



MILLER ENGINEERING & TESTING INC.

GEOTECHNICAL / SOIL BORINGS / ENVIRONMENTAL / SOILS / CONCRETE / MASONRY / STEEL / ROOFING / ASPHALT INSPECTION

Mail all correspondence to: 100 SHEFFIELD ROAD · P.O. BOX 4776 · MANCHESTER, NH 03108-4776 · TELEPHONE (603) 668-6016

Via email: gengler@s-e-b.com

March 2, 2022

Mr. Geoffrey Engler, Principal
SLV SCHOOL STREET, LLC
257 Hillside Avenue
Needham, Massachusetts 02494

RE: SLV 0 School Street
ZBA Outstanding Information Request
Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts

Project No. 20.119.NH

Dear Mr. Engler:

During our review of the February 18, 2022 letter from the Manchester-by-the-Sea Zoning Board of Appeals, we noticed a Prior Outstanding Request for information (made prior to the 2.9.2022 meeting) seeking information regarding geotechnical subsurface explorations.

ZBA Comment from February 18th Letter:

“Prior test pit logs – Taken in connection with the Miller Engineering & Testing, Inc. Report sent to you on July 29, 2020 and identified as Project 20.119.NH. Attachment A, Limitations, Explorations #3 refers to water level readings “being made at times and under conditions stated on the boring logs”. Attachment C, Laboratory Gradation Report, does not include any boring log information with respect to water level readings. Thus, our request for Test Pit Boring Logs with respect to water level readings remains outstanding.”

Response

The ZBA’s request for additional information is based on a statement within the standard limitations from the Miller Engineering & Testing “Geotechnical Reconnaissance, Proposed MBTS Apartments, School Street, Manchester-By-The-Sea, Massachusetts” report (dated July 29, 2020).

The comment Explorations #3 refers to water level readings being made “. . . at times and under conditions stated on the boring logs” is from our standard geotechnical report limitations language, which we append to all of our geotechnical engineering reports. We have not excavated test pits using machinery, nor have we drilled test borings (also, with machinery) for this project to date. Hence, we did not produce test pit logs or test boring logs. We have not

measured groundwater levels at the Site. Geotechnical explorations are more typically performed during the post permitting stages once the project has received necessary entitlements and the building program (e.g., building footprint, infrastructure, access, etc.) has been formally established to a high degree of certainty.

However, we did excavate three shovel test pits through the topsoil in order to obtain bulk samples of the shallow soils for laboratory testing of the grain-size distribution of the soils, the results of which were included as Attachment C of the July 29, 2020 report. Standard industry practice is generally not to generate test pit logs for shallow shovel pits where the purpose was solely for shallow sample collection. The laboratory report includes only the results of the grain-size testing because the purpose of the testing is to evaluate the reusability of the soils in the construction process; with soils being assessed for their viability and use as an engineered “fill”. The grain-size testing is independent of groundwater levels at the Site. Or put differently, the laboratory testing has nothing to do with groundwater levels.

Thank you for this opportunity to clarify these aspects of our Geological Reconnaissance Report. Please contact me at kmilender@millerengandtesting.com or (603) 668-6016 if you have questions regarding this report or if we can provide additional information.

Very truly yours,
MILLER ENGINEERING & TESTING, INC.



Kenneth W. Milender, P.E.
Senior Geotechnical Engineer