

**GEOTECHNICAL RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY FOR PITTWATER**  
**FORM NO. 1 – To be submitted with Development Application**

Development Application for \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Applicant

Address of site 1772 Pittwater Road, Bayview

*The following checklist covers the minimum requirements to be addressed in a Geotechnical Risk Declaration made by geotechnical engineer or engineering geologist or coastal engineer (where applicable) as part of a geotechnical report*

I, Ben White on behalf of White Geotechnical Group Pty Ltd  
(Insert Name) (Trading or Company Name)

on this the 29/8/22 certify that I am a geotechnical engineer or engineering geologist or coastal engineer as defined by the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009 and I am authorised by the above organisation/company to issue this document and to certify that the organisation/company has a current professional indemnity policy of at least \$10million.

I:

**Please mark appropriate box**

- ☒ have prepared the detailed Geotechnical Report referenced below in accordance with the Australia Geomechanics Society's Landslide Risk Management Guidelines (AGS 2007) and the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009
- ☒ am willing to technically verify that the detailed Geotechnical Report referenced below has been prepared in accordance with the Australian Geomechanics Society's Landslide Risk Management Guidelines (AGS 2007) and the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009
- ☐ have examined the site and the proposed development in detail and have carried out a risk assessment in accordance with Section 6.0 of the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009. I confirm that the results of the risk assessment for the proposed development are in compliance with the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009 and further detailed geotechnical reporting is not required for the subject site.
- ☐ have examined the site and the proposed development/alteration in detail and I am of the opinion that the Development Application only involves Minor Development/Alteration that does not require a Geotechnical Report or Risk Assessment and hence my Report is in accordance with the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009 requirements.
- ☐ have examined the site and the proposed development/alteration is separate from and is not affected by a Geotechnical Hazard and does not require a Geotechnical Report or Risk Assessment and hence my Report is in accordance with the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009 requirements.
- ☐ have provided the coastal process and coastal forces analysis for inclusion in the Geotechnical Report


**Geotechnical Report Details:**

Report Title: Geotechnical Report 1772 Pittwater Road, Bayview  
Report Date: 26/8/22  
  
Author: BEN WHITE  
  
Author's Company/Organisation: WHITE GEOTECHNICAL GROUP PTY LTD

**Documentation which relate to or are relied upon in report preparation:**

Australian Geomechanics Society Landslide Risk Management March 2007.  
White Geotechnical Group company archives.

I am aware that the above Geotechnical Report, prepared for the abovementioned site is to be submitted in support of a Development Application for this site and will be relied on by Pittwater Council as the basis for ensuring that the Geotechnical Risk Management aspects of the proposed development have been adequately addressed to achieve an "Acceptable Risk Management" level for the life of the structure, taken as at least 100 years unless otherwise stated and justified in the Report and that reasonable and practical measures have been identified to remove foreseeable risk.

Signature   
Name Ben White  
Chartered Professional Status MScGEOLAusIMM CP GEOL  
Membership No. 222757  
Company White Geotechnical Group Pty Ltd

**GEOTECHNICAL RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY FOR PITTWATER**  
**FORM NO. 1(a) - Checklist of Requirements for Geotechnical Risk Management Report for Development Application**

Development Application for	Name of Applicant
Address of site	<u>1772 Pittwater Road, Bayview</u>

The following checklist covers the minimum requirements to be addressed in a Geotechnical Risk Management Geotechnical Report. This checklist is to accompany the Geotechnical Report and its certification (Form No. 1).

**Geotechnical Report Details:**

Report Title: Geotechnical Report <u>1772 Pittwater Road, Bayview</u>
Report Date: <u>26/8/22</u>
Author: <u>BEN WHITE</u>
Author's Company/Organisation: <u>WHITE GEOTECHNICAL GROUP PTY LTD</u>

