Response to Reviewer 3 Comments

(In the revised manuscript, the yellow highlight areas are responses to your comments)

**Point 1**: Author should check again how to write a citation in academic manuscript.

**Response 1**: Thank you for your reminding. I have got the template of citation format of the journal through the assistant editor and modified the manuscript. I have marked them in the revised manuscript. (Lines 30-130)

**Point 1-1**: In Line 94: “Zhang [41]” should be read as “Zhang et al. [41]”. Please check again this mistake in all in manuscript.

**Response 1-1**: Thank you for pointing that out. This has been corrected in the paper. (Line 96)

**Point 2**: Authors should note how to write a citation in “Reference Part”.

**Response 2**: Thank you for your reminding. I have got the template of citation format of the journal through the assistant editor and modified the manuscript. I have marked them in the revised manuscript. (Lines 390-513)

**Point 2-1**: For example: In citation [41], authors wrote as: “Yi Z, Wen-Bing W, Guo-Xiong M et al. Three-dimensional consolidation theory of vertical drain based on continuous drainage boundary[J]. Journal of Civil Engineering and Management, 2019, 25(2): 145–155” This is a mistake, should be read as: Zhang Yi, Wu Wenbing, Mei Guoxiong and Duan Longchen (2019) “Three-dimensional consolidation theory of vertical drain based on continuous drainage boundary.” Journal of Civil Engineering and Managemen 25(2): 145–155.”

**Response 2-1**: Thank you for pointing that out. I have corrected it according to the template as follows: “Zhang, Y.; Wu, W.B.; Mei, G.X.; Duan, L.C. Three-Dimensional Consolidation Theory of Vertical Drain Based on Continuous Drainage Boundary. Journal of Civil Engineering and Managemen 2019, 25(2), 145–155.” (Lines 491-493)

**Point 3**: Please use the same symbol in manuscript. For example, parameters a, b, c in manuscript are italic font. In Line 260, b, c fonts are not reasonable. Author’s expression is not logical in academic manuscript. Thus, please check again every part in manuscript. Before It can be accepted.

**Response 3**: I would like to thank the reviewer for your comments. After reading the whole paper, I have corrected them. (Lines 84, 86, 168, 171-173, 212, 255, 257-258, 307, 313)

**Point 4**: Line 87: “Cai [37] developed an ABAQUS subroutine to verify the solution of the one-dimensional consolidation equation of the continuous drainage boundary.” Should reads as “Cai et al. [37] developed an subroutine within ABAQUS program to verify the solution of the one-dimensional consolidation equation of the continuous drainage boundary.”
Response 4: Thank you for pointing that out. I have corrected it. (Page3, lines 89-91)

Point 5: Please add water table level in Figure 8.

Response 5: I've added water table level to the revised manuscript. (Page12, line 309)
And, the location of the water table level is also described in the paper, as follow: “The water table level is 1 m below the original ground line.” (Page11, line 292)

Point 6: To avoid misunderstand for reader, should delete “N” (SPT), in Table 4. Because N value in this manuscript is positive even number.

Response 6: Thank you for pointing that out. I've deleted “N” (SPT). (Page12, line 311)

Point 7: Stress induced by external load typically change with depth in thick ground. Therefore, authors should add an assumption of uniform stress in ground under Line 139.

Response 7: Thank you for pointing that out. I have added it to the revised manuscript. As follow: “(7) additional stress of soil does not decrease with depth under the large area load of highway roadbed.” (Page4, lines 143-144)

Point 8: Because aim of this manuscript also provide useful basic information for marine soft foundation engineering. Relating to engineering characteristic of marine soft soil, I suggest authors should add/cite information of following paper:

Response 8: Thank you for sharing the paper with me. Reading and quoting the paper helped me better grasp the research progress. (Page1, line 39)