

# PIKES PEAK REGIONAL BUILDING DEPARTMENT

## SUGGESTED LANGUAGE FOR A LESS THAN ONE FOOT RISE CERTIFICATION

Zone A FEMA designated floodplains are included in the 100-year flood “Special Flood Hazard Areas” governed by the local and federal Floodplain regulations. These “unstudied” zones, however, do not have base flood elevations established. Also, certain locations within the community’s Flood Insurance Rate Maps have AE Zones with no designated floodway.

Proposed modifications to these floodplains require submission to FEMA of a formal Engineering study and FEMA approval prior to the development activity, unless very specific conditions are met. **Federal Floodplain Code 44CFR, Chp 1, 60.3.c.10** states:

“Require until a regulatory floodway is designated, that no new construction, substantial improvements, or other development (including fill) shall be permitted within Zones A1-30 and AE on the community’s FIRM, unless it is demonstrated that the cumulative effect of the proposed development, when combined with all other existing and anticipated development, will not increase the water surface elevation of the base flood more than one foot at any point within the community.”

For such projects, a certification of compliance with this code provision is required to be submitted as part of a Floodplain Development Permit application. The certification specifically takes the form of a letter with supporting documentation. The following is suggested language for this certification.

**I certify that I am a duly qualified registered Professional Engineer licensed in the state of Colorado.**

**Using standard Engineering practice I have evaluated the unstudied A zone floodplain in the area of the proposed project and I have determined pre-project 100-year flood depths. I certify that the cumulative effects of the proposed project *\_\_(project name or identification)\_\_* as detailed on construction drawings *\_(list drawing numbers or identification)\_* will result in less than a one foot rise in the 100-year flood elevations that I have determined for *\_(creek name)\_* Creek which is shown on FEMA map 08041C *\_(list panel number)\_*. This certification is intended as proof of meeting the requirements set forth in the Federal Code 44CFR Chp. 1, 60.3.c.10.**

**(if applicable) I further certify that the structure in question will be securely anchored to prevent flotation, collapse or lateral movement in order to withstand the velocity of floodwaters as required by RBC313.18.1 and RBC313.21.2.**

**I offer the following documentation in accordance with standard Engineering practice to support my findings:**

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_

The submitted letter must be signed and sealed by a currently registered Professional Engineer.