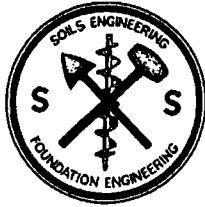


# Exhibit E

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# SOIL



# SURVEYS GROUP INC.

103 CHURCH ST • SALINAS, CALIFORNIA 93901 • TELEPHONE (831) 757-2172

May 10, 2018  
Job #6361

Mr. Anthony Nicola  
7741 Langley Canyon  
Prunedale, CA 93907

**Re: Un-permitted Grading and Slope Stability at 28771 Underwood Road, APN 416-451-048, Near Salinas, California**

Dear Mr. Nicola;

We have inspected the project site with regards to the existing un-permitted grading in the area of the now proposed residence to be located at 28771 Underwood Road, APN 416-451-048, near Salinas, California. It is our understanding that the Monterey County Resource Management Agency is considering a requirement to restore the current slope to the prior original grade before any grading or development can commence for the now proposed single family residence. The un-permitted grading work was done prior to the design of the now proposed residence.

A Geotechnical investigation and report was prepared on November 14, 2014. Our boring logs indicate a thin layer (three to four feet) of stiff, silty soil over hard/dense to very dense sandy silt/silty sand in the proposed building pad area. An additional boring and report were generated to provide data and recommendations for the proposed septic system. This boring encountered one foot of medium dense silty sands over hard/very dense sandy silt/silty sand materials. The geotechnical investigation included retaining wall design criteria for a then proposed wall to protect the proposed driveway due to the steepness of the slope above the roadway. The existing slopes are approximately 20 to 40 percent in gradient from east to west and 15 to 20 percent from south to north. At the time of our original geotechnical investigation inspections and our current site inspection, there were a few signs of minor erosion, however there was no evidence of soil slumping, creep or sliding.

In order to restore the slope to the assumed original grades, a key and bench system would be needed to properly recreate the slopes. A keyway (the length of which would extend the entire width of the slope) would need to be excavated and backfilled downslope in order to place fill material and rebuild the slope. This keyway would need to be installed downslope of the previously graded area in areas of currently undisturbed slopes, part of which would lie outside of the property and would most likely be a part of an existing scenic easement. The fill material placed on a slope cannot be placed directly on the slope but requires benching into the existing slope to prevent the creation of a potential failure plane. Additionally, the on-site materials when disturbed will lose their strength. These site soils will compact well, however they will not have comparable strength to that of the original in-situ materials. A portion of the restored slope would then need to be removed to allow space for the new driveway to the now proposed residence. This ground disturbance would lead to decreasing soil strength along the driveway which increases the potential for soil mass movement and erosion.

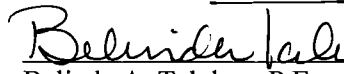
Based on our site inspections, we conclude that the restoration of the existing slopes at this project site is not recommended based on the gradients of adjacent slopes, increase in land disturbance on these steep slopes and the increase in the potential of soil movement, erosion and slope failures.

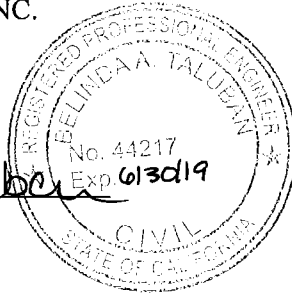
Mr. Anthony Nicola  
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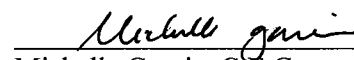
If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact us. It has been a pleasure working with you on this project.

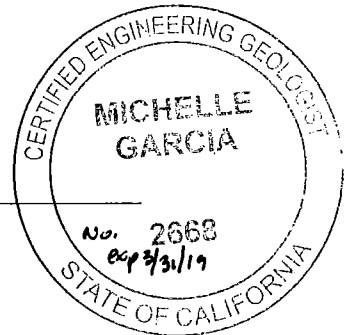
Very truly yours,

SOIL SURVEYS GROUP, INC.

  
Belinda A. Taluban, P.E.  
R.C.E. 44217



  
Michelle Garcia, C.E.G.  
Engineering Geologist 2668



BAT/MMG/mmg

cc. Monterey County Resource Management Agency Divisions of Planning and Building Inspection