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A Report Prepared for

Blue Print Service Company c/o Garcia/Wagner and Associates 555 Sutter Street San Francisco, California 94102

SOIL INVESTIGATION CITY BLUE PRODUCTION FACILITY 1700 JEFFERSON STREET OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

HLA JOD No. 18106,001.04

by

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May 4, 1987



Harding Lawson Associates

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I INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of the soil investigation we performed for the proposed City Blue Production facility in Oakland, California. The project is located on the northeast corner of 17th and Jefferson streets; it has approximately 70 feet of frontage on Jefferson Street and 190 feet of frontage on 17th Street. The site is almost entirely surfaced with asphalt pavement, except the southwest corner, where a small gas station is operated by Blue Print Service Company.

The City Blue Production facility will consist of a one-story structure measuring approximately 70 by 120 feet in plan dimensions and an adjacent fenced-in parking area. The structure will have approximately 16-foot-high concrete block walls and a concrete slab-on-grade floor. The proposed finished floor elevation is 31.85 feet.* The fence enclosing the parking area will consist of free-standing concrete block walls.

The existing gas station has three underground gasoline tanks that will eventually be excavated and removed from the site. We are currently evaluating potential ground contamination, and will present the results in a separate report.

The scope of our investigation was defined in our proposal dated January 28, 1987. It included providing conclusions and recommendations regarding:

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- 1. Site preparation and grading
- The most appropriate foundation type(s) for the proposed building and free-standing walls for the parking area
- 3. Design criteria for the recommended foundation type(s)
- 4. Estimates of foundation settlement
- 5. Subgrade preparation for concrete slabs-on-grade
- 6. Pavement design for the proposed parking area.

During our investigation we have discussed the project with the architects, Messrs. David Wagner and Felix Rodriguez of Garcia/Wagner and Associates; the structural engineer, Mr. George Greenwood of H. J. Degenkolb Associates; and the civil engineer, Mr. Jim Diggins of DeBolt Civil Engineers.

We met with the architects and Mr. Paul Koze of Blue Print Service Company on April 13, 1987 to discuss underground tank removal and other aspects of the project.

II FIELD INVESTIGATION AND LABORATORY TESTING

We explored the subsurface conditions at the proposed production facility site by drilling three borings 5 to 40 feet deep, located as shown on the Site Plan, Plate 1. The locations of two additional borings drilled as part of our underground tank investigation are also shown on Plate 1. The borings were drilled on February 20, 1987 with truckmounted, hollow-stem auger equipment under the direction of our field engineer, who logged the soils encountered and obtained undisturbed samples for visual examination and laboratory testing.

Samples were obtained using a Sprague and Henwood (S&H) split-barrel sampler driven with a 140-pound nammer falling 30 inches. The number of blows required to drive the S&H sampler was converted to equivalent standard penetration test (SPT) resistance values, which are presented on the Logs of Borings, Plates 2 through 4. The soil is described in accordance with the Unified Soil Classification System and the ASTM D2487-85 standard test method described on Plate 5.

We tested selected samples obtained from the borings in our laboratory to confirm their field classifications and determine engineering parameters. The results of moisture content/dry density and sieve analysis tests are presented on the Logs of Borings in the manner described on Plate 5. The results of the triaxial compression tests are presented on Plates 6 through 8.

III SITE AND SUBSURFACE CONDITIONS

The site slopes slightly from north to south; elevations vary between 31 and 33-1/2 feet.

The project's northern property line is bordered, from east to west, by: 1) an existing two-story brick building, which is not believed to contain a basement, 2) an existing three-story brick building with a basement, and 3) an approximately 15-foot-deep depressed area, which is believed to be the former basement of a building that was demolished. A two-story, wood-frame building with a basement is located approximately 10 feet east of the eastern property line.

It is not known whether buildings previously existed on the project site that were subsequently removed. The existing one-story, metal-frame gas station located on the southwest portion of the site will be demolished.

