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Department of Business and Professional Regulation

Senior Deputy Agency Clerk

CLERK: Brandon Nichols

Date: 4/22/2024

File #:

DRUMM ENGINEERING CORP.

17435 Abbott Ave., Port Charlotte, FL 33954
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CIVIL/STRUCTURAL
ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES
Website: www.drumengineering.com

PETITION FOR DECLARATORY STATEMENT BEFORE THE FLORIDA BUILDING COMMISSION

Company : Drumm Engineering Corporation

DS 2024-014

Address : 17435 Abbott Avenue, Port Charlotte, FL 33954

Name : Timothy A Drumm, P.E.

Title : President & Head Engineer

Phone : 941-625-8178

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Statute(s), Agency Rule(s), Agency Order(s), and/or Code Section(s) on which the Declaratory Statement is Sought:

-2023 Florida Building Code, Residential – Portions of Chapter 1 & 4
PLUS

-Clarification on DBPR Informal Interpretation Report Number 8846

Background:

Drumm Engineering Corporation has been servicing SW Florida for 35 years as of 2024. In our years of business, we have done residential designs for thousands of homes in the SW Florida area. We provide civil and structural engineering services to our clients for residential homes.

I am in designing multiple residential structures with shallow foundation designs and below is a list of the design conditions for the foundation and fill system for these projects:

Case 1 – Single Story residential home on virgin soil on a slab on grade foundation.

Case 2 – Single Story residential home on fill material (less than 12") on a slab on grade foundation.

Case 3 – Single Story residential home on fill material (more than 12") on a slab on grade foundation.

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Case 4 – Single Story residential home on virgin soil with a stem wall foundation.

Case 5 – Single Story residential home on fill material (less than 12”) with a stem wall foundation.

Case 6 – Single Story residential home on fill material (more than 12”) with a stem wall foundation.

Case 7 – Two Story residential home on virgin soil on a slab on grade foundation.

Case 8– Two Story residential home on fill material (less than 12”) on a slab on grade foundation.

Case 9 – Story residential home on fill material (more than 12”) on a slab on grade foundation.

Case 10 – Two Story residential home on virgin soil with a stem wall foundation.

Case 11 – Two Story residential home on fill material (less than 12”) with a stem wall foundation.

Case 12 – Two Story residential home on fill material (more than 12”) with a stem wall foundation.

For the twelve cases listed, I am designing the foundation system and fill requirements based on Chapter 4 of the Florida Building Code – Residential (FBC-R). Specially, it is designed to meet FBC-R 401.2 – Requirements section. I am also stating the fill soils that support footings and foundations are design, installed and tested in accordance with accepted engineering practices.

If I design the residential home foundation and fill soil to meet the requirements for Chapter 4 of the Florida Building Code - Residential, am I still required to design the foundation and fill soils to meet the requirements of the Florida Building Code Building Chapter 18?

Also, as a point of clarity, based on Informal Report Number 8846 and Chapter 4 of the FBCR, I do not see how the use of Chapter 18 in the Florida Building Code - Building is to be applied. Informal Interpretation Report Number 8846 states:

As a general rule, the Florida Building Code – Residential volume is a stand alone document. There are times or conditions when other volumes of the Florida Building Code may apply. Examples of this can be found in section 412.5 for residential aircraft hangars, or section 419 for live-work units. These are only a couple examples. While the Residential volume was intended to be a complete publication for residential structures and does apply to a typical residence, specific conditions may arise that require a reference to other volumes of the FBC. The reference to another volume needs to be specific and not covered by the

Residential Volume

respectfully,

