August 19, 2015

Subject: [redacted]

References: [redacted]

Ms. XXX:

As requested, XXX is providing the following letter addressing the referenced geologic review comments received today from [redacted] For convenience, the comments by [redacted] are presented first, followed by our preliminary response.

Comment No. 1

"In accordance with the recommendations provided in the XXX (2012) development report, [redacted] recommends Weber County request XXX perform a slope stability analysis as stipulated in the Geologic Hazard Study for the development (XXX 2012), since the slope at the building envelope is greater than 20%."

Response to Comment No. 1

XXX concurs with the reviewer's assessment that the slope is steeper than 20%, and that the XXX Geologic report indicates that slope stability should be performed on slopes steeper than 20%. However, XXX does not believe stability analysis will reveal any potential adverse conditions for the following reasons:

- The existing slope is approximately 2H:1V, with an approximate 8-foot tall road cut at the toe of the slope.

- The entire slope exposes hard, relatively intact bedrock (dolomite). Adverse geologic structures (out-of-slope bedding or jointing) was not identified during our geotechnical investigation.

- Evidence of past or recent ground movement on this slope and the adjacent slopes were not evident during our geotechnical investigation.

In consideration of this data, the likelihood of an adverse or hazardous geologic condition being revealed by limit-equilibrium slope stability analysis is considered low.

Comment No. 2

"Figure A-2, Geotechnical Map, of the September 16, 2014 XXX repot depicts "...the relative locations of the various geologic units.." described in the September 16, 2014, XXX report. [redacted] recommends Weber County request XXX:

a. Include, for a reasonable distance, geologic units of adjacent properties.

b. Evaluate whether any potential off-site geologic hazards may impact the subject property; the evaluation should be completed under the direction of an engineering geologist."

Response to Comment No. 2

XXX takes no exception to the reviewer's comments; however, it should be pointed out that Lot 13 is located on a relatively competent bedrock outcrop; it is considered unlikely that any geologic hazards located downhill comprised of surficial earth materials, e.g. shallow landslides, slumps, talus, or similar, could impact Lot 13 or the adjacent lots.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Currently, XXX is planning to respond to the comments by [redacted]; however, part of our response will necessarily include additional field work, including a site reconnaissance by our geologist to assess areas outside of the project site and a further geologic assessment of the slope below, and adjacent to Lot 13. Scheduling this work will take at least a week, and preparation of our final review response will take an additional two to three days.

Based on the foregoing discussions, XXX considers the likelihood of the planned additional work revealing meaningful geologic hazards to be low. In the interest of moving forward with the proposed development on Lot 13, and in consideration of the relatively short construction season in the Powder Mountain development, XXX requests that the County give consideration to allowing the Client to move forward with construction on Lot 13, *at risk*, pending the results of our additional work and final review response. It is understood by XXX and the Client that, should geologic hazards be revealed by the additional work that impacts any part of The Ridge Nests development, that work on Lot 13 will cease pending development of appropriate mitigation measures and subsequent approval by the County and the County's geologic reviewer [redacted].

Closure

We appreciate the opportunity to provide you with our services. If you have any questions please contact the undersigned at your convenience XXX-XXX-XXXX.

Respectfully Submitted,
XXX Inc.

XXXX , P.E.
Senior Geotechnical Engineer

R156-76-502. Unprofessional Conduct.
(4) failing to conform to the accepted and recognized standards and ethics of the profession including those stated in the ***"American Geological Institute's Guidelines for Ethical Professional Conduct"***, April 2, 1999, which is hereby incorporated by reference.

American Geological Institute's Guidelines for

Ethical Professional Conduct

The American Geological Institute (AGI) expects the profession to adhere to the highest ethical standards in all professional activities. The following aspirational guidelines are presented as representative of the core values that form the foundation of the ethics for the geoscience profession. They are presented as the highest common denominator of values for the profession.
Geoscientists should strive to advance the integrity, honor, and dignity of their profession by undertaking the following:

- Use their knowledge and skill to enhance understanding of Earth for the well-being of society and the environment;
- Exhibit honesty in professional actions at all times;
- Work to enhance the prestige of the geoscience profession; and
- Support the profession and technical societies of the profession

More specifically, the position of AGI is that geoscientists must acknowledge responsibility to:

The Public and Society

Geoscientists should hold paramount the safety, health, and welfare of the public in applications of geoscience knowledge to society's needs. Efforts should be made to educate the public on all matters related to the geosciences (e.g., hazards, resources, and environment). Public comments on geoscience matters should be made with care and accuracy, without unsubstantiated, exaggerated, or premature statements; they should be made clearly and concisely.

The Environment

Geoscientists should strive to protect our natural environment. They should understand and anticipate the environmental consequences of their work and should disclose the consequences of recommended actions. They should acknowledge that resource extraction and use are necessary to the existence of our society and that such should be undertaken in an environmentally and economically responsible manner.

The Geosciences

Geoscientists should seek to advance their science, understand the limitations of their knowledge, and respect the truth. They should ensure that their scientific contributions, as well as those of their collaborators, are thorough, accurate, and unbiased in design, implementation, and presentation.

The Profession

Geoscientists should continue professional development to remain current in their field. They should maintain honesty and integrity in all conduct and publications, fully acknowledge the contributions of others, and accept responsibility for their own errors. They should provide scientific service only in areas of competency. Economic consequences and implications of geologic work should be acknowledged. Conflicts of interest, both real and perceived, should be acknowledged and avoided, when appropriate. Scientific misconduct, including falsification or fabrication of data and plagiarism, is unacceptable in the geoscience profession.

The Employer

Geoscientists should promote and protect the legitimate interests of their employers, perform work honestly and competently, avoid conflicts of interest, safeguard proprietary information, and provide adequate notice before leaving an employer.

Employees

Geoscientists should treat their employees with respect and trust with concern for their well-being, provide a safe and congenial working environment and fair compensation. They should properly acknowledge employees' professional contributions and should encourage professional career development.

Clients

Geoscientists should serve clients faithfully and only in technical areas of competency. They should advise honestly, regardless of the impact of the advice, respect confidentiality, and charge fairly.

Students

Geoscientists should treat their mentorship of students as a trust conferred by the profession for the promotion of students' learning and professional development. Each student should be treated with respect and without exploitation.

Colleagues and Associates

Geoscientists should treat their colleagues and associates with courtesy, encourage them, learn with them, share and exchange ideas, and acknowledge their contributions. They should strive to ensure that colleagues and associates respect the ethical principles of the profession and they should nurture and mentor young professionals.