The site is blanketed by loose to medium dense silty sand fill, which contains occasional debris, including brick fragments. As measured in the borings, this sand fill varies from approximately 3 to 6 feet thick. The sand fill is underlain by an approximately 15- to 20-foot-thick layer of native, medium dense to dense clayey sand. This clayey sand is, in turn, underlain by an approximately 10-foot-thick layer of dense, finegrained sand. Beneath the sand, a stiff to very stiff silty clay extends to the 40-foot depth investigated.

Ground water was encountered in Boring 1 and in Borings 4 and 5, which were drilled for our underground tank investigation; it was measured at

approximately 26 feet below the surface, or an elevation of approximately +5 feet.* We believe that some fluctuations of the water level are likely, but that it will not rise above an elevation of approximately +8 feet.

^{*} City of Oakland Datum

IV DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

The primary geotechnical engineering consideration affecting design and construction of the project is the proximity of the proposed structure to the adjacent buildings and sidewalks. Because of the existing basements along the northern property line, moderately deep foundations will be required to provide support for the portion of the proposed structure adjacent to existing footings and prevent the proposed structure from increasing loads on the adjacent existing basement walls and footings. Shallow spread footing foundations bearing on natural sand or recompacted fill are suitable for the remaining portion of the building.

We believe that drilled, end-bearing or friction piers will be suitable where moderately deep foundations are necessary. Spread footings can be used for the portion of the structure not adjacent to existing building footings, provided they are founded on the native clayey sands or on recompacted sand fill. The free-standing walls in the parking areas can be founded on spread footings. Temporary shoring may be needed to support footing excavations and to prevent undermining of existing sidewalks to the south and the adjacent short retaining wall to the east.

For foundations constructed in accordance with the following recommendations, we estimate that post-construction structural settlement will be less than 1/4 inch.

Based on conversations with the architect and the civil engineer, we understand that the machinery placed directly on concrete slab-on-grade

floors within the proposed structure will not create excessive vibrations that could densify the supporting soils.

V RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Foundation Support

1. Drilled Piers

Drilled, cast-in-place concrete piers along the northern property line may gain support by either end-bearing or friction.

End-bearing piers should be at least 30 inches in diameter and at least 12 feet deep to achieve support in the native clayey sand below the adjacent building footings. End-bearing piers may be designed using an allowable bearing pressure at the base of the piers of 8,000 pounds per square foot (psf) for dead loads, 10,000 psf for dead plus sustained live loads, and 12,000 psf for total design loads, including wind or seismic forces.

Drilled piers designed to gain support by friction along the shaft should be at least 18 inches in diameter and at least 12 feet deep. They may be designed using an allowable friction value of 650 psf for dead plus sustained live loads. This allowable friction value may be increased by one-third for total design loads, including wind or seismic forces. No frictional resistance should be included for pier sections in the fill (above Elevation +22 feet) or below the water level (below Elevation +8 feet).

To resist seismic overturning forces, uplift resistance gained from skin friction of drilled piers can be used for design. Both types of piers may be designed for an allowable uplift friction value of 50 psf at the top of the pier (immediately beneath the floor slab), increasing

by 50 psf per foot of depth to a limiting friction value of 650 psf.

The lateral resistance of drilled end-bearing or friction piers can be calculated using a passive equivalent fluid pressure of 300 pounds per cubic foot (pcf) over an area equal to twice the pier diameter but limited to a 10-foot depth. If the pier centerline is within three pier diameters of an existing basement or retaining wall, we should be consulted to analyze its individual lateral resistance. Piers should be placed no closer than three pier diameters center to center.

Drilled end-bearing pier excavations should be thoroughly cleaned of loose material prior to concrete placement.

2. Spread Footings

Spread footings may be used to support the proposed structure in areas more than 10 feet away from existing basements and for the freestanding walls in the parking area. Footings should be at least 18 inches wide and founded at least 18 inches below the lowest adjacent final grade. They should be founded on the native clayey sand at a depth of approximately 3 to 4 feet or on recompacted sand fill. The sand fill beneath the footings should be excavated to the underlying native clayey sand. The excavation should be backfilled with the on-site sand fill that is placed in 8-inch lifts, moisture-conditioned and recompacted to at least 95 percent relative compaction.*

^{*} Relative compaction refers to the in-place dry density of soil expressed as a percentage of the maximum dry density of the same material as determined by the ASTM D1557-78 laboratory compaction procedure.

