LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Mr. Larry Seto

TO:	Mr. Larry Seto Alameda County Hazardous Waste Environmental Health Department 470 27th Street Oakland, California 94608
DATE: PROJECT: SCI JOB NUMBER:	November 16, 1987 150th & East 14th Street, San Leandro 209.005
SUBJECT:	Environmental Consultation
WE ARE SENDING YO	U:
	with our comments. with Chain of Custody documents.
	(1) Mr. Peter Johnson Regional Water Qüality Control Board Oakland, California
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Subsurface Consultants, Inc.

171 12th Street • Suite 201 • Oakland, California 94607 • Telephone 415-268-0461

REPORT
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTATION
re: SOIL CONTAMINATION
CHARACTERIZATION
150th AVENUE & EAST 14th STREET
SAN LEANDRO, CALIFORNIA

November 16, 1987 SCI 209.005

Mr. Tak Hirahara C&H Development Company 3744 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, #301 Lafayette, California 94549

Environmental Consultation re. Soil Contamination Characterization 150th Avenue and East 14th Street San Leandro, California

Dear Mr. Hirahara:

This letter presents the results of our ongoing environmental assessment at a site located near the northeastern corner of the intersection of East 14th Street and 150th Avenue in San Leandro. We performed a preliminary investigation at the site and summarized the results in a letter dated October 26, 1987. In our letter, we concluded that subsurface materials at the site contained elevated concentrations of heavy petroleum hydrocarbons and purgeable organic solvents. Because data regarding the lateral and vertical extent of the solvents were limited, we recommended that additional subsurface investigation and analytical testing be performed. This letter records data generated by the additional studies.

The scope of our most recent services included drilling 9 test borings (Borings 7 thru 15), collecting soil samples and performing qualitative analytical tests using a mobile laboratory. Selected soil samples were subsequently analyzed by a DHS certified laboratory.

Field Exploration

Subsurface conditions were explored by drilling 9 test borings about 10 feet deep. These borings were in addition to the 6 that were drilled for our initial investigation. Boring locations are shown on the Site Plan, Plate 1. The borings were drilled with truck-mounted, solid flight auger drilling equipment.

Our geologist observed drilling operations, obtained undisturbed samples of materials encountered and prepared a log of each test boring. The boring logs are presented on Plates 5 through 9. For completeness, the logs of the borings drilled during our initial investigation have been presented on Plates 2 thru 4. Soils are classified in accordance with the Unified Soil

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Classification System, which is explained on Plate 10.

Undisturbed soil samples were obtained with a California Drive Sampler having an outside diameter of 2.5 inches and an inside diameter of 2.0 inches. The sampler was driven with a 140-pound hammer falling 30 inches. The number of blows required to drive the sampler the final 12 inches of each 18-inch penetration was recorded and is presented on the Boring Logs.

The augers, sampling equipment and sample liners were steam-cleaned prior to their initial use. To minimize the likelihood of cross-contamination between samples and/or test borings, the equipment was steam-cleaned again prior to each subsequent use. The soil samples were retained in 2.0-inch-diameter brass liners. The sample ends were covered with teflon sheeting. Plastic caps were placed over the teflon sheeting and sealed with plastic tape. Soil samples were placed in an ice chest following collection and remained under refrigeration until testing and/or delivery to the analytical laboratory. Samples delivered to the laboratory were accompanied by Chain of Custody records.

Subsurface Conditions

The test borings revealed soil conditions consistent with those described in our previous report. Briefly, the area investigated is underlain by interbedded clayey sands and silty clays to the depths explored. The upper 4 to 5 feet of soil consists of black silty clay. Below this surface layer, the soils are gray to gray green in color and consist of clayey sands and sandy clays.

Groundwater was encountered during drilling at depths of about 11 to 12 feet below the groundsurface.