**Please mark appropriate box**

- ☒ Comprehensive site mapping conducted 19/11/19  
(date)
- ☒ Mapping details presented on contoured site plan with geomorphic mapping to a minimum scale of 1:200 (as appropriate)
- ☒ Subsurface investigation required
  - ☐ No Justification \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☒ Yes Date conducted 19/11/19
- ☒ Geotechnical model developed and reported as an inferred subsurface type-section
- ☒ Geotechnical hazards identified
  - ☒ Above the site
  - ☒ On the site
  - ☐ Below the site
  - ☐ Beside the site
- ☒ Geotechnical hazards described and reported
- ☒ Risk assessment conducted in accordance with the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009
  - ☒ Consequence analysis
  - ☒ Frequency analysis
- ☒ Risk calculation
- ☒ Risk assessment for property conducted in accordance with the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009
- ☒ Risk assessment for loss of life conducted in accordance with the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009
- ☒ Assessed risks have been compared to "Acceptable Risk Management" criteria as defined in the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009
- ☒ Opinion has been provided that the design can achieve the "Acceptable Risk Management" criteria provided that the specified conditions are achieved.
- ☒ Design Life Adopted:
  - ☒ 100 years
  - ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
specify
- ☒ Geotechnical Conditions to be applied to all four phases as described in the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009 have been specified
- ☒ Additional action to remove risk where reasonable and practical have been identified and included in the report.
- ☐ Risk assessment within Bushfire Asset Protection Zone.

I am aware that Pittwater Council will rely on the Geotechnical Report, to which this checklist applies, as the basis for ensuring that the geotechnical risk management aspects of the proposal have been adequately addressed to achieve an "Acceptable Risk Management" level for the life of the structure, taken as at least 100 years unless otherwise stated, and justified in the Report and that reasonable and practical measures have been identified to remove foreseeable risk.

  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Name Ben White  
Chartered Professional Status MScGEOLAusIMM CP GEOL  
Membership No. 222757  
Company White Geotechnical Group Pty Ltd

## **GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATION:**

### **New Boatshed at 1772 Pittwater Road, Bayview**

#### **1. Proposed Development**

- 1.1** Construct a new boatshed on the downhill side of the property by excavating to a maximum depth of ~2.1m.
- 1.2** Details of the proposed development are shown on 5 drawings prepared by Gartner Trovato Architects, project number 1925, drawings numbered A.01 to A.05, Revision A, dated 12/1/22.

#### **2. Site Description**

- 2.1** The site was inspected on the 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2019.
- 2.2** This waterfront residential property is on the downhill side of the road and has a NE aspect. It is located on the gentle to moderately graded lower reaches of a hillslope. The natural slope falls across the property at an average angle of ~15° before easing to gentle angles near the waterfront. The slope above the property gradually increases in grade.
- 2.3** At the road frontage, a concrete driveway runs to a suspended parking platform and lawn area on the uphill side of the property (Photo 1). The platform is supported by steel posts over the old brick driveway (Photo 2). The cut for this sub-floor area is supported by a ~2.0m high stable concrete retaining wall (Photo 3). The part three-storey brick house will be demolished as part of a separate approved application (Photo 4). The cut for the house is supported by a ~5.3m high rendered masonry retaining wall that lines the NW common boundary (Photo 5). A gently sloping lawn-covered fill extends off the downhill side of the house. The fill is supported by a ~1.0m high stack rock retaining wall that will be demolished as part of a separate approved application (Photo 6). To the SE of the fill is a pool that will also

be demolished as part of a separate approved application (Photo 7). Below the fill and the pool, a gently sloping lawn falls to a beach at the waterfront (Photo 8).

### **3. Geology**

The Sydney 1:100 000 Geological sheet indicates the site is underlain by the Newport Formation of the Narrabeen Group. It is described as interbedded laminite, shale and quartz to lithic quartz sandstone.

### **4. Subsurface Investigation**

Four Dynamic Cone Penetrometer (DCP) tests were put down to determine the relative density of the overlying soil and the depth to weathered rock. The locations of the tests are shown on the site plan attached. It should be noted that a level of caution should be applied when interpreting DCP test results. The test will not pass through hard buried objects so in some instances it can be difficult to determine whether refusal has occurred on an obstruction in the profile or on the natural rock surface. This is not expected to be an issue for the testing on this site. However, excavation and foundation budgets should always allow for the possibility that the interpreted ground conditions in this report vary from those encountered during excavations. See the appended "Important information about your report" for a more comprehensive explanation. The results are as follows:

