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June 9, 2011

Steve Morrow, Environmental Coordinator Columbia River Crossing 700 Washington St., Suite 300 Vancouver, WA 98660

PERMITS REQUIREMENTS FOR SITE EXPLORATION/FOUNDATION TEST PROGRAM CRC

In your e-mail of June 7, 2011, you requested confirmation the proposed 8-foot-diameter; 160-foot-deep drilled test shaft, to be located near SR 14, would be exempt from local regulations at this time. The following addresses the various regulations:

SEPA

WAC 197-11-800 (17) Information Collection and Research, states basic data collection, research, resource evaluation, requests for proposals (RFPs), and the conceptual planning of proposals shall be exempt. These may be strictly for information gathering, or as part of a study leading to a proposal that has not yet been approved, adopted or funded; this exemption does not include any agency action that commits the agency to proceed with such a proposal.

This provision exempts data-gathering activities, including geotechnical studies, from SEPA review.

Shoreline Review

This site is located landward of shoreline jurisdiction. Shoreline provisions do not apply to this project.

Archeology

Under the provisions of 20.710.020 B of the Archeological Resource Protection, provisions apply to all applications for ground-disturbing actions or activities for which a permit or approval is required. Ground-disturbing activity is defined as any development, construction, or related operation which could alter the site, including but not limited to: tree or tree stump removal, road or building construction or grading.

The site is located in an area of high probability for encountering artifacts; therefore, an archaeological predetermination is required. The link to the application form is: http://www.cityofvancouver.us/upload/contents/439/Archaeological Predetermination.pdf

The application fee is \$378.68. If there has been a review of this area, please provide a copy of that study. Based on a previous study, the city may grant an exemption.

If any artifacts are encountered, the Discovery Principals in 20.710.090 will apply. If any item of archaeological interest is uncovered, all ground-disturbing activity shall immediately cease and the applicant shall immediately notify the Planning Official and DAHP.

Critical Areas Protection

The site is located in an area of moderate to high probability of liquefaction. Under the provisions of 20.740.030.B.2.j, work necessary for land use submittals, such as surveys, soil sampling, percolation tests, and other related activities are specifically exempt from the requirement to obtain a Critical Areas Permit and are further exempt from the requirement to obtain a Statement of Exemption. However, in every case, impacts to the critical area or buffer shall be minimized and disturbed areas shall be stabilized immediately.

If you have questions please call me at (360) 487-7885 or e-mail me at ion.wagner@cityofvancouver.us.

JON WAGNER, SENIOR PLANNER

Planning Review Team

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Community Development Department

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