Analytical Testing

A mobile laboratory, provided by Anatec Laboratory, Inc., was used to qualitatively analyze soil samples for the presence of organic compounds in the field, soon after sampling. The mobile laboratory was also used to conduct total light petroleum hydrocarbon (gasoline) analyses on several samples. The mobile laboratory is currently undergoing certification by the California Department of Health Services (DHS); however, it currently is not certified. For this reason, four of the soil samples analyzed by the mobile laboratory were subsequently reanalyzed in a DHS certified laboratory as a check on the work performed. The four samples were analyzed for purgeable organic compounds in accordance with the EPA 8240 test method. Test

results are summarized in the attached Table 1. Laboratory test reports are not yet available; we anticipate that they will be complete within several days. For completeness, we have included analytical test results produced during our previous investigation in Table 2.

Conclusions

Based upon the data to date, we conclude that the soils in the area contain elevated concentrations of heavy petroleum hydrocarbons (oils), purgeable organic chemicals (solvents), as well as gasoline. The test results are graphically summarized on We are currently uncertain of the source of contamination. However, based on the available information, we conclude that it is most likely associated with one or more discharges onto the groundsurface. Research has indicated that the site has been used as a gasoline service station/auto repair facility for many years. The contaminated area has likely received many different types of service station wastes, such as oils, transmission fluids, gasoline and cleaning solvents. purposes of discussion, we will refer to the heavy petroleum hydrocarbon fractions as "oils". We are also uncertain of the quantity of wastes discharged in the area. However, based on the limited extent of the problem, we judge that quantities were comparatively small.

The studies to date indicate that the contaminated area is very limited with respect to oil, being confined to an area bounded approximately by Borings 2, 3, 4, and 5. Oil concentrations appear to be highest near the PG&E excavation and Test Boring 6. Analysis results from Borings 2, 3, 4 and 5 reveal no detectable concentrations of oil and hence, we estimate that the area of significant oil contamination is relatively small, possibly occurring in an area measuring about 10 by 20 feet in plan. Oil concentrations appear to decrease rapidly with depth and were non-detectable at depths of 8 feet or so. We speculate that significantly elevated concentrations of oil may extend 5 to 6 feet below the groundsurface. A heavy petroleum hydrocarbon concentration of 8000 ppm (mg/kg) was encountered in a sample obtained by SCI from the PG&E excavation. Based upon data reported by the Alameda County Environmental Health Department, we believe that even higher concentrations exist.

Three organic solvents (PCE, TCE, and trans 1,2 DCE) were encountered in a soil sample analyzed from Boring 6 at a depth of 5 feet during our previous study. Concentrations ranged from 6.6 to 15.0 mg/kg. The analytical tests performed on numerous

additional soil samples did not indicate the presence of these or other organic chemicals, with the exception of toluene, at concentrations above detectable limits. On this basis, we conclude that the organic solvent contamination exists in a very limited area near Test Boring 6. The concentrations of PCE, TCE and trans 1,2 DCE encountered are considered sufficiently high to represent a risk to groundwater quality. However, to date, we have not evaluated the potential impact of these chemicals on groundwater.

Toluene, a volatile organic constituent of gasoline, was encountered in soil samples obtained from Borings 8 (at 4 feet) and 10 (at 8 feet) at concentrations of 150 and 51 ug/kg, respectively. The concentrations are relatively low; we believe this compound is associated with the gasoline that is present in the soil at several locations, as discussed subsequently.

Gasoline was encountered at a concentration of 320 mg/kg in Boring 3 at a depth of 8.5 feet, at 72 mg/kg in Boring 1 at a depth of 4 feet, and at 370 mg/kg in Test Boring 9 at a depth of 8 feet. Gasoline concentrations above 10 mg/kg were not detected in the remainder of the soil samples analyzed. Gasoline was encountered at a depth significantly above groundwater only in Boring 1. However, gasoline was not detected at a depth of 8 feet in Boring 1, suggesting that the source of gasoline contamination near the groundsurface in the area was comparatively small. Gasoline was also encountered in Borings 3 and 9 at concentrations of 320 and 370 mg/kg, respectively, at depths several feet above groundwater. Gasoline was not detected in Borings 3 or 9 at shallow depth, which leads us to suspect that the source of this gasoline may be somewhat removed from the area investigated during this study. We speculate that it represents fuel products being transported by groundwater flow. likely impacted a relatively narrow zone of soil defined by seasonal variations in groundwater level.