## **GROUND TEST RESULTS ON THE NEXT PAGE**

DCP TEST RESULTS – Dynamic Cone Penetrometer				
Equipment: 9kg hammer, 510mm drop, conical tip.			Standard: AS1289.6.3.2 - 1997	
Depth(m) Blows/0.3m	DCP 1 (~RL5.5)	DCP 2 (~RL5.2)	DCP 3 (~RL3.1)	DCP 4 (~RL1.8)
0.0 to 0.3	3	8	3	11
0.3 to 0.6	2	4	8	22
0.6 to 0.9	17	3	14	7
0.9 to 1.2	#	9	15	9
1.2 to 1.5		10	19	6
1.5 to 1.8		8	19	5
1.8 to 2.1		#	19	16
2.1 to 2.4			30	30
2.4 to 2.7			#	#
	End of Test @ 0.9m	Refusal on Rock @ 1.6m	End of Test @ 2.4m	End of Test @ 2.2m

#refusal/end of test. F=DCP fell after being struck showing little resistance through all or part of the interval.

### DCP Notes:

DCP1 – End of test @ 0.9m, DCP still very slowly going down, white shale fragments on dry tip.

DCP2 – Refusal on rock @ 1.6m, DCP bouncing off rock surface, maroon shale fragments on dry tip, grey clay in collar above tip.

DCP3 – End of test @ 2.4m, DCP still very slowly going down, grey clay on wet tip.

DCP4 – End of test @ 1.4m, DCP still very slowly going down, brown sand on wet tip.

## 5. Geological Observations/Interpretation

The slope materials across the majority of the property are colluvial at the near surface and residual at depth. At the waterfront, sandy sediments overly the residual materials. In the test locations across the upper roughly two-thirds of the property, the ground materials consist of a thin silty topsoil over Firm to Stiff Clays. Filling has been placed across the downhill side of the property for landscaping. The clays merge into the underlying weathered rock at varying depths of between 0.9 to 2.1m below the current surface. The variability is due to the

existing excavations on site as the soil material has already been removed and due to the underlying weathered rock being buried by sandy sediments closer to the waterfront. The weathered zone is interpreted to be Extremely Low Strength Shale. The sandy sediments at the waterfront consist of Loose to Medium Dense Sand. See Type Section attached for a diagrammatical representation of the expected ground materials.

## 6. Groundwater

Normal ground water seepage is expected to move over the buried surface of the rock and through the cracks. Due to the waterfront location of the property, the water table is expected to be encountered between ~RL0.0 to RL2.0 across the property.

## 7. Surface Water

No evidence of surface flows were observed on the property during the inspection. It is expected that normal sheet wash will move onto the site from above the property during heavy down pours. Pittwater Road above will provide only limited drainage diversion from surface flows as the road is not guttered above the subject property.

## 8. Geotechnical Hazards and Risk Analysis

No geotechnical hazards were observed below or beside the property. The gentle to moderately graded slope that falls across the property and continues above is a potential hazard (**Hazard One**). The proposed excavation collapsing onto the work site before permanent support is in place is a potential hazard (**Hazard Two**). The proposed excavation undercutting the footings of the NW neighbouring retaining wall is a potential hazard (**Hazard Three**).

### RISK ANALYSIS SUMMARY ON NEXT PAGE

## Risk Analysis Summary

HAZARDS	Hazard One	Hazard Two	Hazard Three
TYPE	The gentle to moderate slope that rises across the site and continues above failing and impacting on the proposed works.	The unsupported cut batters of the excavations collapsing onto the work site before permanent support is in place.	The proposed excavation undercutting the footings of the NW neighbouring retaining wall and causing movement.
LIKELIHOOD	'Unlikely' ( $10^{-4}$ )	'Possible' ( $10^{-3}$ )	'Possible' ( $10^{-3}$ )
CONSEQUENCES TO PROPERTY	'Medium' (12%)	'Medium' (12%)	'Medium' (15%)
RISK TO PROPERTY	'Low' ( $2 \times 10^{-5}$ )	'Moderate' ( $2 \times 10^{-4}$ )	'Moderate' ( $2 \times 10^{-4}$ )
RISK TO LIFE	$5.5 \times 10^{-7}$ /annum	$6.2 \times 10^{-5}$ /annum	$8.3 \times 10^{-5}$ /annum
COMMENTS	This level of risk is 'ACCEPTABLE'.	This level of risk to life and property is 'UNACCEPTABLE'. To move the risk levels to acceptable levels, the recommendations in <b>Section 13</b> are to be followed.	This level of risk to life and property is 'UNACCEPTABLE'. To move the risk levels to acceptable levels, the recommendations in <b>Section 13</b> are to be followed.

