



County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING
STEVEN WHITE, DIRECTOR

DATE: June 9, 2016
TO: Soils Engineers
FROM: Chuck Jonas, Interim Chief Building Inspector
SUBJECT: Information on Soil Compaction Reports

When a structure is to be supported by fill material, that fill shall comply with Chapter 18 of the 2013 California Building Code as modified by Title 15.28 of the Fresno County Ordinance Code. Minimum compaction is required for all fills which will support structures. In order to verify Code compliance of fills, the Development Services Division requires a soils investigation by an independent testing agency. This compaction report needs to contain the following information:

- A. Job address.
- B. Name, address, and phone number of testing agency.
- C. Compaction test results.
- D. Depth of fill.
- E. **Certification statement that states that the entire fill appears to have been placed in conformance with applicable Codes, and standard engineering practice, and that compaction of the entire fill meets or exceeds the minimum standards as required by CBC Appendix J Section J107.5. It is understood that a large number of fills will have been placed prior to a soils engineer arriving on the site. If this condition exists the soils engineer may state so in their report.**
- F. Engineer's stamp, signature, and expiration date.
- G. Brief explanation of procedure used to obtain minimum compaction for areas that fail first compaction test.
- H. Provide a scaled diagram showing locations of all test locations.

Most soils reports submitted to the County do contain all of this information, but, some reports do not which can cause delays in our review process.

The County Ordinance Code requires that the entire fill meet applicable Codes. At times, there have been previous fills that were not properly placed nor tested. New fill material is added at a later date and only this new fill is tested. Please inform your clients that the County requires the entire fill shall comply and not just new fill.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Fresno County Ordinance Code requires fill that will support structures located in the flood hazard areas shall be compacted to 95 percent of maximum density. All building pads or fills used to support structures, including mobile homes, located in flood hazard areas shall be compacted to 95 percent of maximum density.

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