Regarding remediation of the soil contamination problem, we conclude that the heavy petroleum hydrocarbons (oil) and the organic solvent concentrations encountered in Test Boring 6 are sufficiently high to warrant remediation. Given the limited extent of the soil contamination problem, we believe that the most efficient and economical method of remediation will be to remove the contaminated soils by excavation and have them disposed of at a suitable hazardous waste facility. The actual area to be excavated cannot be accurately determined at this time; it should be determined during excavation by performing onsite chemical tests, as discussed subsequently. However, for

purposes of planning, we recommend that it be assumed that an area 10 by 20 feet in plan, and extending to groundwater (i.e. to a depth of about 11 feet) will be excavated. We recommend that the soils be excavated to the extent where non-detectable concentrations of organic solvents are encountered, and petroleum hydrocarbon concentrations are less than 100 mg/kg.

Based on the data available, it appears that the area where gasoline contamination was encountered at shallow depth will be removed as part of remediation of the oil and solvent problem. Remediation details for the gasoline contamination that exists in the soil near or slightly above the groundwater table will depend significantly on local groundwater quality and usage in the area. We recommend that at least one groundwater monitoring well be installed in the immediate area so that a high-quality groundwater sample can be obtained and analyzed to evaluate the impact that the gasoline and solvents have had on groundwater. Data generated from the well analyses will provide a basis to evaluate whether additional study and/or groundwater remediation is appropriate.

We understand that the soil contamination problem is responsible for delaying work to be performed by PG&E, which must be completed prior to occupying your building. In this regard, we see no reason why the soil contamination problem cannot be remediated immediately, independent of the studies necessary to evaluate groundwater impacts. We suggest that the problem and proposed remediation plan be discussed with representatives of the Alameda County Environmental Health Department, the DHS and the RWQCB as soon as practical, to seek their approval. Concurrently, we can begin to pursue groundwater issues.

During soil excavation, we recommend that a mobile laboratory be used on-site to perform analytical tests. This will provide us with a prompt basis to establish the limits of excavation. Upon completion of excavation, we recommend that soil samples be obtained from the perimeter of the excavation and chemically analyzed in a DHS certified laboratory to confirm that soil remediation is complete. The number and scope of analytical tests should be negotiated with the regulatory agencies involved. However, from a preliminary planning standpoint, we suggest that it be planned to analyze four soil samples from the excavation for oil and grease, gasoline and organic compounds (EPA 8240).

The excavation resulting from soil removal should be cleaned of loose materials. The excavation should be backfilled to within two feet of the surface with Class 2 aggregate subbase,

satisfying the criteria specified in the current Caltrans Standard Specifications. The upper two feet of the excavation should be backfilled with soil, containing more than 20 percent fine-grained material, i.e. finer than a #200 sieve. In addition, soil backfill should have a liquid limit less than 40 percent, a plasticity index less than 15 percent, and an R-value (resistance) of at least 20. All fill should be compacted to at least 90 percent relative compaction, in accordance with the ASTM D1557 test procedure. Fill should be placed and compacted in layers not exceeding 8 inches in loose thickness.

During construction, the contractor should take the necessary precautions to limit surface water runoff from flowing into the excavation. If the excavation must remain open during a period of anticipated heavy rainfall, the excavation should be covered. We should review the contractor's proposed runoff control plan prior to excavation.

If you have any questions regarding our conclusions or recommendations, please call.

Yours very truly,

Subsurface Consultants, Inc.