(See Aust. Geomech. Jnl. Mar 2007 Vol. 42 No 1, for full explanation of terms)

## 9. Suitability of the Proposed Development for the Site

The proposed development is suitable for the site. No geotechnical hazards will be created by the completion of the proposed development provided it is carried out in accordance with the requirements of this report and good engineering and building practice.

## **10. Stormwater**

There is fall to the waterfront below. All stormwater or drainage runoff from the proposed development is to be piped to the waterfront.

## **11. Excavations**

An excavation to a maximum depth of ~2.1m is required to construct the proposed boatshed. It is expected to be taken through manmade fill over Loose to Medium Dense Sand and Firm to Hard Clay. Extremely Low Strength Shale may be encountered near the base of the excavation.

Excavations through fill, sand, clay, and Extremely Low Strength Shale can be carried out with an excavator and toothed bucket.

## **12. Vibrations**

No excessive vibrations will be generated by excavation through fill, sand, clay, and Extremely Low Strength Shale. Any vibrations generated by a domestic machine and bucket up to 16 ton will be below the threshold limit for infrastructure or building damage.

## **13. Excavation Support Requirements**

The excavation will reach a maximum depth of ~2.1m and, allowing for back-wall drainage, will be set back a minimum of ~0.4m from the NW neighbouring retaining wall. As such, this retaining wall will be within the zone of influence of the proposed excavation.

Where the retaining wall falls within the zone of influence of the excavation, exploration pits in this location will need to be put down by the builder to determine the foundation depth and material. The pits are to be inspected by the geotechnical consultant.

If the wall is confirmed to be supported below the zone of influence of the proposed excavation, the excavation may commence. If it is not supported below the zone of influence of the proposed excavation, the wall will need to be underpinned prior to the excavation



commencing. The owner/s of the NW neighbouring property will need to give their permission to carry out the underpinning works. If permission cannot be granted, our office is to be contacted to provide an alternative means of support. See the site plan attached showing the minimum extent of the required exploration pits/underpinning works.

Underpinning is to follow the underpinning sequence 'hit one miss two'. Under no circumstances is the bulk excavation to be taken to the edges of the walls or piers and then underpinned. Underpins are to be constructed from drives that should be proportioned according to footing type and size. Allowances are to be made for drainage through the underpinning to prevent a build-up of hydrostatic pressure. Underpins that are not designed as retaining walls are to be supported by retaining walls. The void between the retaining walls and the underpinning is to be filled with free-draining material such as gravel.

Where underpinning is not required, the fill and sand portions of the cut are to be temporarily battered at 1.0 Vertical: 1.7 Horizontal (30°) and cut batters through clay and Extremely Low Strength Shale or better are expected to stand unsupported at near-vertical angles for short periods of time until retaining walls are installed, provided they are kept from becoming saturated.

During the excavation process, the geotechnical consultant is to inspect the cuts in 1.5m intervals as they are lowered, while the machine/excavation equipment is on site, to ensure the ground materials are as expected and no additional temporary support is required.

Upslope runoff is to be diverted from the cut faces by sandbag mounds or other diversion works. All unsupported cut batters through fill, sand, and clay are to be covered to prevent access of water in wet weather and loss of moisture in dry weather. The covers are to be tied down with metal pegs or other suitable fixtures so they can't blow off in a storm. The materials and labour to construct the retaining walls are to be organised so on completion of the excavations they can be constructed as soon as possible. The excavations are to be carried

out during a dry period. No excavations are to commence if heavy or prolonged rainfall is forecast.

All excavation spoil is to be removed from site following the current Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) waste classification guidelines.

