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REPORT ON GEOTECHNICAL ASSESSMENT

for

PROPOSED NEW DRIVEWAY AND CARPORT

at

81 RIVERVIEW ROAD, AVALON BEACH, NSW

Prepared For

Birgit Bessey

Project No.: 2024-177

September 2024

Document Revision Record

Issue No	Date	Details of Revisions
0	30th September 2024	Original issue

GEOTECHNICAL RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY FOR PITTWATER

FORM NO. 1 – To be submitted with Development Application

Development Application for _____

Name of Applicant

Address of site ___81 Riverview Road, Avalon Beach, NSW

Declaration made by geotechnical engineer or engineering geologist or coastal engineer (where applicable) as part of a geotechnical report

I, ***__Troy Crozier_____*** *on behalf of* ***___Crozier Geotechnical Consultants*** 30/09/2024 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 $2million.

I:

☐ 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 for Proposed New Driveway and Car Park

Report Date: 30 September 2024 **Project No.:** 2024-177

Author: Kieron Nicholson

Author's Company/Organisation: Crozier Geotechnical Consultants

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

Architectural drawings (DA Issue) by Action Plans, 81 Riverview Road, Avalon Beach, 2017, Drawing No. DA01 to DA.05, Dated: 02 September 2024.

Survey Plan by Adam Clerke Surveyors, Plan Ref: 6712C, Dated: 18/03/22.

✓ 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 ...**Troy Crozier**.....

Chartered Professional Status ...**RPGeo (AIG)**.....

Membership No.: ...**10197**.....

Company... **Crozier Geotechnical Consultants**

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF GEOSCIENTISTS

TROY CROZIER 10197

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 ___81 Riverview Road, Avalon Beach, NSW

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 for Proposed New Driveway and Carport
Report Date: 30/09/2024 **Project No.:** 2024-177
Author: Kieron Nicholson
Author's Company/Organisation: Crozier Geotechnical Consultants

Please mark appropriate box

✓ Comprehensive site mapping conducted ____16/09/2024_____

☐ Mapping details presented on contoured site plan with geomorphic mapping to a minimum scale of 1:200 (as appropriate)
☐ Subsurface investigation required
- ✓ No Justification ..... minor works only.
- ☐ Yes Date conducted

☐ 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 ...

☐ 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.

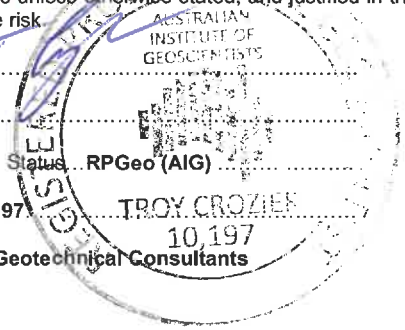
Signature .....

Name ...**Troy Crozier**.....

Chartered Professional Status ...**RPGeo (AIG)** .....

Membership No. ...**10197**.....

Company... **Crozier Geotechnical Consultants**



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GEOTECHNICAL REPORT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW DRIVEWAY AND CARPORT AT 81 RIVERVIEW ROAD, AVALON BEACH, NSW

1. INTRODUCTION:

This report details the results of a geotechnical assessment carried out for proposed a new driveway and carport at 81 Riverview Road, Avalon Beach, NSW. The assessment was undertaken by Crozier Geotechnical Consultants (CGC) at the written request of the client Birgit Bessey.

It is understood that the proposed additions involve the construction of a new driveway and carport at the front of the site. Bulk excavation does not appear to be required to accommodate the developments.

Reference to Pittwater Council's LEP 2014 Geotechnical Risk Management Map the site has been classified as being within the H1 (highest category) landslip hazard zone therefore the site requires a Geotechnical Landslip Risk Assessment to be conducted in support of a Development Application. This report therefore includes a detailed description of the field work, assessment of proposed works, site specific risk assessment where landslip hazards are identified and recommendations for construction to maintain the 'Acceptable Risk Management' criteria.

The assessment and reporting were undertaken as per the Proposal P24-307, Dated: 23 July 2024.