Jumm P. Bommo

James P. Bowers

9éotechnical Engineer 157 (expires 3/31/91)

Attachments: Table 1

Table 1 - Summary of Chemical Analyses

Table 2 - Summary of Chemical Analyses - Initial

Study

Plate 1 - Site Plan

Plates 2 thru 9 - Logs of Borings 1 thru 15 Plate 10 - Unified Soil Classification System

Plate 11 - Summary of Chemical Data

2 copies submitted

cc: Mr. Larry Seto

Alameda County Environmental Health Department

Mr. Lester Feldman

Regional Water Quality Control Board

Table 1. Summary of Chemical Analyses

Mobile Laboratory

Boring	Depth (Feet)	Total Light Hydrocarbons (mg/kg) ¹	Total Heavy Hydrocarbons (mg/kg)	Purgeable Organics ⁶ (mg/kg)
7	4.0	NT ² <10	NT	<1.0
7	8.0		NT	<1.0
8	4.0	NT	NT	<1.0
	8.0	<10	NT	<1.0
9	4.0	NT	NT NT	<1.0 <1.0
10	4.0	NT	NT	<1.0
10	8.0	<10	NT	<1.0
11	4.0	NT	NT	<1.0
11	8.0	<10	NT	<1.0
12	4.0	NT	NT	<1.0
12	8.0	<10	NT	<1.0
13	4.0	NT	NT	<1.0
13	8.0	NT	NT	<1.0
14	4.0	NT	NT	<1.0
14	8.0	NT	NT	<1.0
15	4.0	NT	NT	<1.0
15	8.0	NT	NT	<1.0

Certified Laboratory (EPA 8240)3

	4.0	Toluene, 150 ppb4
9	8.0	ND ⁵
10	8.0	Toluene, 51 ppb
11	4.0	ND

mg/kg = milligrams per kilogram (ppm)

NT = not tested, analysis was not performed

³ EPA 8240 includes the 31 purgeable organic chemicals listed on the test reports

ppb = micrograms/kilogram

⁵ ND = none detected

EPA 8010, detection limits = 1 ppm

Table 2. Summary of Chemical Analyses - Initial Study

Boring	Depth (Feet)	Total Light Hydrocarbons (mg/kg) ¹	Total Heavy Hydrocarbons (mg/kg)	Purgeable Organics ³ (mg/kg)
1	4.0	72	200	NT ²
	8.6	<10	<50	NT
2	2.6	<10	<50	NT
2	7.1	<10	<50	NT
3	5.0	<10	<50	NT
3	8.5	320	<50	NT
4	4.5	<10	<50	NT
4	10.5	<10	<50	NT
5	4.0	<10	<50	NT
5	8.0	<10	<50	NT
6	5.0	<10	<50	NT
6	9.1	<10	<50	NT
PG&E	Excavation @ 3'	NT	8000	NT
6	5.0	Trichloroet Trans 1-2 D	pethylene (PCE) thylene (TCE) Dichloroethylene 1, 2 DCE)	6.6 15.0 8.0

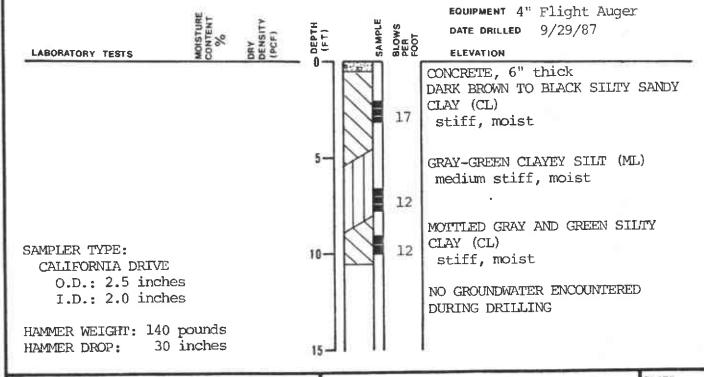
¹

mg/kg = milligrams per kilogram
NT = not tested, analysis was not performed 2

EPA 8240 includes the 31 purgeable organic chemicals listed on the test reports

EQUIPMENT 4" Flight Auger DEPTH (FT) DATE DRILLED 9/29/87 ELEVATION * LABORATORY TESTS CONCRETE, 6" thick BLACK SANDY SILTY CLAY (CL) stiff, moist GRAY-GREEN CLAYEY SAND (SC) 19 medium dense, moist 13 OPANGE-BROWN SILTY CLAY (CL) stiff, moist GRAY-GREEN CLAYEY SAND (SC) medium dense, moist to saturated 10-NO GROUNDWATER ENCOUNTERED DURING DRILLING * All test borings are situated at about the same elevation.

