

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION  
SONOMA-LAKE-NAPA UNIT**

21095 State Highway 175  
Middletown, California 95461  
(707) 987-3089  
Website: [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov)



February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017

To: Mr. Cody Smith  
Mr. Patrick Smythe  
19697 East Road  
Lower Lake, CA 95457

Subject: Deviation Request DV16-01

Gentlemen,

On this date, a site inspection was conducted at East Road in Lower Lake, California. This inspection found the following conditions currently exist as it relates to DV 16-01:

1. East Road is an existing driveway that is approximately twelve (12) feet wide with a gravel surface that serves four parcels (APN's: 012-049-05, 012-049-06, 012-049-07 and 012-049-10).
2. All affected parcels are within the State Responsibility Area (SRA) and fall under the requirements set forth in Public Resources Code 4290 and Title 14 California Code of Regulations, Division 1.5, Chapter 7, Subchapter 2, Articles 1-5.
3. East Road in its present condition meets the intent of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, Division 1.5, Chapter 7, Subchapter 2, Article 2, Section 1273.10(a) - Driveways.
4. East Road in its current form does not meet the specifications of Section 1273.01(b). However, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, Division 1.5, Chapter 7, Subchapter 2 Article 1, Section 1270.07- Exception to Standards, allows for the implementation of alternative modifications to the standards, provided a mechanism is in place to meet the same practical effect.
5. DV 16-01 affects the Applicants who own APN's 012-049-07 and 012-049-10. APN's 012-049-05 and 012-049-06 are not owned by the applicants. The driveway that passes through these two parcels is approximately 860 feet.
6. County data indicates that permits on parcels that share East Road were completed in 1981, which predates Public Resources Code 4290. This indicates that East Road has existed in some form since 1981.

7. The applicants have begun to widen East Road on APN's 012-049-07 and 012-049-10. This will meet the twenty (20) foot requirements set forth in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, Division 1.5, Chapter 7, Subchapter 2, Article 2, Section 1273.01- Road Width.

The Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit does not foresee any issue on the existing 860 feet of East Road in its current state. This conclusion is based upon the following factors:

1. The area in question is flat, offering a clear line of sight from the intersection of Spruce Grove Road and the Applicant's property boundary. Both ends of this section of East Road has ample space to serve as turnouts for fire apparatus.
2. The driveway from East Road to APN 012-049-04 could serve as a turnout, meeting the same practical effect as outlined in Title 14 California Code of Regulations, Division 1.5, Chapter 7, Subchapter 2, Article 1, Section 1270.07- Exceptions to Standards.

If there are any further questions regarding this issue, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best Regards,

//Original Signed//

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cc: Greg Bertelli, Division Chief, CAL FIRE  
Willie Sapeta, Chief, Lake County Fire  
Charlie Denier, Battalion Chief, Lake County Fire