The assessment comprised:

a) A detailed geotechnical inspection and mapping of the site and adjacent properties by a Senior Engineering Geologist.
b) Review Aerial Photography of the site.
c) Photographic of site conditions

The following plans and diagrams were supplied and relied on for the work:

- Architectural drawings (DA Issue) by Action Plans, 81 Riverview Road, Avalon Beach, 2017, Drawing No. DA01 to DA.05, Dated: 02 September 2024.
- Survey Plan by Adam Clerke Surveyors, Plan Ref: 6712C, Dated: 18/03/22.

2. SITE FEATURES:

2.1. Description:

The site is trapezoidal in shape and covers an area of approximately 1227m^2 in plan as referenced from the provided survey drawing. It is located on the low west side of the road within moderately west dipping topography and the elevation varies between a high of RL52.3m adjacent to the southeast corner and a low of RL23.5m near the west boundary of the site. It has north, east, south and west boundaries of 56.0m, 25.2m, 65.9m and 18.4m respectively as determined from the survey plan provided. An aerial photograph of the site and its surrounds is provided below (Photograph 1), as sourced from Google Earth.

Photograph 1: Aerial photo of site (outlined red) and surrounds

The site contains the main site dwelling, front and rear terraced/sloping gardens, rear timber deck, concrete parking bay accessed from Riverview Road and low (<0.70m in height) retained planter beds in the front of site. An approximately 1.8m high sandstone block retaining wall supports the rear deck.

The site dwelling is accessed via a brick pathway within the front of the site and access to the rear of the property is via a brick pathway to the north of the site dwelling.

The site is bordered to the north, east, south and west by No.83 Riverview Road, Riverview Road carriageway and easement, No.79 Riverview Road and No.23 Paradise Road respectively.

No.83 Riverview Road contains a one to two storey timber house with front and rear gardens and driveway. The house structure is approximately 2.5m from the shared boundary and the property is at similar level to the site immediately adjacent to the shared boundary.

Riverview Road carriageway comprises an asphalt pavement which is gently north dipping where it passes the site. Riverview Road easement comprises a grass verge.

No.79 Riverview Road contains a one to two storey weatherboard house with front and rear gardens, driveway and timber decking on the north side of the residence. The house structure is approximately 3.5m from the shared boundary and the timber decking is approximately 1.0m from the shared boundary. The property is at similar level to the site immediately adjacent to the shared boundary.

No.23 Paradise Road could not be viewed from the site however it appears to contain a two to three rendered dwelling which is located approximately 25m from the shared boundary.

2.2. Geology:

Reference to the Sydney 1:100,000 Geological Series sheet indicates that the site is underlain by Newport Formation (Upper Narrabeen Group) rock which is of middle Triassic Age. The Newport Formation typically comprises interbedded laminite, shale and quartz to lithic quartz sandstones and pink clay pellet sandstones.

Narrabeen Group rocks are dominated by shales and thin siltstone beds and often form rounded convex ridge tops with moderate angle (<20°) side slopes. These side slopes can be either concave or convex depending on geology, internally they comprise interbedded shale and siltstone beds with close spaced bedding partings that have either close spaced vertical joints or in extreme cases large space convex joints. The shale often forms deeply weathered silty clay soil profiles (medium to high plasticity) with thin silty colluvial cover.

Extract 1: Extract from the relevant Geology Series Map.

3. FIELD WORK:

3.1. Methods:

The field assessment comprised a walk over inspection and mapping of the site and adjacent properties on the 16 September 2024 by a Senior Engineering Geologist. It included a photographic record of the site conditions as well as geological/geomorphological mapping of the site and adjacent land with examination of ground levels, vegetation, soil slopes, bedrock outcrops and existing structures.

3.2. Field Observations:

A bedrock outcrop was observed within the rear garden of the site located approximately 18m east of the west boundary and comprised a broadly north-south trending outcrop of low to medium strength sandstone (See Photograph 2).

Photograph 2 and 3: View of the bedrock outcrop and functioning stormwater pipe within the rear garden of the site.