LOG OF TEST BORING 2

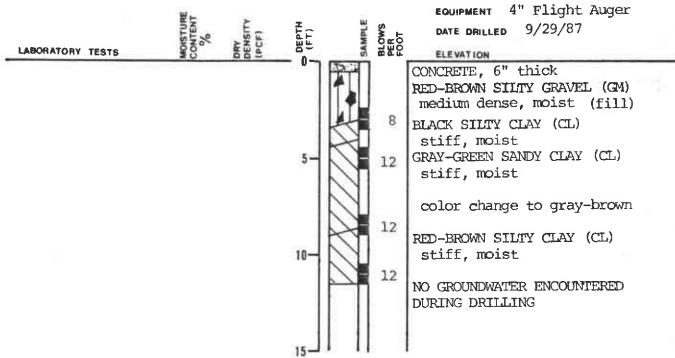


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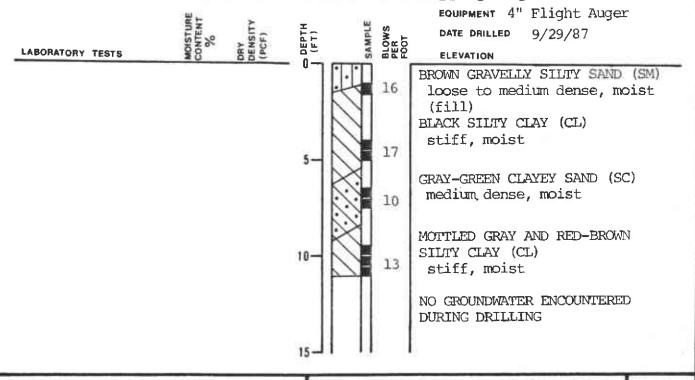
150th Ave. & E.14th St-SAN LEANDRO, CF DATE

