

07 June 2011

Hamish Wheelans  
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Dear Hamish

**KNOWN AREAS OF LIQUEFACTION IN THE SELWYN DISTRICT**

Further to our brief discussion at the Planning forum on the 1<sup>st</sup> June, I can confirm the following.

Subsequent to the earthquake of September 4, 2010 Council commissioned Geotech Consulting Ltd to undertake a survey of the Selwyn District and report on the area or areas affected, and with a potential to be affected by liquefaction within the district. The report was to include recommendations for building on sites identified. This work was completed and copies of the report and associated map are accessible via council's website. ([www.selwyn.govt.nz](http://www.selwyn.govt.nz))

Subsequent after shocks have resulted in modification of the map but have not generated a need to modify the report. The report does align and make reference to a Department of Building and Housing (DBH) guidance document that contains recommendations for foundation / slab designs for building in areas of liquefaction. This guidance document and the report maybe update and results of further research become available.

For those wishing to build outside the identified potentially liquefiable ground zone the requirements for building follow traditional normal practice, i.e. demonstrate compliance with all relevant provisions of the New Zealand Building Regulations / Code (NZBC). It should be noted that changes have been and are continuing to be made to the NZBC. These changes can be viewed by visiting the DBH website, [www.dbh.govt.nz](http://www.dbh.govt.nz).

While the West Melton area is outside the recognised potentially liquefiable ground zone it is recommended that normal site investigation be conducted to identify any site specific issues, if any (normal building practice), prior to design being undertaken.

Yours Sincerely



Ian Butler  
Building Manager