No indications of instability within the outcrop were observed. A stormwater pipe appears to be functioning and channelling stormwater to (at least) the base of the property however the outlet of the stormwater system could not be determined due to access conditions.

An open stormwater channel was also observed adjacent to the north boundary of the site and contained loose cobbles and boulders of sandstone which did not appear at risk of imminent failure/boulder roll. A view of the stormwater channel is provided in Photograph 3.

Photograph 3: View of the east side of the house and adjacent sandstone outcrop looking south

The existing site house comprised a one and two storey brick and weatherboard structure which was generally in good condition considering the anticipated age of the structure (estimated to be around 40-60 years old).

Some evidence of cracking was observed within the rear (west) section of the property which are indicated in Photographs 4 and 5.

Photographs 4 and 5: Cracking within the rear of the site residence.

The sandstone block retaining wall supporting the timber deck to the rear of the site residence appeared in good condition with no rotation or cracking observed within the structure.

The neighbouring property to the north (No.83 Riverview Road) appeared in good condition with no indications of warping observed on the exterior walls of the structure or potential downslope movement observed within the property.

Riverview Road to the east of the site appeared in good condition where it passes the site. There were no signs of excess cracking or deformation in the road pavement.

The neighbouring property to the south (No.79 Riverview Road) appeared in good condition with no indications of cracking observed on the exterior walls of the structure. No indications of movement were observed within the rear garden of the property.

Limited observations were possible of the property to the west of the site (No.23 Paradise Road) however no indications of potential instability were not observed within the front of the property observed from the roadway adjacent.

The neighbouring buildings and properties were only inspected from within the site or from the road reserve and the visible aspects did not show any significant signs of large-scale slope instability or other major geotechnical concerns which would impact the site.

4. COMMENTS:

4.1. Geotechnical Assessment:

The inspection and assessment identified no obvious credible landslip hazards within the site or adjacent properties. The existing residence appears to be approximately 40 – 60 years old and is in generally good condition, with the exception of some cracking in the brickwork within the rear of the site residence, interpreted to be related to age of the structure rather than a deep-seated geotechnical issue.

Surface stormwater appears to be well controlled with no evidence of erosion or uncontrolled surface flow identified and sandstone bedrock is exposed within the rear of the property which is generally resistant to the impacts of surface flows.

The proposed alterations and additions involve minor works with no significant excavation (if any) or application of additional load to existing structures envisaged.

There were no signs of existing or previous landslip instability within the site or adjacent land whilst the existing house structure shows no significant signs of settlement or cracking. The proposed works require no bulk excavation, therefore the proposed works are considered separate from and not affected by a geotechnical hazard. As such no further geotechnical investigation or reporting is required as part of this Development Application to meet Council's policy requirements.

4.2. Slope Stability & Risk Assessment:

Based on our site mapping no credible geological/geotechnical landslip hazards were identified which need to be considered in relation to the existing site and proposed development. As such a risk assessment is not required as the works are considered separate from, and not affected by, a geotechnical landslip hazard.

The entire site and surrounding slopes have been assessed as per the Pittwater Council Geotechnical Risk Management Policy 2009 and no credible landslip hazards were identified, therefore the site is considered to meet the 'Acceptable' risk management criteria for the design life of the development, taken as 50 years, provided the property is maintained as per the recommendations of this report.

4.3. Design Life of Future Development:

We have interpreted the design life requirements specified within Councils Risk Management Policy to refer to structural elements designed to support the adjacent slope, control stormwater and maintain the risk of instability within 'Acceptable' limits. Specific structures and features that may affect the maintenance and stability of the site in relation to the proposed development are considered to comprise:

- stormwater and subsoil drainage systems,
- retaining walls and soil slope erosion and instability,
- maintenance of trees/vegetation on this and adjacent properties,

Man-made features should be designed and maintained for a design life consistent with surrounding structures (as per AS2870 – 2011 (50 years)). In order to attain an "Acceptable Risk Management Criteria" for a design life of 100 years as detailed by the Councils Risk Management Policy, it will be necessary for the property owner to adopt and implement a maintenance and inspection program. It is considered that the existing house will have a design life of 50 years from its upgrade following the proposed works.