209.005

10/13/87



LOG OF TEST BORING 4



JOB NUMBER

209,005

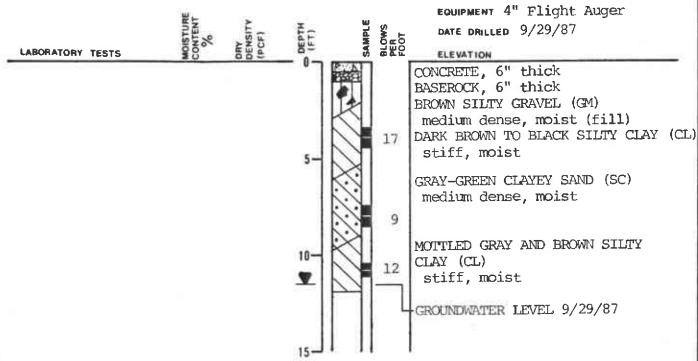
Subsurface Consultants

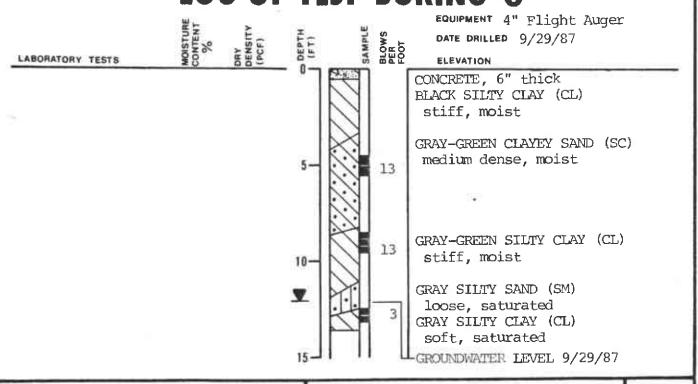
150th Ave. & E.14th St.-SAN LEANDRO,

DATE

10/13/87

APPROVED



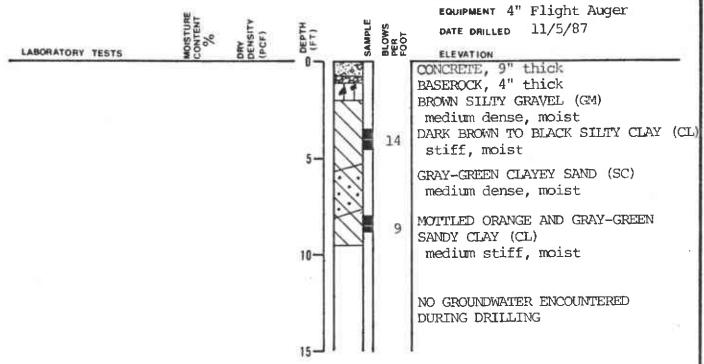


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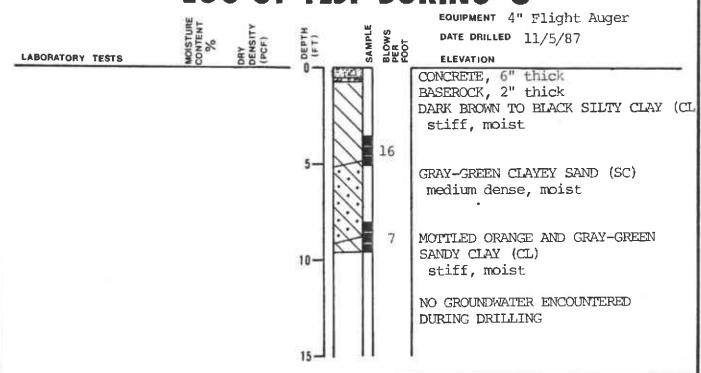
150th Ave. & E.14th St.-SAN LEANDRO, CA

JOB NUMBER 209.005 DATE 10/13/87 APPROVED

4



LOG OF TEST BORING 8



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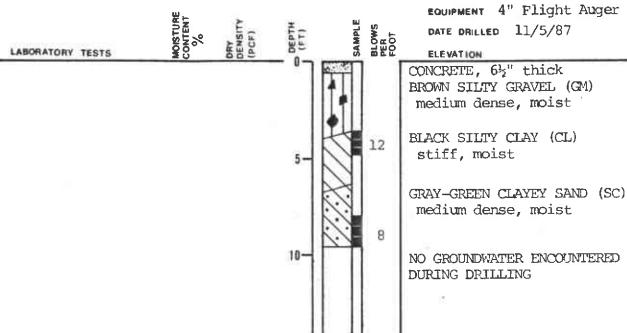
150th Ave. & E.14th St.-SAN LEANDRO, CA
JOB NUMBER DATE APPROVED

209.005

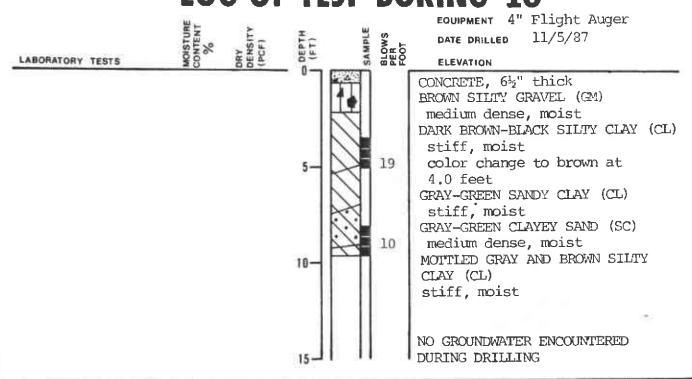
11/10/87

APPROVED

5



LOG OF TEST BORING 10



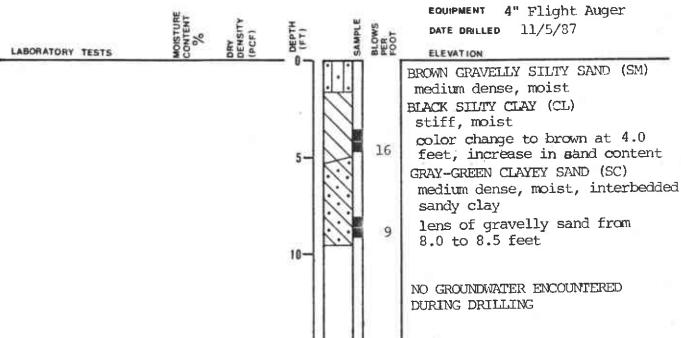
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150th Ave. & E.14th St:-SAN LEANDRO, CA

