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During these times of increasing shortages, it is to the State's advantage to encourage early delivery of construction materials to the project. Each material on hand and available when needed represents one less chance that the public will be denied full use of a transportation facility because of last minute shortages. However, if contractors are not quickly reimbursed for such materials, the resultant financial hardships unnecessarily imposed upon the construction industry will be reflected in higher bid prices for future contracts.

Each EIC must be familiar with Official Order 704 which provides for partial payment for accepted materials. He must also be fully receptive to its timely implementation whenever the circumstances are appropriate.

Traffic signal devices and appurtenances are particularly hard hit by the current state of affairs as they represent the end product of a long complex chain of suppliers. Therefore, partial payments for these items are to be given particular attention and expedited to the fullest extent possible.

RNS:LG