



Technical Memorandum

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Date:	October 5, 2023	Project Manager:	Jeffrey P. Laub, P.E., L.G., L.E.G.
To:	Brad and Judy Chase 4467 Forest Avenue SE Mercer Island, Washington 98040	Principal in Charge:	Bruce L. Blyton, P.E.
cc:	Ms. Patricia Flores, Olson Kundig	Project Name:	Chase (Fused Elements) Residence
Address:	patricia@olsonkundig.com	Project No:	20220141E001
Subject:	Steep Slope Plantings		

Associated Earth Sciences, Inc. (AESI) has been asked to provide our opinion regarding the potential negative impact to slope stability posed by proposed plantings along steep slope areas at the site located at 4525 Forest Avenue SE in Mercer Island, Washington. AESI has previously completed a geotechnical engineering report, dated August 16, 2022, and provided subsequent design-phase geotechnical consultation for the planned residence at the site.

As stated in our August 16, 2022 report, the steep slope is moderately to densely vegetated with 4- to 36-inch-diameter deciduous and coniferous trees and other understory plants and shrubs, and we did not observe visual evidence of tension cracks, emergent seepage, hummocky topography, or other indications of recent slope instability observed on the site slopes. We also observed that the trees located on the steep slope area were generally oriented vertically, suggesting that ongoing, deep-seated slope movement is not occurring at the subject site.

Based on our review of Sheet L1.01 ("Tree Replacement Plan"), prepared by Spring Greenworks and dated September 8, 2023, we understand that the proposed plantings include twenty-nine, two-inch-caliper trees. Based on our observations and review of this plan, it is our opinion that the proposed plantings should not represent a significant adverse impact to slope stability. We recommend that excavation for tree placement be completed with hand tools, and that the surrounding vegetation/ground cover be left in place to provide a measure of local support to surface soils and mitigate impacts associated with ground disturbance. We also recommend that disturbed ground be prepared, mulched, and replanted as soon as possible to mitigate erosion, and that irrigation of the vegetation be limited to prevent excessive saturation of sloping ground and potential soil movement.

We trust this information meets your current needs. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require additional information or have any questions.

JPL/jh – 20220141E001-004