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November 7, 2017

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Project Number: 1148.42.04.1

Geotechnical Information Report Phase 1 Pipeline Segment Los Alamos Trunk Replacement Santa Rosa, California

## **INTRODUCTION**

The letter presents a summary of geotechnical subsurface information for the Phase 1 segment of the Los Alamos Trunk Replacement project in Santa Rosa, California (See Site Location Map, Plate 1). Phase 1 will generally follow the alignment of the existing trunk sewer starting at Streamside Drive and finishing at Elaine Drive (See Exploration Plan, Plate 2).

### <u>STUDY</u>

### **Site Exploration**

We reviewed our previous geotechnical studies in the vicinity and selected geologic references pertinent to the site. On June 14, July 5, and August 1, 2017, we performed a geotechnical reconnaissance of the alignment and explored the subsurface conditions by drilling five borings at four locations to depths ranging from about 7½ to 36 feet. The borings were drilled with a truck-mounted drill rig equipped with 8-inch diameter, hollow stem augers at the approximate locations shown on the Exploration Plan, Plate 2. The boring locations were determined approximately by pacing their distance from features shown on the Exploration Plan and should be considered accurate only to the degree implied by the method used. Our field engineer located and logged the borings and obtained samples of the materials encountered for visual examination, classification and laboratory testing.

Relatively undisturbed samples were obtained from the borings at selected intervals by driving a 2.43-inch inside diameter, split spoon sampler, containing 6-inch long brass liners, using a 140-pound hammer dropping approximately 30 inches. The sampler was driven 12 to 18 inches. The blows required to drive each 6-inch increment were recorded and the blows required to drive the last 12 inches, or portion thereof, were converted to equivalent Standard Penetration Test (SPT) blow counts for correlation with empirical data. Disturbed samples were also obtained at selected depths by driving a 1.375-inch inside diameter (2-inch outside diameter) SPT sampler, without liners or

rings, using a 140-pound hammer dropping approximately 30 inches. The sampler was driven 12 to 18 inches, the blows to drive each 6-inch increment were recorded, and the blows required to drive the final 12 inches, or portion thereof, are provided on the boring logs.

CONSULTANTS

The logs of the borings showing the materials encountered, groundwater conditions, converted blow counts and sample depths are presented on Plates 3 through 7. The soil is described in accordance with the Unified Soil Classification System, outlined on Plate 8. Bedrock is described in accordance with Engineering Geology Rock Terms, shown on Plate 9.

The boring logs show our interpretation of the subsurface soil, bedrock and groundwater conditions on the date and at the locations indicated. Subsurface conditions may vary at other locations and times. Our interpretation is based on visual inspection of soil and bedrock samples, laboratory test results and interpretation of drilling and sampling resistance. The location of the soil and bedrock boundaries should be considered approximate. The transition between soil and bedrock types may be gradual.

### Laboratory Testing

The samples obtained from the borings and creek bottoms were transported to our office and reexamined to verify soil classifications, evaluate characteristics, and assign tests pertinent to our analysis. Selected samples were laboratory tested to determine their water content, dry density, shear strength and classification. The results of the tests are presented on the boring logs and on Plates 10 through 13.

### **GEOLOGY AND SUBSURFACE CONDITIONS**

Published geology maps (McGlaughlin et al., 2008) indicate the proposed Phase 1 alignment is underlain by Holocene and Pleistocene age alluvial deposits, undivided (Qt), Young Holocene alluvial fan and fluvial terrace deposits ( $Qhf_1$ ), and old Holocene alluvial fan and fluvial terrace deposits ( $Qtf_2$ ). These units along with a description are presented on Plate 2.

Borings B-2, B-8 and B-3 were drilled within the alluvial deposits, undivided unit (Qt). These borings generally encountered medium stiff to very stiff clay with varying amounts of sand and gravel interbedded with occasional layers of medium dense sand and gravel with varying amounts of clay to the maximum depth explored. Boring B-8, which encountered refusal at 6½ feet is the exception as it encountered medium dense to very dense silty sand with gravel for its full depth.

