



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

SOILS REPORT WAIVER REQUEST

Based on the 2019 CBC/CRC

Instructions:

The Engineer of Record in responsible charge of the project may request that the 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 CA licensed Geotechnical Engineer is involved in the project, they must conduct the observations and produce the request for waiver, **not the architect or civil engineer.**

Refer to the relevant portion of the 2019 California Building Code (CBC) section 1803; sections 1803.2 through 1803.3 in particular. The Investigated Conditions that are required to be addressed in a soils investigation or report are laid out in Sections 1803.5.1 through 1803.5.12 of the 2019 CBC.

Answer the questions on the reverse side of this form. 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 Engineer of Record in responsible charge must **create a formal letter** requesting that the Napa County 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 Engineer of Record in responsible charge must have full confidence that the answers are all "No", as the county 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 Engineer of Record requesting the waiver. In order to complete a timely review, the letter should be submitted at the time of application along with your other submittal documents.

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

- The letter should be addressed to the Plans Examiner, County of Napa Building Division.
- Date of the letter.
- Date of site observations.
- APN #(Assessor's Parcel Number).
- Site address.
- The owners name and mailing address.
- 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 to appropriate to each of items 2 through 12 of this policy (CBC 1803.5.2 through CBC 1803.5.12).
- Summary statement of the Engineer of Record in responsible charge's professional opinion that a full soils investigation is not warranted by either the observed conditions at the site, and the scope of the proposed construction, based on the 12 criteria/ items.
- Wet stamp and signature of the Engineer of Record in responsible charge.
- A copy of this form with the 12 items on the reverse completed.

See the reverse side for complete instructions. The Engineer of Record's observations and report need to cover at least these 12 specific code section items of the 2019 CBC:

APN:

1. **Classification:** (2019 CBC 1803.5.1)
Provide a classification of the soil materials in accordance with ASTM D 2487. _____

2. **Questionable Soil:** (2019 CBC 1803.5.2)

Are there soil conditions or evidence with existing structures that indicate soils of questionable bearing capacity? Y or N?	Y	N	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are minimum bearing values used in the proposed design in excess of the presumptive values found in 2019 CBC Table 1806.2? Y or N?	Y	N	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

3. **Expansive Soil:** (2019 CBC 1803.5.3)

a. Are there soil conditions or evidence with existing structures that indicate expansive soils? Y or N?	Y	N	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

4. **Ground-water Table:** (2019 CBC 1803.5.4)

Is there evidence of a "high" ground-water table and will there be floor levels below grade? Y or N?	Y	N	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

5. **Deep Foundations:** (2019 CBC 1803.5.5)

Does the design utilize a pile and pier, or other deep foundation method? Y or N?	Y	N	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

6. **Rock strata:** (2019 CBC 1803.5.6)

Are issues indicated with variations or doubtful characteristics in the subsurface rock strata? Y or N?	Y	N	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

7. **Excavations Near Foundations:** (2019 CBC 1803.5.7)

Will there be excavation that will remove lateral support from any foundation? Y or N?	Y	N	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

8. **Compacted Fill Material:** (2019 CBC 1803.5.8)

Will there be shallow foundations bearing on compacted fill more than 12" in depth? Y or N?	Y	N	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

9. **Controlled Low-strength Material:** (2019 CBC 1803.5.9)

Will shallow foundations bear on fill of controlled low-strength material? Y or N?	Y	N	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

10. **Alternate Setback and Clearance:** (2019 CBC 1803.5.10)

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 or N?	Y	N	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is the proposed setback less than the minimum prescribed in 2019 CBC section 1808.7? Y or N?	Y	N	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

11. **Seismic Design Category C through F:** (2019 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 or N?	Y	N	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

12. **Seismic Design Category D through F:** (2019 CBC 1803.5.12)

Are foundation walls (stem walls with lateral soil loads of more than 12"), basements, or retaining walls proposed? Y or N?	Y	N	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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 believe that the above questions are answered correctly:

Engineer of Record

License #

Date:

Yes No

Chief Building Official or Authorized Representative

Approved

Date: