1,100 cubic feet of Foam-Control® Geofoam was used as formwork for large cast-in-place piers supporting a 430’ long bridge on the Cheyenne South Valley Connector project in Pocatello, Idaho.

The Cheyenne South Valley Connector is a two-lane roadway connecting the east and west sides of Pocatello, featuring a 430’ long bridge. During preconstruction, the contractor’s structures manager suggested the use of Geofoam to create the concrete formwork required to pour the bridge’s three piers. The contractor worked closely with ACH Foam Technologies to develop drawings for the Geofoam formwork and secure the Idaho Department of Transportation’s required approval before use. The Geofoam blocks were precisely cut and shaped to the engineered specifications and curved fillets were attached to the foam blocks to create fluted surfaces on the finished concrete piers, adding a smooth, aesthetic flair.

Using Foam-Control® Geofoam as formwork saved the project an estimated $7,800 in material costs alone. The contractor estimates a week was shaved off the schedule and they saved some 200 man-hours of labor in not having to build the custom formwork on-site. The innovative use of Geofoam on this project is one of many reasons it was selected as the Project of the Year by the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the American Public Works Group.