Boring B-2 and B-13 were drilled in the old Holocene alluvial fan and fluvial terrace deposits. These borings encountered layers of medium stiff to hard clay and silt with varying amounts of sand and loose to medium dense sand and gravel with varying amounts of clay to a depth of about 19 feet. These soils were underlain by conglomerate and siltstone bedrock. The conglomerate is firm, friable and highly weathered.



### **TRENCH CONDITIONS**

#### High Groundwater

Groundwater was only encountered in Boring B-13 at a depth 25½ feet. However, these borings were drilled in the summertime of 2017, so it is possible that groundwater will rise to higher elevations during the year and/or after extended periods of heavy rain. Depending on the depth of the trench, it should be anticipated that groundwater could be encountered within the planned trench excavations.

#### Excavation Stability

Excavations can appear to be stable when first exposed but will lose strength over time and will fail unpredictably if left unsupported. This can happen whether the soil is silt, clay, sand or gravel. The geologic units and borings along the Phase 1 pipeline segment yielded various combinations of these soils including loose to medium dense sand and gravel. If sand becomes saturated, it has been our experience that when the confinement for sand is removed, the saturated sand can flow into the trench. Trenches will need to be shored during construction in accordance with OSHA regulations.

#### Excavation Bottoms

Depending on the trench excavation and groundwater level, saturated sand could be encountered in the bottom of trench excavations. Saturated sand that is encountered in bottom of trench excavations can become very unstable and exhibit "pumping" behavior when it is unloaded by the removal of the confining pressure of the spoils above and adjacent to it. It may be necessary to overexcavate a portion of these soils and replace them with additional bedding material to achieve the desired support of the pipeline. This condition is especially critical for gravity lines that are sensitive to settlement.

#### **Cobbles, Boulders and Bedrock**

We anticipate that cobbles, boulders and bedrock may be encountered in deeper trench excavations. Our borings encountered these materials in the old Holocene alluvial fan and fluvial terrace deposits. Due to the nature of these materials, excavations can be expected to yield oversize materials and have irregular excavation walls. If large material is not broken up within the excavation limits, nearby utilities may be disrupted by movement of these materials. Trench limits will probably be difficult to control.

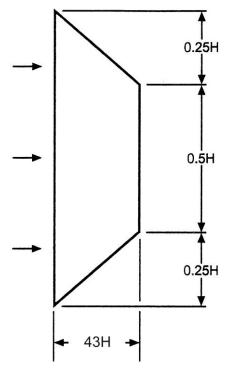
We anticipate there is potential for failure within the walls of trench excavations through these materials. Failures would likely consist of blocks of rock or cobbles/boulders falling into the trench. Depending on how the trench is shored, it could be possible for blocks of rock and/or cobbles/boulders between shores to fall into the trench. Bedrock will need to be evaluated during excavation to determine if adverse fracture and bedding orientations exist that could potentially lead to rockfall failures along the trench walls. The contractor should follow the guidelines set by OSHA and should have a Competent Person, as defined by OSHA, on site to review the excavation conditions.



### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **Temporary Excavations**

Temporary excavations for pipeline trenches and/or sending and receiving pits should be shored in accordance with OSHA requirements and per the recommendations set forth herein. Shoring should be capable of supporting an active pressure of 43H in pounds per square foot (where H is the height of the trench wall in feet) in a trapezoidal distribution as shown below:



The shoring and safety of excavations is solely the responsibility of the contractor. Attention is drawn to the State of California Safety Orders dealing with "Excavations and Trenches."

As stated previously, dewatering may be required in order to construct portions of the proposed sewer. In particular, dewatering may be required during or shortly after the rainy season. The project plans and specifications should require that the general contractor be responsible for the design, operation and maintenance of the temporary dewatering system.

Where unstable excavation bottoms are observed, additional excavation should be performed to provide space for at least 12 inches of <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inch drain rock, ballast rock, or other materials capable of bridging the weaker materials to provide adequate bedding support. A geotextile filter fabric, such as Mirafi 160N or equivalent, should be wrapped around this material. The depth of excavation and the need for fabric should be evaluated and determined during construction.

