

## **APPENDIX 8-5**

*Letter from County Department of Environmental  
Health Land and Water Quality Division, dated  
June 20, 2017*





# County of San Diego

**ELISE ROTHSCHILD**  
DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH  
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**AMY HARBERT**  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

June 20, 2017

**Department of Environmental Health (DEH) Response to the “Feasibility Study for Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems, Otay Ranch Village 14 and Planning Areas 16 and 19, County of San Diego, California”; provided by Advanced Geotechnical Solutions, Inc. (3/28/17)**

To Whom It May Concern,

DEH staff have reviewed the study referenced above and compared it to historical documentation on file with DEH, under various projects. The main documentation utilized for the comparison was taken from TM 5288 and TM 5287, submitted to the Department of Planning and Land Use in 2002. It contains information, provided by the applicant, from Pacific Soils Engineering, Incorporated. The area proposed for development for TM 5288 and TM 5287 is within the same general area as the project described by Advanced Geotechnical Solutions, Incorporated.

DEH has identified the following concerns after review of the documents available:

1. Slopes exceeding 40% are not suitable for the use of onsite wastewater treatment systems. Portions of the property falls into this category and those areas cannot support the placement of onsite wastewater treatment systems.
2. There are specific areas within the property that demonstrate elevated groundwater levels. This could prohibit the use of onsite wastewater treatment systems in those specific areas or force the use of supplemental treatment systems to mitigate the groundwater setbacks required.
3. Poor and/or unacceptable percolation rates are shown to exist over large portions of the property. This could prohibit the use of onsite wastewater treatment systems or require large parcel sizes to allow for an adequate area for the placement of an onsite wastewater treatment system.
4. Rock outcroppings and shallow soil conditions found throughout portions of the property would significantly impact the design/placement of onsite wastewater treatment systems.
5. No studies have been submitted to DEH, to date, that determine the potential impacts from onsite wastewater treatment systems to local groundwater quality. Proposing density greater than that allowed in the Local Agency Management Program, would require studies to show no significant impacts to local groundwater supplies that would exceed the Basin Plan standards prescribed by the Regional Water Quality Control Board.
6. Potential impacts to surface water bodies (particularly the nearby reservoirs) from the large scale use of onsite wastewater treatment systems was discussed as part of the 2002 submittal of TM 5288/5287. No specific studies were provided.

Given these items of concern and the data and recommendations provided by Jeffrey A. Chaney (GE 2314), John A. Hanson (CEG 990), and Paul DeRisi (CEG 2536) DEH staff would concur that the majority of the site is not suitable for the use of onsite wastewater treatment systems. Any questions related to this letter or the supporting documentation on file with DEH can be directed to Scott Rosecrans at [scott.rosecrans@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:scott.rosecrans@sdcounty.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

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