If a maintenance and inspection schedule are not implemented the "Acceptable" risk levels for the design life of the property may not be attained. A recommended program is given in Table: 1 below and should also include the following guidelines:

- The conditions on the block don't change from those present at the time this report was prepared, except for the changes due to new development.
- There is no change to the property due to an extraordinary event external to this site, and the property is maintained in good order and in accordance with the guidelines set out in;
    a) CSIRO sheet BTF 18
    b) Australian Geomechanics "Landslide Risk Management" Volume 42, March 2007.
    c) AS 2870 – 2011, Australian Standard for Residential Slabs and Footings

Table 1: Recommended Maintenance and Inspection Program for Future Developments

Structure	**Maintenance/ Inspection Item**	**Frequency**
Stormwater Drains.	Owner to inspect to ensure that the drains and pipes are free of debris & sediment build-up. Clear surface grates and litter.	Every year or following each major rainfall event
Retaining Walls or remedial measures	Owner to inspect walls for deviation from as constructed condition or for excess deterioration/rotation or signs of soil settlement/erosion or significant cracking adjacent to crest.	Every two years or following major rainfall events. Replace existing non-engineered walls as required prior to their failure
Large Trees on or adjacent to site	Arborist to check condition of trees and remove branches and dead trees as required	Every five years

N.B. Provided the above schedule is maintained the design life of the property should conform AS2870 and Councils 100 years stability criteria

Where changes to site conditions are identified during the maintenance and inspection program, reference should be made to relevant professionals (e.g. structural engineer, geotechnical engineer or Council). It is assumed that Northern Beaches Council will control development on neighbouring properties, carry out regular inspections and maintenance of the road verge, stormwater systems and large trees on public land adjacent to the site so as to ensure that stability conditions do not deteriorate with potential increase in risk level to the site. Also, individual Government Departments will maintain public utilities in the form of power lines, water and sewer mains to ensure they don't leak and increase either the local groundwater levels or landslide potential.

5. CONCLUSION:

The inspection and assessment identified no obvious significant slope movement, excess surface stormwater flow or seepage, erosion or instability within the site or adjacent properties. The entire site and surrounding slopes have been assessed as per the Pittwater Council Geotechnical Risk Management Policy 2009 and no credible landslip hazards were identified.

The proposed development involves minor alterations bulk excavation is not envisaged.

The proposed works are relatively minor from a geotechnical perspective and should not create any new instability, therefore the proposed works are separate from and not affected by a geotechnical hazard, and no further geotechnical assessment or reporting is required as part of this DA.

It is considered that the site will meet the 'Acceptable' risk management criteria for the design life of the development taken as 50 years from the proposed works provided the property is maintained as per the recommendations of this report.

Prepared by:
Kieron Nicholson
Senior Engineering Geologist

Reviewed by:
Troy Crozier
Principal Engineering Geologist
MAIG. RPGeo; 10197

6.0. REFERENCES:

1. Australian Geomechanics Society 2007, "Landslide Risk Assessment and Management", Australian Geomechanics Journal Vol 42, No 1, March 2007.
2. Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater, 2009.

CROZIER
GEOTECHNICAL CONSULTANTS

Appendix 1

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NOTES RELATING TO THIS REPORT

Introduction

These notes have been provided to amplify the geotechnical report in regard to classification methods, specialist field procedures and certain matters relating to the Discussion and Comments section. Not all, of course, are necessarily relevant to all reports.

Geotechnical reports are based on information gained from limited subsurface test boring and sampling, supplemented by knowledge of local geology and experience. For this reason, they must be regarded as interpretive rather than factual documents, limited to some extent by the scope of information on which they rely.

Description and classification Methods

The methods of description and classification of soils and rocks used in this report are based on Australian Standard 1726, Geotechnical Site Investigation Code. In general, descriptions cover the following properties - strength or density, colour, structure, soil or rock type and inclusions.