### **Excavation Backfill**

Unless otherwise specified by the City of Santa Rosa or the project plans and specifications, the trenches should be backfilled using virgin or recycled Class 2 Aggregate Base within pavement areas. The aggregate base should comply with the minimum requirements in Caltrans Standard Specifications, Section 26 for Class 2 Aggregate Base. Outside of pavement areas, the trench can be backfill with native soils excavated from the trench. Backfill should be moisture-conditioned as necessary, and placed in horizontal layers not exceeding 8 inches in thickness, before compaction. Each layer should be compacted to at least 90 percent relative compaction as determined by ASTM Test Method D-1557. Jetting or ponding of trench backfill to aid in achieving the recommended degree of compaction should not be attempted.

As an alternative, Controlled Low Strength Material (CLSM) can be used for backfill. The excavated materials, minus debris, can be used in a CLSM mixture. The project plans and specifications should require that the general contractor be responsible for providing a mix design that uses the soil excavated from the trench and meets the requirements, including minimum and maximum strengths, of the City of Santa Rosa. The CLSM mixture should be able to be excavated with conventional equipment for ease of future repairs and/or modifications to the pipeline.

### LIMITATIONS

This report has been prepared by RGH for the exclusive use of Brelje and Race as an aid in the construction of the proposed Phase 1 pipeline segment described in this report. The borings represent the subsurface conditions at the locations and on the date indicated. It is not warranted that they are representative of such conditions elsewhere or at other times.

The scope of our services did not include an environmental assessment or a study of the presence or absence of toxic mold and/or hazardous, toxic or corrosive materials in the soil, surface water, groundwater or air (on, below or around this site), nor did it include an evaluation or study for the presence or absence of wetlands. These studies should be conducted under separate cover, scope and fee and should be provided by a qualified expert in those fields. We trust this provides the information you require at this time. Please call if you have questions.

Very truly yours, RGH Consultants

Jared J. Pratt Associate Engineering Geologist

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Eric G. Chase Senior Associate Engineer

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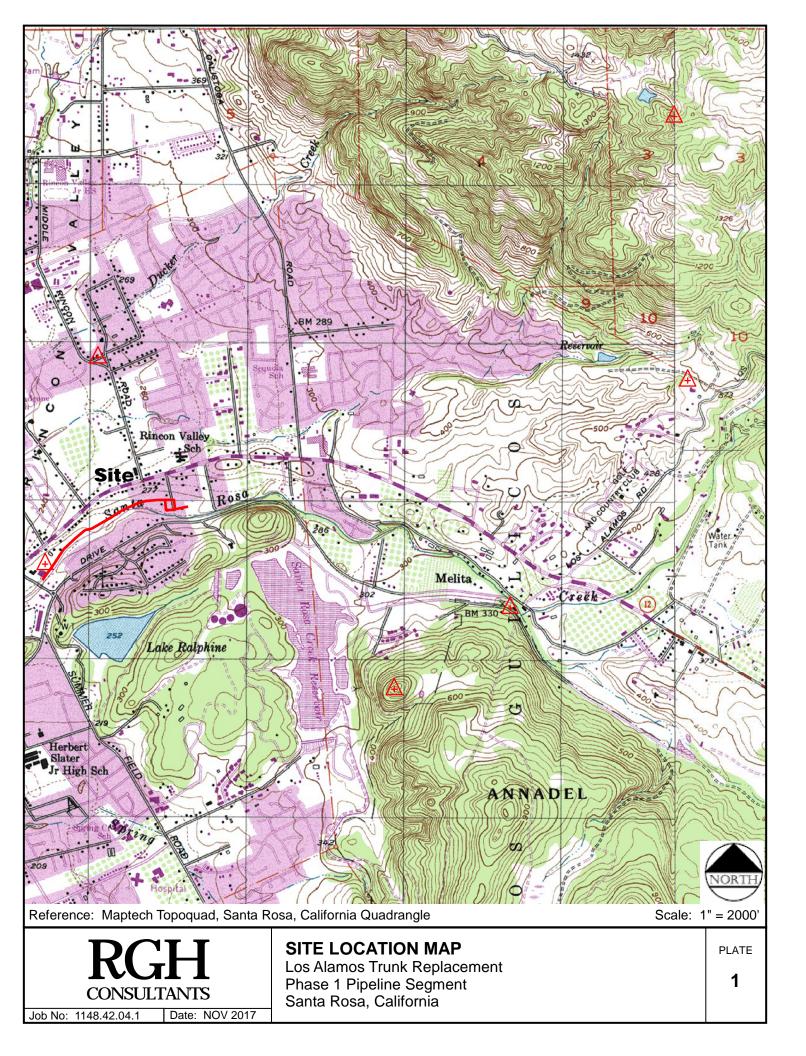
Attachments: References

