INSPECTOR QUALIFICATIONS

GENERAL:
Texas Administrative Codes 371.80, 375.101 & 363.51 state that the applicant for all financial assistance programs shall provide for the adequate qualified inspection of the project under the supervision of a registered professional engineer and the executive administrator is authorized to inspect the construction and material of any project at any time. The qualifications and organization of the inspection team provided by the owner or consultant are vital to the success of the construction project.

Competent and adequate inspection is in the best interest of the owner to ensure that construction is in accordance with the contract documents as well as to avoid disputes over payments to the contractor. Good documentation and communication will also aid in prevention and resolution of contractor claims.

TIME:
The amount of time and number of inspectors required on a project depends on the scope of work, number of contracts and the pace of construction. Consideration should be given to the number and nature of contracts that will be active at the same time. An inspector should observe all significant construction events.

SUGGESTED QUALIFICATIONS:
As a minimum, inspectors should possess experience and knowledge comparable to the size, scope and complexity of the project they will be assigned to inspect. In general, inspectors should also have a thorough understanding of soils, concrete, surveys, pipe-laying, testing, mechanical and electrical. For relatively large or complex projects (e.g. treatment plants greater than $5-$10 million) it may be beneficial to have a resident engineer assigned to the project.

RESPONSIBILITIES:
The inspector, resident engineer or resident project representative's duties, responsibilities and limitations should be clearly defined in the contract documents.

TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD GUIDANCE:
For questions relating to the inspection effort required or the inspector's qualifications for each contract, contact your regional team.