## 14. Retaining Walls

For cantilever or singly-propped retaining walls, it is suggested the design be based on a triangular pressure distribution of lateral pressures using the parameters shown in Table 1.

**Table 1 – Likely Earth Pressures for Retaining Walls**

Unit	Earth Pressure Coefficients		
	Unit weight (kN/m <sup>3</sup> )	'Active' K <sub>a</sub>	'At Rest' K <sub>0</sub>
Sand and Residual Clays	20	0.40	0.55

For rock classes refer to Pells et al "Design Loadings for Foundations on Shale and Sandstone in the Sydney Region". Australian Geomechanics Journal 1978.

It is to be noted that the earth pressures in Table 1 assume a level surface above the wall, do not account for any surcharge loads and assume retaining walls are fully drained. Rock strength and relevant earth pressure coefficients are to be confirmed on site by the geotechnical consultant.

All retaining walls are to have sufficient back-wall drainage and be backfilled immediately behind the wall with free-draining material (such as gravel). This material is to be wrapped in a non-woven Geotextile fabric (i.e. Bidim A34 or similar), to prevent the drainage from becoming clogged with silt and clay. If no back-wall drainage is installed in retaining walls, the likely hydrostatic pressures are to be accounted for in the structural design.

## 15. Foundations

As Extremely Low Strength Shale may be encountered near the base of the proposed excavation, the proposed boatshed can be supported on spread footings and piers taken to this ground material. Where the slope falls away on the downhill side, this material is expected at a maximum depth of ~2.1m below the current surface. A maximum allowable bearing pressure of 600kPa can be assumed for footings on Extremely Low Strength Shale. It should be noted that this material is a soft rock and a rock auger will cut through it so the builders should not be looking for refusal to end the footings.

As the piers will be through deep, wet, and Loose to Medium Dense Sand, the pier holes will likely require pier liners to prevent collapse, and possibly a bag of concrete poured into the base of the hole to seal it.

As the bearing capacity of clay and shale reduces when it is wet, we recommend the footings be dug, inspected, and poured in quick succession (ideally the same day if possible). If the footings get wet, they will have to be drained and the soft layer of wet clay or shale on the footing surface will have to be removed before concrete is poured.

If a rapid turnaround from footing excavation to the concrete pour is not possible, a sealing layer of concrete may be added to the footing surface after it has been cleaned.

**NOTE:** If the contractor is unsure of the footing material required, it is more cost-effective to get the geotechnical consultant on site at the start of the footing excavation to advise on footing depth and material. This mostly prevents unnecessary over-excavation in clay-like shaly-rock but can be valuable in all types of geology.

## 16. Geotechnical Review

The structural plans are to be checked and certified by the geotechnical consultant as being in accordance with the geotechnical recommendations. On completion, a Form 2B will be issued. This form is required for the Construction Certificate to proceed.

## 16. Inspections

The client and builder are to familiarise themselves with the following required inspections as well as council geotechnical policy. We cannot provide geotechnical certification for the regulating authorities or the owner if the following inspections have not been carried out during the construction process.

- The geotechnical consultant is to inspect any test pits dug by the builder to verify foundation depth and material of the existing footings.
- During the excavation process, the geotechnical consultant is to inspect the cut in 1.5m intervals as it is lowered, while the machine/excavation equipment is on site, to ensure the ground materials are as expected and no temporary support is required.
- All footings are to be inspected and approved by the geotechnical consultant while the excavation equipment and contractors are still onsite and before steel reinforcing is placed or concrete is poured.

White Geotechnical Group Pty Ltd.



