

## Example of a request from a local authority in Tasmania for a geotechnical assessment of land proposed for subdivision

Under Section 54 of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993, you are required by Council to provide the following additional information in triplicate:

1. A land stability (geotechnical) assessment report prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced person (i.e. a practising Engineering Geologist or Geotechnical Engineer) who holds adequate (\$1,000,000) and current professional indemnity insurance cover. The geotechnical assessment and report must:
  - (a) Address all potential hazards, both for the subdivision works and for future development of the new lots, including the following hazards as relevant to the particular circumstances:
    - Potential risk of landslide or erosion occurring.
    - Potential for foundation movement/instability due to reactive soils/regolith, soil/regolith creep, low cohesion and/or compaction of soil/regolith particles.
    - Potential for instability due to the presence of unconsolidated sediments, including such geological elements as boulder beds, talus, deep soil profiles, sandy clay beds.
    - Potential for vegetation removal to cause landslide or erosion.
    - Potential for flooding and/or waterlogging.
    - Potential for riverbank collapse.
    - Advice and recommendations on the impact, type, and location of on-site waste disposal systems.
  - (b) Classify the site in accordance with AS2870-2011 and make recommendations for the type and design of drainage methods, structures and building/structure foundations.
  - (c) Conclude by classifying the potential hazard by providing opinion on the level of risk, whether the site is capable of supporting the proposed development, and whether the development is likely to cause instability on any other land.
  - (d) Make recommendations to mitigate any potential landslide, erosion or other identified risk. All recommendations must be clear and included in separate section or appendix to the report.
  - (e) Include evidence that the qualified person holds adequate and current professional indemnity insurance cover for the nature and extent of any necessary land instability investigations, to the satisfaction of the Council's Director Development and Environmental Services.

The geotechnical site investigation and reporting must be undertaken in accordance with the Australian Geomechanics Society's Practice Note Guidelines for Landslide Risk Management (2007c) and comply with the minimum requirements of AS1726-1993 Geotechnical Site Investigations. If the recommendations of the geotechnical assessment report are inconsistent with the proposal plans submitted, amended plans demonstrating consistency with the report recommendations must be submitted.