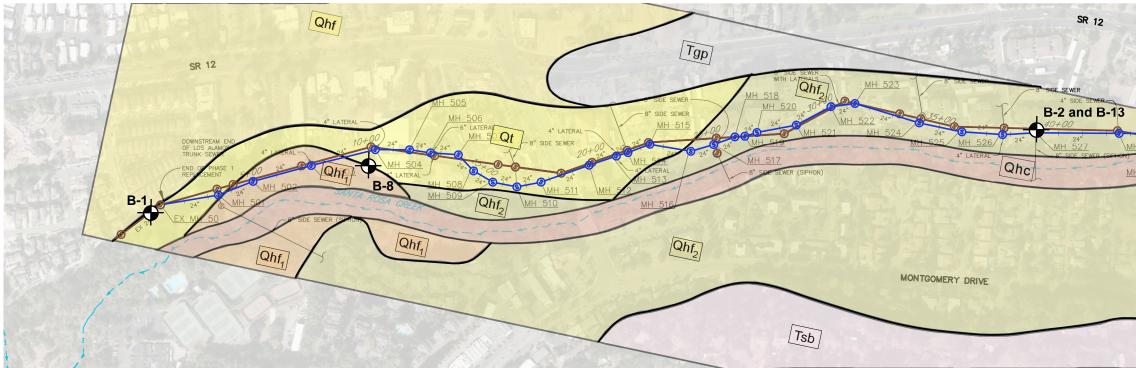
Plate 1 – Site Location Map Plate 2 – Exploration Plan Plate 3 - Log of Boring B-1 Plate 4 - Log of Boring B-2 Plate 5 - Log of Boring B-3 Plate 6 - Log of Boring B-8 Plate 7 - Log of Boring B-13 Plate 8 - Soil Classification Chart and Key to Test Data Plate 9 – Engineering Geology Rock Terms Plates 10 through 13 – Strength Test Data



### **REFERENCES**

McLaughlin, R.J., Langenheim, V.E., Sarna-Wojcicki, A.M., Flek, R.J., McPhee, D.K., Roberts, C.W., McCabe, C.A., and Wan, E., 2008, Geologic and Geophysical Framework of the Santa Rosa 7.5' Quadrangle, Sonoma County, California, U.S. Geological Survey, Open-File Report 2008-1009, 51 p., 3 plates, Scale 1:24,000.





#### SURFICIAL DEPOSITS

- Channels (Holocene)-Incise older deposits Qhc
- Qhf Alluvial fan and fluvial terrace deposits, undivided (Holocene) sand and silt, derived primarilly from Pleistocene and older non-marine gravel, late Tertiary volcanic rocks, and Mesozoic bedrock units of the Franciscan Complex, Coast Range ophiolite and Great Valley sequence. Unit may be further subdivided into the following units.
- Qhf<sub>1</sub> Young Holocene alluvial fan and fluvial terrace deposits-Inset into old Holocene alluvial fans and fluvial terraces and pre-Holocene deposits
- Qhf<sub>2</sub> Old Holocene alluvial fan and fluvial terrace deposits (Holocene?)-Inset into older Holocene and pre-Holocene deposits