Ben White M.Sc. Geol.,  
AusIMM., CP GEOL.  
No. 222757  
Engineering Geologist





Photo 1



Photo 2





Photo 3



Photo 4





Photo 5



Photo 6





Photo 7



Photo 8



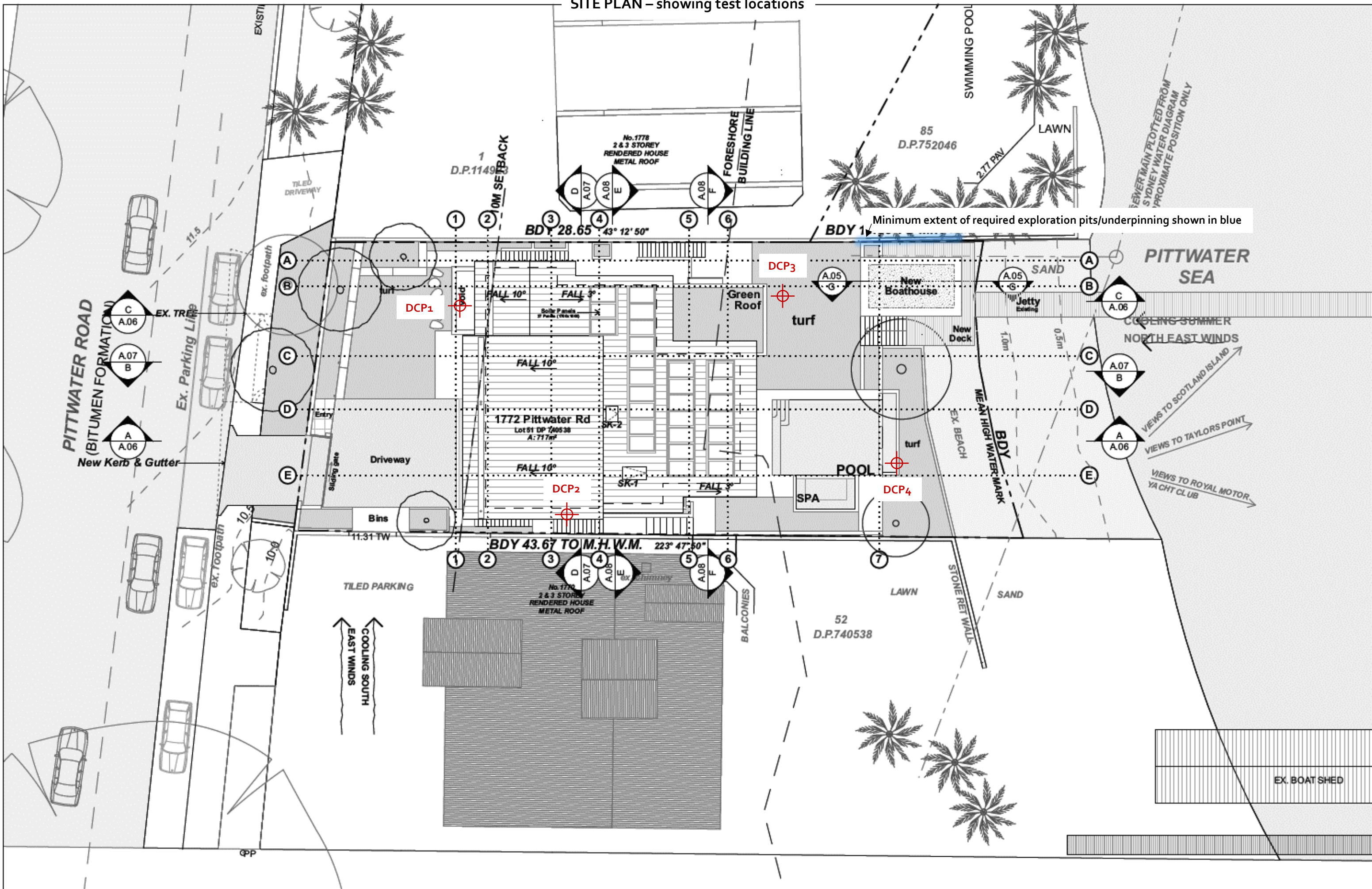
## Important Information about Your Report

It should be noted that Geotechnical Reports are documents that build a picture of the subsurface conditions from the observation of surface features and testing carried out at specific points on the site. The spacing and location of the test points can be limited by the location of existing structures on the site or by budget and time constraints of the client. Additionally, the test themselves, although chosen for their suitability for the particular project, have their own limiting factors. The testing gives accurate information at the location of the test, within the confines of the test's capability. A geological interpretation or model is developed by joining these test points using all available data and drawing on previous experience of the geotechnical consultant. Even the most experienced practitioners cannot determine every possible feature or change that may lie below the earth. All of the subsurface features can only be known when they are revealed by excavation. As such, a Geotechnical report can be considered an interpretive document. It is based on factual data but also on opinion and judgement that comes with a level of uncertainty. This information is provided to help explain the nature and limitations of your report.