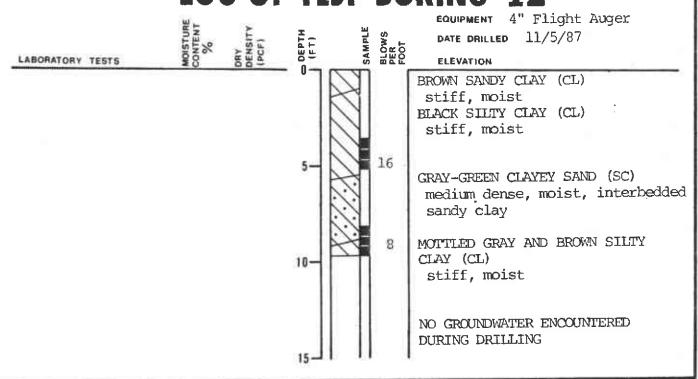
JOB NUMBER 209.005

DATE 11/11/87 APPROVED

6



LOG OF TEST BORING 12



209.005

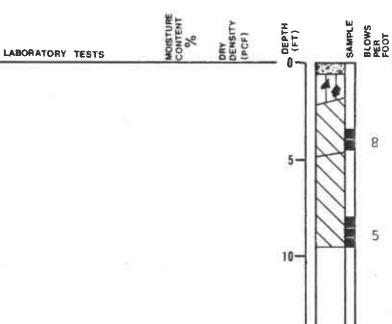
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150th Ave. & E.14th St.-SAN LEANDRO, CA

DATE

11/11/87

APPROVED



4" Flight Auger 11/5/87 DATE DRILLED

ELEVATION

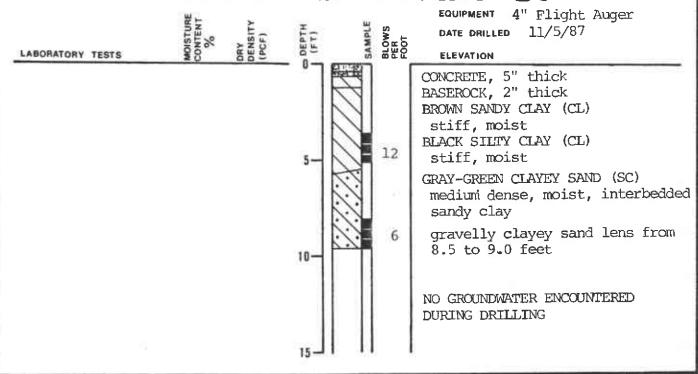
CONCRETE, 6" thick BROWN SILITY GRAVEL (GM) medium dense, moist BLACK TO DARK BROWN SILTY CLAY (CL) stiff, moist

