



December 13<sup>th</sup> 2022

G-5275

Paul Bosveld  
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Mercer Island, Washington  
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**Subject: Tree Watering Recommendation & Minimum Risk Statement**  
Proposed New Residence  
38XX W Mercer Way,  
Mercer Island, Washington

**Ref: “Geotechnical Engineering Study, Proposed New Residence, 38XX W  
Mercer Island, Washington, GEO Group Northwest, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020.”**

To whom it may concern:

GEO Group Northwest, Inc, has reviewed the location of the new and replaced trees that are to be planted on the above subject property, with their proximity to steep slopes onsite. We understand the city Arborist has requested the geotechnical engineer comment on watering techniques for new trees.

### **Recommendations**

We understand newly planted trees need water in the hot, dry, summer months. We recommend these new trees be watered bi-weekly with approximately 20 gallons of water. New trees should receive no more than 20 gallons of water per tree twice a week, using drip watering techniques.

Water should always be applied slowly, either using a watering bag or a garden hose set to a slow trickle and left for 30 minutes. You can also take three or 4 5-gallon buckets, use a hammer and nail to make some holes in the bottom, place the buckets at the base of the tree, and fill with

water. To test proper watering, dig into the soil 2 inches below the surface. This soil should be damp, not dry and crumbling or saturated.

Provided that the recommendations in this document is properly implemented, it is our opinion the proposed new trees and their required watering will not increase the potential for soil movement, and the risk of damage to the site or from the site to adjacent properties from soil instability will be minimal. Minimum risk does not mean no risk, but that necessary design measured have been taken to reduce the level of risk to a low or minimal quantity.

**Mercer Island City Code, Per Requirement 19.07.060.D.2**

The geologic hazard area will be modified, or the development has been designed so that the risk to the lot and adjacent property is eliminated or mitigated such that the site is determined to be safe.

Sincerely,

GEO Group Northwest, Inc.



Sophie Holt, G.I.T.  
Staff Engineering Geologist



12-13-2022



William Chang, P.E.  
Principal Engineer