SOILS REPORT WAIVER REQUEST

Building Department

1480 Main Street

St. Helena, CA 94574

(707) 968-2657

OFFICE USE ONLY

BUILDING PERMIT#:_____

PARENT PL#:_____ **PARENTBD#:** _____

SUB BD#_____ **SUB BD#:** _____

FD#:_____ **PW#:**_____

For additional information, forms & documents please visit us on the web at: http://www.cityofsthelena.org/content/building

Please fill out the information below, read the instruction on the next page, and complete the questionnaire and sign the last page.

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

Property Address:_____

APN:_____

PROPERTY OWNER

Owner Name:_____

Mailing Address:_____

City:_____ State:_____ Zip:_____

Email:_____ Phone#:_____

DESIGN PROFESSIONAL (CA licensed engineer, architect)

Company Name:_____ Contact Name:_____

Contractor License#:_____ Expires:_____

City of St. Helena Business License #:_____ Expires:_____

Address:_____

City:_____ State:_____ Zip:_____

Email:_____)_____ Phone #:_____

PRIMARY CONTACT

All communication from our office will be made to this person via email.

Contact Name:_____ Firm/License#:_____

Address:_____

City:_____ State:_____ Zip:_____

Email:_____ Phone #:_____

Instructions:

The responsible design professional (a California State licensed engineer, architect) may request that the City of St. Helena Building Department waive the requirement for a soils investigation report based on their observations and professional opinion that the site conditions and proposed construction do not indicate that such a report is necessary. When a California State licensed Geotechnical Engineer is involved in the project, the Geotechnical Engineer must conduct the observations and produce the request for wavier, not the architect or civil engineer.

Refer to the relevant portion of the 2013 California Building Code (CBC) section 1803; in particular: **sections 1803.2 through 1803.3**. The "Investigated Conditions" that are required to be addressed in a soils investigation report are laid out in Sections 1803.5.1 through 1803.5.12 of the 2013 CBC.

Answer the questions on next page by circling Y or N.

If the answer to ***any*** of the questions in items 2 through 12 is **"Yes"** then a full soils investigation will be required per code requirements. **Do not request a waiver**.

If the answer to ***all*** of the questions in items 2 through 12 are **"No"** then the responsible design professional must **submit a formal letter** requesting that the City of St. Helena Building Department waive the requirement for a soils investigation report based on their observations and professional opinion that the site conditions and proposed construction methods and materials do not indicate that such a report is warranted.

The responsible design professional must have full confidence that the answers are all "**No",** as the City of St. Helena and the property owner are relying on their observations and conclusions as the basis for the waiver. The potential future liability is obviously squarely on the design professional requesting the waiver. In order to complete a timely review, the letter should be submitted at the time of initial building permit application along with your other submittal documents.

The wavier request letter must include at least the following content:

- This form with the completed questionnaire and signed.
- Addressed to Darrell Mayes, City of St. Helena Chief Building Official
- Date of the letter.
- Site address.
- Assessor's Parcel Number (APN).
- Date of site observations.
- Statement requesting waiving of CBC 1803.2 requirement for a soils investigation.
- Classification of the soils per item 1 of this policy (CBC 1803.5.1).
- Site, soils and construction observations and explanations in distinct detail pertaining to the "No" answers appropriate to each of items 2 through 12 of this policy (CBC1803.5.2 through CBC 1803.5.12).
- Summary statement of the responsible design professional's opinion that a full soils investigation is not warranted by the observed conditions at the site and/or the scope of the proposed construction, based on the 12 criteria/ items.
- Stamped and wet-signed by the responsible licensed engineer or architect.

1. Classification: (2013 CBC 1803.5.1)
Provide a classification of the soil materials in accordance with ASTMD D 2487 _____

2. Questionable Soil: (2013 CBC 1803.5.2)

A. Are there soil conditions or evidence with existing structures that indicate soils of questionable bearing capacity? **Y N**

B. Are minimum bearing values used in the proposed design in excess of the presumptive values found in 2013 CBC Table 1806.2? **Y N**

3. Expansive Soil: (2013 CBC 1803.5.3)
Are there soil conditions or evidence with existing structures that indicate expanse soils? **Y N**

4. Ground-water Table: (2013 CBC 1803.5.4)
Is there evidence of a "high" ground-water table and there will be floor levels below grade? **Y N**

5. Deep Foundations: (2013 CBC 1803.5.5)
Does the design utilize a pile and pier, or other deep foundation method? **Y N**

6. Rock strata: (2013 CBC 1803.5.6)
Are issues indicated with variations or doubtful characteristics in the subsurface rock strata? **Y N**

7. Excavations Near Foundations: (2013 CBC 1803.5.7)
Will there be excavation that will remove lateral support from any foundation? **Y N**

8. Compacted Fill Material: (2013 CBC 1803.5.8)
Will there be shallow foundations bearing on compacted fill more than 12" in depth? **Y N**

9. Controlled Low-strength Material: (2013 CBC 1803.5.9)
Will shallow foundations bear on fill of controlled low-strength material? **Y N**

10. Alternate Setback and Clearance: (2013 CBC 1803.5.10)

A. For slopes of 33.3% or greater; will the structure be placed on the slope, close to an ascending slope, or close to a descending slope? **Y N**

B. Is the proposed setback less than the minimum prescribed in 2013 CBC section 1808.7? **Y N**

11. Seismic Design Category C through F: (2013 CBC 1803.5.11)
Do conditions indicate potential hazards of slope instability, liquefaction, differential settlement or surface rupture due to faulting or lateral spreading? **Y N**

12. Seismic Design Category D through F: (2013 CBC **1803.5.12 *See note below**)
Are foundation walls (stem walls with lateral soil loads of more than 12"), basements, or retaining walls proposed? **Y N**

***Note: When the structure has any of these scenarios, the 4 items listed in 1803.5.12 must be addressed in the soils report; a waiver is not allowed**.

I have completed the above questionnaire and have submitted the formal letter:

Design Professional Signature:_____

Print Name: _____**Date:**_____

Compnay Name: _____ **License #:** _____ **Expiration Date:** _____