GRAY-GREEN SANDY CLAY (CL) soft to medium stiff, moist

wet clayey sand lens from 8.5 to 9.0 feet

NO GROUNDWATER ENCOUNTERED DURING DRILLING

LOG OF TEST BORING



Subsurface Consultants

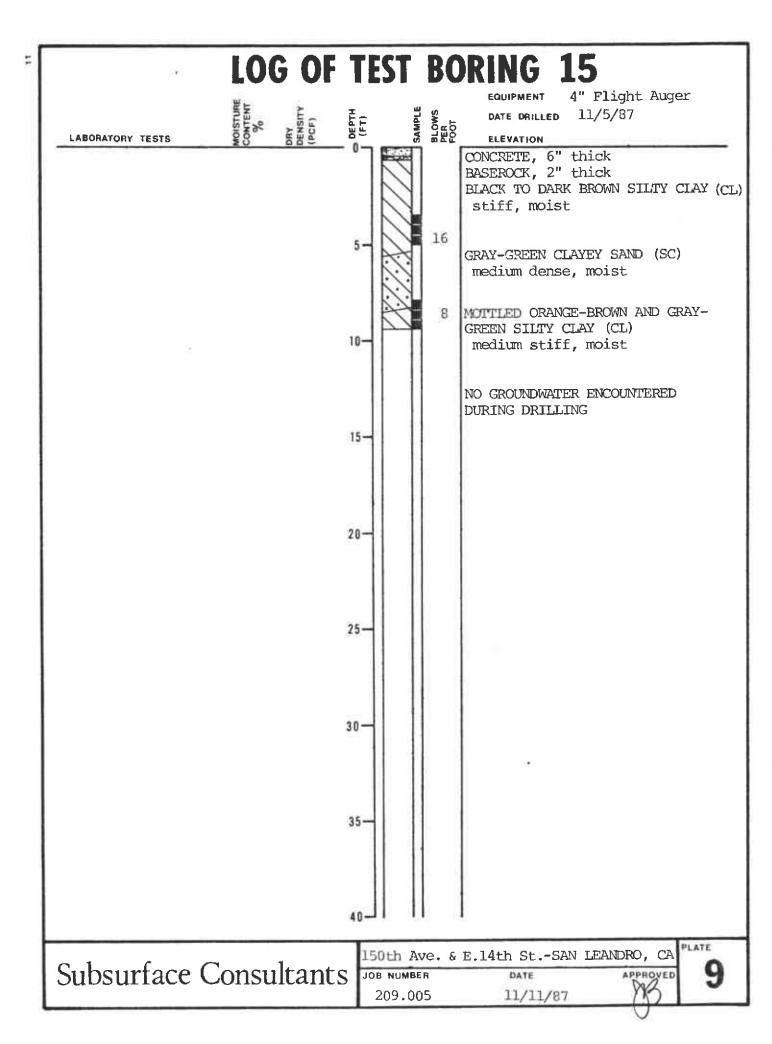
150th Ave. & E.14th St.-SAN LEANDRO, CA

JOB NUMBER

DATE

209.005

APPROVED 11/11/87



GEN	IERAL SOIL C	ATEGORIES	SYMB	OLS	TYPICAL SOIL TYPES
COARSE fraction is larger than No. 4 sieve size than No. 500 SAND More than half coarse fraction is smaller than	More than half coarse fraction	Clean Gravel with little or no fines	GW	T III	Well Graded Gravel, Gravel-Sand Mixtures
			GP		Poorly Graded Gravel, Gravel-Sand Mixtures
		Gravel with more than 12% fines	GM		Silty Gravel, Poorly Graded Gravel-Sand-Silt Mixtures
			GC	N	Clayey Gravel, Poorly Graded Gravel-Sand-Clay Mixtures
			sw		Well Graded Sand, Gravelly Sand
	More than half		SP		Poorly Graded Sand, Gravelly Sand
	coarse fraction is smaller than No. 4 sieve size		SM		Silty Sand, Poorly Graded Sand-Silt Mixtures
			sc		Clayey Sand, Poorly Graded Sand-Clay Mixtures
ieve	SILT AND CLAY Liquid Limit Less than 50%		ML		Inorganic Sitt and Very Fine Sand, Rock Flour, Silty or Clayey Fine Sand, or Clayey Silt with Slight Plasticity
OILS			CL		Inorganic Clay of Low to Medium Plasticity, Gravelly Clay, Sandy Clay, Silty Clay, Lean Clay
VED S			OL		Organic Clay and Organic Sitty Clay of Low Plasticity
GRAINED SOILS It is smaller than No. 200 SILT AND CLAY Liquid Limit Less than 50%		мн		Inorganic Silt, Micaceous or Diatomaceous Fine Sandy or Silty Soils, Elastic Silt	
FINE GF More than half is	SILT AND CLAY Liquid Limit Greater than 50%		СН		Inorganic Clay of High Plasticity, Fat Clay
More			ОН		Organic Clay of Medium to High Plasticity, Organic Silt
	HIGHLY ORG	ANIC SOILS	РТ		Peat and Other Highly Organic Soils

UNIFIED SOIL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

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