# **EXPLANATION**

Boring Location and Number

#### **DESCRIPTION OF MAP UNITS**

Tgp

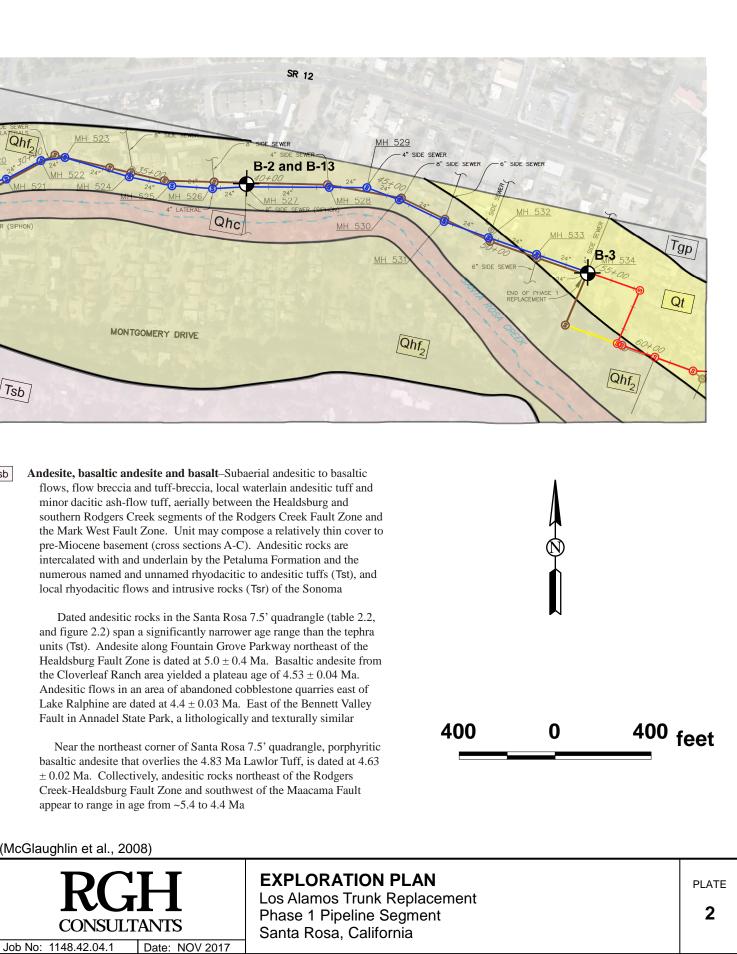
Qt Alluvial deposits, undivided (Holocene and Pleistocene)-Includes undivided Holocene and Pleistocene terrace deposits

#### TERTIARY ROCKS

- Fluvial and lacustrine deposits of Humbug Creek (Pliocene)–Gravel, sandstone, siltstone, mudstone, nonmarine diatomite, and locally mapped intercalated siliceous tuff (Tst). In Santa Rosa and western Kenwood quadrangles, unit consists largely of boulder, cobble and pebble gravel, and sand and silt derived from underlying Mesozoic rocks and from Tertiary volcanic rocks and exhibits primarily west-northwest directed paleoflow. On the basis of stratigraphy and the ages of underlying and interbedded volcanic units, we interpret the age of the fluvial and lacustrine deposits of Humbug Creek to be 3.3-4.4 Ma. Unit may be unconformably overlain by Pleistocene and Pliocene fluvial and lacustrine deposits (QTg) in Rincon Valley
- local rhyodacitic flows and intrusive rocks (Tsr) of the Sonoma