This recompacted fill must extend a lateral distance outward from the footing edges equal to the depth of fill beneath footings. This requirement may make recompaction infeasible adjacent to sidewalks or existing walls unless the obstructions are removed. In this case, footings should be founded on the native clayey sand. The spread footings should be designed using the allowable bearing pressures presented in Table 1.

Table 1

Allowable Bearing Pressure (pounds per square foot)

Loading Condition	Footings on Recompacted Fill	Footings on <u>Native Clayey Sand</u>
Dead Loads	2000	4000
Dead plus Sustained Live Loads	2500	5000
Total Design Loads, including	3000	6000
Wind or Seismic Forces		

The resistance of spread footings to lateral forces can be achieved by friction along the base of the footings and by passive soil pressure on the vertical footing faces. A base friction coefficient of 0.4 should be used to determine the available frictional resistance for spread footings. For passive resistance, we recommend using an equivalent fluid pressure of 300 psf against the footings. Excavations should be thoroughly cleaned of loose material prior to concrete placement.

B. Concrete Slab-on-Grade Floors

We recommend that at least 12 inches of fill beneath concrete slabon-grade floors be excavated, moisture-conditioned, replaced, and recom-

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pacted to at least 95 percent relative compaction to provide a smooth, nonyielding surface. A 4-inch-thick layer of clean, free-draining gravel or 3/4-inch crushed rock should be placed over the recompacted fill surface as a capillary moisture break beneath the slab. To prevent the movement of moisture vapor through the slab, a vapor barrier such as plastic sheeting and 2 inches of clean sand (to act as a bedding for the placement of concrete) should be installed between the slab and the gravel/crushed rock.

C. Site Preparation and Backfill Placement for Buried Tank Excavation

The site should be stripped of all asphalt pavement and debris prior to subgrade preparation.

We understand that the excavations created by tank removal in the existing gas station area will require backfilling. On-site soil is suitable for use as backfill. Any imported material to be used for backfill should be sand or gravel free of organic material, debris, and rock fragments larger than 6 inches in diameter. It should have a liquid limit not greater than 40 and a plasticity index not greater than 15. Backfill should be placed in lifts not greater than 8 inches in loose thickness and should be compacted to at least 90 percent relative compaction. The upper 6 inches of all backfill should be compacted to at least 95 percent relative compaction. If "clean" sand backfill (sand with little or no fines) is used, all lifts should be compacted to at least 95 percent relative compaction.

D. Pavement Design

Prior to paving, the subgrade should be scarified to a depth of 8 inches, moisture-conditioned, and compacted to at least 95 percent relative compaction to provide a smooth, nonyielding surface. For design of the paved parking areas, we recommend a pavement section consisting of at least 2 inches of asphalt concrete over at least 8.5 inches of Class 2 aggregate base, for a total pavement section of at least 10.5 inches. This pavement design is based on a traffic index of 5.0. The pavement compo- nents should meet the requirements of Caltrans standard specifications and be compacted to at least 95 percent relative compaction.

VI GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES DURING CONSTRUCTION

Prior to construction, we should review those portions of the final plans and specifications that pertain to earthwork and foundations to check that they conform to the intent of our recommendations. During construction, our field engineer should check the following:

- 1. Backfill placement and compaction (including placement subsequent to tank removal)
- 2. On-site and imported fill to verify that they meet the project requirements
- 3. Drilled pier installation to verify that the required depth and cleanout are achieved
- 4. Spread footing, drilled pier, and grade beam excavations prior to concrete placement
- 5. Subgrade preparation for concrete slab-on-grade floors and asphalt concrete pavements.

In addition, it may be necessary for our field engineer to obtain bulk samples of on-site or imported fill soil to perform laboratory resistance value (R-value), sieve analysis, and/or Atterberg limits tests to determine that the on-site materials conform to our fill placement and pavement design recommendations. These services will allow us to check all geotechnical aspects of the work for conformance with the project plans and specifications.



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