With this in mind, the following points are to be noted:

- If upon the commencement of the works the subsurface ground or ground water conditions prove different from those described in this report, it is advisable to contact White Geotechnical Group immediately, as problems relating to the ground works phase of construction are far easier and less costly to overcome if they are addressed early.
- If this report is used by other professionals during the design or construction process, any questions should be directed to White Geotechnical Group as only we understand the full methodology behind the report's conclusions.
- The report addresses issues relating to your specific design and site. If the proposed project design changes, aspects of the report may no longer apply. Contact White Geotechnical if this occurs.
- This report should not be applied to any other project other than that outlined in section 1.0.
- This report is to be read in full and should not have sections removed or included in other documents as this can result in misinterpretation of the data by others.
- It is common for the design and construction process to be adapted as it progresses (sometimes to suit the previous experience of the contractors involved). If alternative design and construction processes are required to those described in this report, contact White Geotechnical Group. We are familiar with a variety of techniques to reduce risk and can advise if your proposed methods are suitable for the site conditions.

# SITE PLAN – showing test locations

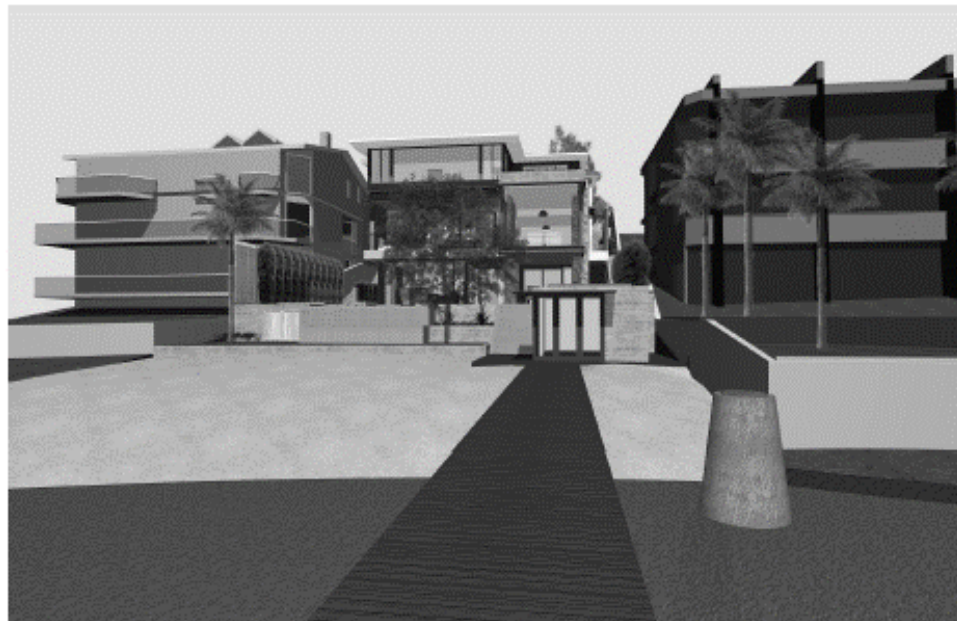


DATE	REV	DESCRIPTION
12/1/22	A	DA



## SECTION G

- 
- The diagram illustrates a cross-section of a dam structure. The dam body is shown with a concrete core and a masonry structure. The water level is indicated by a dashed line at an elevation of 3.72. The ground surface is shown with a slope of 1:1.42. The geological layers are color-coded: red for the top layer, green for the middle layer, and yellow for the bottom layer. The text 'Power Above E.P.L.' is written in red, indicating the power generation area. The text 'Length Shale - after being cut hard clay.' is written in black, indicating the length of the shale layer after being cut from the hard clay.



DATE	REV	DESCRIPTION
12/1/22	A	DA

# EXAMPLES OF **GOOD** HILLSIDE PRACTICE



# EXAMPLES OF **POOR** HILLSIDE PRACTICE

