

SCE's Notes on Peer Review of Reports

As from time to time Councils are faced with extensive geotechnical reports in relation to development applications, it is often necessary for a Council to obtain independent advice as to the veracity of the provided reports, together with comments on any necessary conditions [from a geotechnical perspective] that may need to be applied to a particular development.

Also, whilst a number of Councils have established their own 'peer review' panels, many Councils do not have their own method of obtaining appropriate peer review advice on geotechnical matters.

To assist in this area, SCE offers an independent 'peer review' of geotechnical and ground engineering work for Councils, Consent Authorities and other third parties. This peer review process normally involves:

- review & comment on the technical content of the provided reports;
- site inspections where appropriate;
- informal or formal discussions with the applicant;
- attendances at facilitation meetings;
- the preparation of an appropriate report.

Also, where appropriate, SCE can suggest to the Council, or Consent Authority the form / technical content of any conditions of development consent that may need to be applied in a particular instance; these conditions are normally drafted to ensure that the identified geotechnical hazards and issues are appropriately dealt with during the construction of the development.