#### (McGlaughlin et al., 2008)

Tsb



Date(s Drilled	<sup>;)</sup> 6/1	4/17	7			Logged By BPC				Checke	ed By I	EGC						
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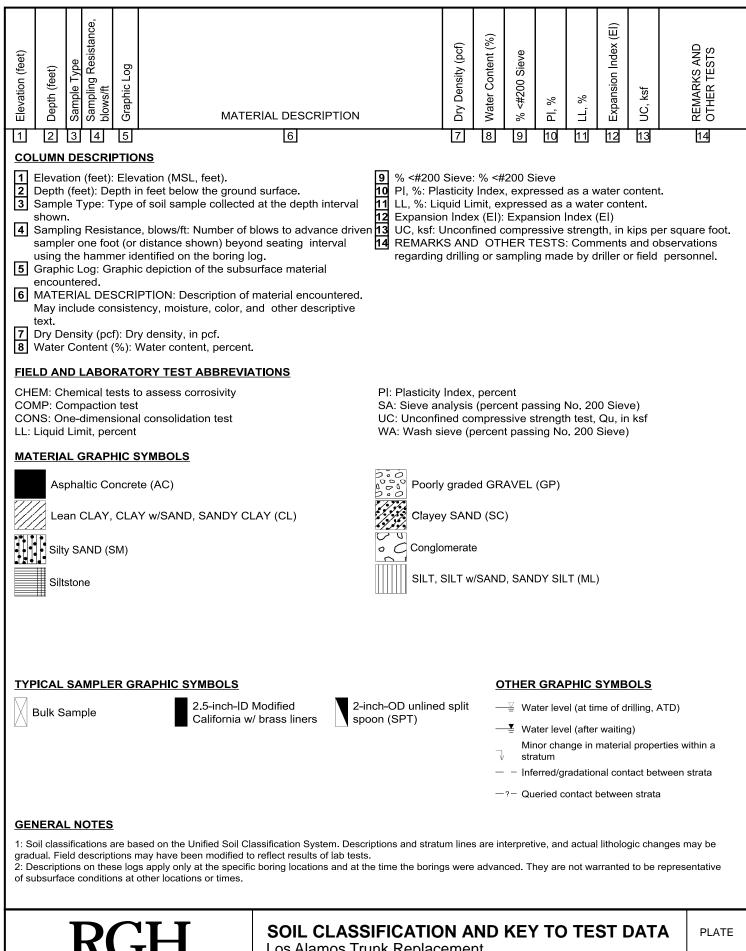
Elevation (feet)	<sup>g</sup> Depth (feet)	Sample Type	Sampling Resistance, blows/ft	Graphic Log		AL DESCRIPTION		Dry Density (pcf)	Water Content (%)	% <#200 Sieve	PI, %	rr, %	Expansion Index (EI)	UC, ksf	REMARKS AND OTHER TESTS
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_					7" asphalt - BROWN SANDY	CLAY (CL), medium stiff, moist, fine	1											
	- - 5-		8		<ul> <li>sand, occasional</li> </ul>	Y SAND (SC), loose, dry to moist, fine coarse sand, porous, rootlets	-		39.1									
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	<sup>ig</sup> Mo	bile	e B53	;		Drilling Contractor Pearson Drilling				Approx Surface	imate	E		g Gro	und Surface			
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-			8		MOTTLED GRAY A (CL), stiff to very sti	ND RED BROWN CLAY W/ SANI ff, moist, fine sand		110.7	18.5						Su = 1624 psf			
-	-		11		BROWN SANDY C fine to coarse sand	LAY W/ GRAVEL (CL), stiff, wet,		94.4	28.1						Su = 2132.5ps			
	15— — — —		21		- - - GRAY BROWN CL/ - fine to coarse sand	AY W/ SAND (CL), very stiff, moist												
-	20		34															
-	25— - - -				- - - -													
	Jo: 11	C	ONS	SUL	TANTS Date: NOV 2017	LOG OF BORING B Los Alamos Trunk Rep Phase 1 Pipeline Segm Santa Rosa, California	lace nen		l	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>			PLATE 5			

Date(s Drilled	<sup>s)</sup> 7/5/	/17				Logged By SC				Checke	ed By	EGC						
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Job N		C	ONS	SUL	TANTS Date: NOV 2017	LOG OF BORING B Los Alamos Trunk Repla Phase 1 Pipeline Segm Santa Rosa, California	acem	ent							PLATE 6			

