

# Exhibit F

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## Report of Certified Arborist

**Bryan E. Bradford**

Certified Arborist No. WE-5896A  
International Society of Arboriculture,  
and Professional Member

88 Paseo Hermoso ~ Salinas, CA ~ 93908  
831-998-0439 or 831-484-1029

August 14, 2016

Gary Hopkins  
76291 Bryson-Hesperia Road  
Bradley, CA 93426

APN: 424-051-064

Re: Blue oak tree

Dear Mr. Hopkins,

As requested, I have examined the tree about which you have expressed concerns and offer the following observations and conclusions.

The subject tree is a Blue oak (*Quercus douglasii*), a California native common in your area. This specimen is still of sapling size, though perhaps older, with a three-stem structure measuring 4, 5 and 6 inches respectively (base diameter 2 feet above ambient grade), a height of about 13 feet and a crown spread of about 15 feet. It stands on the slope of a swale, somewhat isolated from the rest of the grove.

The condition of this tree is fair in terms of vigor and crown health and density, but its prospects for full development and growth are limited by some factors. All three parent stems have been girdled with barbed wire which has constricted cambium and interiorized in areas, limiting overall growth. Removing the wire now is not a good option in view of the potential further destruction of cambium. Added to this, the tree is a stand alone specimen, exposed to high heat and lack of humidity. These factors have resulted in its stunted form. (See attached photographs for illustration)

I recommend removal of this specimen from the building footprint of the proposed garage, and replacement of it in a more suitable area, preferably closer to some portion of the extensive grove located on your parcel. These are the most drought tolerant of the California oaks and ambient seedlings could be used for replacement.

There exist in close proximity to the subject tree some healthy Blue Oak saplings, so planting in that area suggests there would be ground water available for another seedling. I recommend against the use of Coast Live Oak as not appropriate to your setting; the conditions are too harsh.

If you have questions or need further information, contact me at your convenience.

Bryan E. Bradford  
Consulting Arborist



Figure No. 1: Subject tree; *Quercus douglasii*





Figure No. 2: Stem girdling.



Figure No. 3: Separation from grove. Stunted form.





Figure No. 4: Close-proximity sapling.





Figure No. 5: Another close-proximity sapling. Large grove in background.