Soil types are described according to the predominating particle size, qualified by the grading of other particles present (eg. Sandy clay) on the following bases:

Soil Classification	Particle Size
Clay	less than 0.002 mm
Silt	0.002 to 0.06 mm
Sand	0.06 to 2.00 mm
Gravel	2.00 to 60.00mm

Cohesive soils are classified on the basis of strength either by laboratory testing or engineering examination. The strength terms are defined as follows:

Classification	Undrained Shear Strength kPa
Very soft	Less than 12
Soft	12 - 25
Firm	25 – 50
Stiff	50 – 100
Very stiff	100 - 200
Hard	Greater than 200

Non-cohesive soils are classified on the basis of relative density, generally from the results of standard penetration tests (SPT) or Dutch cone penetrometer tests (CPT) as below:

Relative Density	SPT "N" Value (blows/300mm)	CPT Cone Value (Qc – MPa)
Very loose	less than 5	less than 2
Loose	5 – 10	2 – 5
Medium dense	10 – 30	5 -15
Dense	30 – 50	15 – 25
Very dense	greater than 50	greater than 25

Rock types are classified by their geological names. Where relevant, further information regarding rock classification is given on the following sheet.

Sampling

Sampling is carried out during drilling to allow engineering examination (and laboratory testing where required) of the soil or rock.

Disturbed samples taken during drilling to allow information on colour, type, inclusions and, depending upon the degree of disturbance, some information on strength and structure.

Undisturbed samples are taken by pushing a thin-walled sample tube into the soil and withdrawing a sample of the soil in a relatively undisturbed state. Such samples yield information on structure and strength, and are necessary for laboratory determination of shear strength and compressibility. Undisturbed sampling is generally effective only in cohesive soils.

Drilling Methods

The following is a brief summary of drilling methods currently adopted by the company and some comments on their use and application.

Test Pits – these are excavated with a backhoe or a tracked excavator, allowing close examination of the insitu soils if it is safe to descent into the pit. The depth of penetration is limited to about 3m for a backhoe and up to 6m for an excavator. A potential disadvantage is the disturbance caused by the excavation.

Large Diameter Auger (eg. Pengo) – the hole is advanced by a rotating plate or short spiral auger, generally 300mm or larger in diameter. The cuttings are returned to the surface at intervals (generally of not more than 0.5m) and are disturbed but usually unchanged in moisture content. Identification of soil strata is generally much more reliable than with continuous spiral flight augers, and is usually supplemented by occasional undisturbed tube sampling.

Continuous Sample Drilling – the hole is advanced by pushing a 100mm diameter socket into the ground and withdrawing it at intervals to extrude the sample. This is the most reliable method of drilling soils, since moisture content is unchanged and soil structure, strength, etc. is only marginally affected.

Continuous Spiral Flight Augers – the hole is advanced using 90 – 115mm diameter continuous spiral flight augers which are withdrawn at intervals to allow sampling or insitu testing. This is a relatively economical means of drilling in clays and in sands above the water table. Samples are returned to the surface, or may be collected after withdrawal of the auger flights, but they are very disturbed and may be contaminated. Information from the drilling (as distinct from specific sampling by SPT's or undisturbed samples) is of relatively lower reliability, due to remoulding, contamination or softening of samples by ground water.

Non-core Rotary Drilling - the hole is advanced by a rotary bit, with water being pumped down the drill rods and returned up the annulus, carrying the drill cuttings. Only major changes in stratification can be determined from the cuttings, together with some information from 'feel' and rate of penetration.

Rotary Mud Drilling – similar to rotary drilling, but using drilling mud as a circulating fluid. The mud tends to mask the cuttings and reliable identification is again only possible from separate intact sampling (eg. From SPT).

Continuous Core Drilling – a continuous core sample is obtained using a diamond-tipped core barrel, usually 50mm internal diameter. Provided full core recovery is achieved (which is not always possible in very weak rocks and granular soils), this technique provides a very reliable (but relatively expensive) method of investigation.