Date(s Drilled	<sup>3)</sup> 8/1,	/17				Logged By SC			Checke	ed By I	EGC			
Drilling Metho	a _		v Was	h		Drill Bit Size/Type <b>3 1/2''</b>			Total D	epth hole	26 1/2	feet		
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Groun and Da					feet									
			ica											
Elevation (feet)	o Depth (feet)	Sample Type	Sampling Resistance, blows/ft	Graphic Log		RIAL DESCRIPTION	Dry Density (pcf)	Water Content (%)	% <#200 Sieve	PI, %	rr, %	Expansion Index (EI)	UC, ksf	REMARKS AND OTHER TESTS
			32/4.5" 34 37 12		to coarse sand BROWN CLAYEY S sand, occasional co GRAY AND BROW medium dense, dry, gravel to 3" diameter BROWN SILT W/ S hard, dry, fine to coa hard, dry, fine to coa LIGHT ORANGE BR GRAVEL (CL), hard gravel MOTTLED RED BR CONGLOMERATE, MOTTLED RED BR MOTTLED RED BR MOTTLED RED BR MOTTLED RED BR MOTTLED RED BR MOTTLED RED BR	AND AND GRAVEL (ML), very arse sand 								
Job N		C		UL	TANTS	LOG OF BORING B-13 Los Alamos Trunk Replac Phase 1 Pipeline Segmen Santa Rosa, California	eme	l						PLATE <b>7</b>



Los Alamos Trunk Replacement Phase 1 Pipeline Segment Santa Rosa, California

CONSULTANTS Job No: 1148.42.04.1 | Date: NOV 2017

### 8

#### LAYERING

MASSIVE THICKLY BEDDED MEDIUM BEDDED THINLY BEDDED VERY THINLY BEDDED CLOSELY LAMINATED VERY CLOSELY LAMINATED Greater than 6 feet 2 to 6 feet 8 to 24 inches  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 8 inches  $\frac{3}{4}$  to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches Less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch

#### JOINT, FRACTURE, OR SHEAR SPACING

VERY WIDELY SPACED WIDELY SPACED MODERATELY SPACED CLOSELY SPACED VERY CLOSELY SPACED EXTREMELY CLOSELY SPACED Greater than 6 feet 2 to 6 feet 8 to 24 inches  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 8 inches  $\frac{3}{4}$  to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches Less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch

#### HARDNESS

Soft - pliable; can be dug by hand

Firm - can be gouged deeply or carved with a pocket knife

<u>Moderately Hard</u> - can be readily scratched by a knife blade; scratch leaves heavy trace of dust and is readily visible after the powder has been blown away

Hard - can be scratched with difficulty; scratch produces little powder and is often faintly visible

Very Hard - cannot be scratched with pocket knife, leaves a metallic streak

#### <u>STRENGTH</u>

Plastic - capable of being molded by hand

Friable - crumbles by rubbing with fingers

Weak - an unfractured specimen of such material will crumble under light hammer blows

Moderately Strong - specimen will withstand a few heavy hammer blows before breaking

Strong - specimen will withstand a few heavy ringing hammer blows and usually yields large fragments

Very Strong - rock will resist heavy ringing hammer blows and will yield with difficulty only dust and small flying fragments

### DEGREE OF WEATHERING

<u>Highly Weathered</u> - abundant fractures coated with oxides, carbonates, sulphates, mud, etc., thorough discoloration, rock disintegration, mineral decomposition

<u>Moderately Weathered</u> - some fracture coating, moderate or localized discoloration, little to no effect on cementation, slight mineral decomposition

<u>Slightly Weathered</u> - a few stained fractures, slight discoloration, little or no effect on cementation, no mineral composition

Fresh - unaffected by weathering agents; no appreciable change with depth



# ENGINEERING GEOLOGY ROCK TERMS

Los Alamos Trunk Replacement Phase 1 Pipeline Segment Santa Rosa, California PLATE

