



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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## Design Memorandum No. 15-14 Technical Advisory

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**TO:** All Design, Operations, and District Personnel, and Consultants

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Elizabeth W. Phillips  
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**SUBJECT:** Geotechnical Information for MSE Walls

The maximum factored bearing resistance of the soil is a key component in the design of a Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE) wall. In accordance with section 731 of the *Standard Specifications* the maximum factored bearing resistance should be shown on the plans. The information should be obtained from the geotechnical report and tabulated on the MSE Wall Details plan sheet(s).

The MSE wall designer uses this information to ensure actual factored bearing stresses,  $\sigma_v$ , do not exceed the values shown in the table. The following is an example of the information to be shown on the plans.

<i>Maximum Factored Bearing Resistance</i>	
<i>Location</i>	<i>PSF</i>
<i>321+50 "PR-NWL" To 325+50 "PR-NWL"</i>	<i>5,850</i>
<i>325+50 "PR-NWL" To Bent No. 1</i>	<i>7,500</i>
<i>Bent No. 1</i>	<i>23,650</i>