Standard Penetration Tests

Standard penetration tests (abbreviated as SPT) are used mainly in non-cohesive soils, but occasionally also in cohesive soils as a means of determining density or strength and also of obtaining a relatively undisturbed sample. The test procedures is described in Australian Standard 1289, "Methods of Testing Soils for Engineering Purposes" – Test 6.3.1.

The test is carried out in a borehole by driving a 50mm diameter split sample tube under the impact of a 63kg hammer with a free fall of 760mm. It is normal for the tube to be driven in three successive 150mm increments and the 'N' value is taken

as the number of blows for the last 300mm. In dense sands, very hard clays or weak rock, the full 450mm penetration may not be practicable and the test is discontinued.

The test results are reported in the following form.

- In the case where full penetration is obtained with successive blow counts for each 150mm of say 4, 6 and 7 as 4, 6, 7 then N = 13
- In the case where the test is discontinued short of full penetration, say after 15 blows for the first 150mm and 30 blows for the next 40mm then as 15, 30/40mm.

The results of the test can be related empirically to the engineering properties of the soil. Occasionally, the test method is used to obtain samples in 50mm diameter thin wall sample tubes in clay. In such circumstances, the test results are shown on the borelogs in brackets.

Cone Penetrometer Testing and Interpretation

Cone penetrometer testing (sometimes referred to as Dutch Cone – abbreviated as CPT) described in this report has been carried out using an electrical friction cone penetrometer. The test is described in Australia Standard 1289, Test 6.4.1.

In tests, a 35mm diameter rod with a cone-tipped end is pushed continually into the soil, the reaction being provided by a specially designed truck or rig which is fitted with an hydraulic ram system. Measurements are made of the end bearing resistance on the cone and the friction resistance on a separte 130mm long sleeve, immediately behind the cone. Transducers in the tip of the assembly are connected buy electrical wires passing through the centre of the push rods to an amplifier and recorder unit mounted on the control truck.

As penetration occurs (at a rate of approximately 20mm per second) their information is plotted on a computer screen and at the end of the test is stored on the computer for later plotting of the results.

The information provided on the plotted results comprises: -

- Cone resistance – the actual end bearing force divided by the cross-sectional area of the cone – expressed in MPa.
- Sleeve friction – the frictional force on the sleeve divided by the surface area – expressed in kPa.
- Friction ratio - the ratio of sleeve friction to cone resistance, expressed in percent.

There are two scales available for measurement of cone resistance. The lower scale (0 – 5 MPa) is used in very soft soils where increased sensitivity is required and is shown in the graphs as a dotted line. The main scale (0 – 50 MPa) is less sensitive and is shown as a full line. The ratios of the sleeve friction to cone resistance will vary with the type of soil encountered, with higher relative friction in clays than in sands. Friction ratios 1% - 2% are commonly encountered in sands and very soft clays rising to 4% - 10% in stiff clays.

In sands, the relationship between cone resistance and SPT value is commonly in the range: -

Qc (MPa) = (0.4 to 0.6) N blows (blows per 300mm)

In clays, the relationship between undrained shear strength and cone resistance is commonly in the range: -

Qc = (12 to 18) Cu

Interpretation of CPT values can also be made to allow estimation of modulus or compressibility values to allow calculations of foundation settlements.

Inferred stratification as shown on the attached reports is assessed from the cone and friction traces and from experience and information from nearby boreholes, etc. This information is presented for general guidance, but must be regarded as being to some extent interpretive. The test method provides a continuous profile of engineering properties, and where precise information on soil classification is required, direct drilling and sampling may be preferable.

Dynamic Penetrometers

Dynamic penetrometer tests are carried out by driving a rod into the ground with a falling weight hammer and measuring the blows for successive 150mm increments of penetration. Normally, there is a depth limitation of 1.2m but this may be extended in certain conditions by the use of extension rods.

Two relatively similar tests are used.

