

Boston Groundwater Trust

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March 28th, 2022

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Sarah Black, Senior Project Manager
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201-1007

Subject: 80 East Berkeley Street Notice of Project Change (NPC) Comments

Dear Ms. Black:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the 80 East Berkely Street Notice of Project Change (NPC) comments located in the South End neighborhood. The Boston Groundwater Trust (BGwT) was established by the Boston City Council to monitor groundwater levels in sections of Boston where the integrity of building foundations is threatened by low groundwater levels and to make recommendations for solving the problem. Therefore, my comments are limited to groundwater related issues.

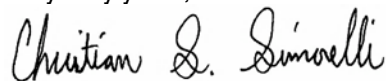
The project is located in the Groundwater Conservation Overlay District (GCOD) established under Article 32 of the Zoning Code. The previously approved project confirms compliance with GCOD in the current NPC document and via a letter from The Druker Company, LTD Vice President Barbara Boylan dated 28 August, 2013.

Compliance with the GCOD requires both the installation of a recharge system and a demonstration that the project cannot cause a reduction in groundwater levels on site or on adjoining lots. The Geotechnical/Groundwater section of the NPC states, "The NPC Project will result in minimal changes to of the below grade portions of the Previously Approved Project and so impacts to groundwater are expected to be similar to the Previously Approved Project..."

Before the GCOD zoning approval can be put in place, the proponent is required to provide the BPDA and the Trust a letter stamped by a professional engineer registered in Massachusetts that details how it will accomplish what is stated in the document and meets the GCOD requirement for no reduction in groundwater levels on site or on adjoining lots.

I look forward to continuing to work with the proponent and the Agency to assure that this project can have only positive impacts on area groundwater levels.

Very truly yours,



Christian Simonelli
Executive Director

CC: Kathleen Pederson, BPDA
Maura Zlody, EOS