- Perth sand penetrometer – a 16mm diameter flattened rod is driven with a 9kg hammer, dropping 600mm (AS1289, Test 6.3.3). The test was developed for testing the density of sands (originating in Perth) and is mainly used in granular soils and filling.
- Cone penetrometer (sometimes known as Scala Penetrometer) – a 16mm rod with a 20mm diameter cone end is driven with a 9kg hammer dropping 510mm (AS 1289, Test 6.3.2). The test was developed initially for pavement sub-grade investigations, and published correlations of the test results with California bearing ratio have been published by various Road Authorities.

Laboratory Testing

Laboratory testing is generally carried out in accordance with Australian Standard 1289 "Methods of Testing Soil for Engineering Purposes". Details of the test procedure used are given on the individual report forms.

Borehole Logs

The bore logs presented herein are an engineering and/or geological interpretation of the subsurface conditions, and their reliability will depend to some extent on frequency of sampling and the method of drilling. Ideally, continuous undisturbed sampling or core drilling will provide the most reliable assessment, but this is not always practicable, or possible to justify on economic grounds. In any case, the boreholes represent only a very small sample of the total subsurface profile.

Interpretation of the information and its application to design and construction should therefore take into account the spacing of boreholes, the frequency of sampling and the possibility of other than 'straight line' variations between the boreholes.

Details of the type and method of sampling are given in the report and the following sample codes are on the borehole logs where applicable:

D	Disturbed Sample	E	Environmental sample	DT	Diatube
B	Bulk Sample	PP	Pocket Penetrometer Test		
U50	50mm Undisturbed Tube Sample	SPT	Standard Penetration Test		
U63	63mm " " " " "	C	Core		

Ground Water

Where ground water levels are measured in boreholes there are several potential problems:

- In low permeability soils, ground water although present, may enter the hole slowly or perhaps not at all during the time it is left open.
- A localised perched water table may lead to an erroneous indication of the true water table.
- Water table levels will vary from time to time with seasons or recent weather changes. They may not be the same at the time of construction as are indicated in the report.
- The use of water or mud as a drilling fluid will mask any ground water inflow. Water has to be blown out of the hole and drilling mud must first be washed out of the hole if water observations are to be made. More reliable measurements can be made by installing standpipes which are read at intervals over several days, or perhaps weeks for low permeability soils. Piezometers, sealed in a particular stratum, may be interference from a perched water table.

Engineering Reports

Engineering reports are prepared by qualified personnel and are based on the information obtained and on current engineering standards of interpretation and analysis. Where the report has been prepared for a specific design proposal (eg. A three-storey building), the information and interpretation may not be relevant if the design proposal is changed (eg. to a twenty-storey building). If this happens, the Company will be pleased to review the report and the sufficiency of the investigation work.

Every care is taken with the report as it relates to interpretation of subsurface condition, discussion of geotechnical aspects and recommendations or suggestions for design and construction**.** However, the Company cannot always anticipate or assume responsibility for:

- unexpected variations in ground conditions – the potential for this will depend partly on bore spacing and sampling frequency,
- changes in policy or interpretation of policy by statutory authorities,
- the actions of contractors responding to commercial pressures,

If these occur, the Company will be pleased to assist with investigation or advice to resolve the matter.

Site Anomalies

In the event that conditions encountered on site during construction appear to vary from those which were expected from the information contained in the report, the Company requests that it immediately be notified. Most problems are much more readily resolved when conditions are exposed than at some later stage, well after the event.

Reproduction of Information for Contractual Purposes

Attention is drawn to the document “Guidelines for the Provision of Geotechnical Information in Tender Documents”, published by the Institution of Engineers Australia. Where information obtained from this investigation is provided for tendering purposes, it is recommended that all information, including the written report and discussion, be made available. In circumstances where the discussion or comments section is not relevant to the contractual situation, it may be appropriate to prepare a special ally edited document. The Company would be pleased to assist in this regard and/or to make additional report copies available for contract purposes at a nominal charge.

Site Inspection

The Company will always be pleased to provide engineering inspection services for geotechnical aspects of work to which this report is related. This could range from a site visit to confirm that conditions exposed are as expected, to full time engineering presence on site.