TECHNICAL INTERPRETATION

Date: June 14, 2012

To: FILE for Stormwater Management Permit Application No. 12-20-0003 (DEP Tracking No. T35485) 
SFR- 417 W 2nd Street, Incorporated Hinsdale, DuPage County, Illinois

From: Anthony J. Charlton, P.E., Director, Stormwater Management

Re: Fill required to elevate a building

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**Issue:**
The applicant for the above referenced single-family residential application within incorporated Hinsdale is requesting that the County waive the requirement that fill extend at least ten (10) feet beyond the foundation before sloping below the highest base flood elevation per the DuPage County Countywide Stormwater and Flood Plain Ordinance (CSFPO) effective prior to April 25, 2012.

**Ordinance Section:**
Article X, Section 15-133.15 of the CSFPO effective August 1, 2008 states: “Any fill required to elevate a building must extend at least 10 feet beyond the foundation before the grade slopes below the highest base flood elevation.”

**Ordinance Sub-Sections:**
Article X, Section 15-133.14 “If a LOMR is required by FEMA, no building construction shall take place until the LOMR is received.”

**Applicable History:**
Stormwater Committee has approved variances for allowing less than ten (10) feet of fill to extend beyond the foundation under similar circumstances. The CSFPO adopted April 24, 2012, effective April 25, 2012, does not contain this requirement, nor establish a new requirement, for the distance that fill must extend from the foundation of a proposed building before dropping below the base flood elevation.

**Discussion:**
The applicant previously demolished an existing residence and filled on the property, including providing a compensatory storage area on the site. The applicant claims to have received a LOMR-F from FEMA and will include the document in the permit application. The design engineer is aware of the FEMA standards for reasonably safe from flooding (TB 10-01), and proposes to include a statement in the submittal that the final design be reasonably safe from flooding in accordance with FEMA TB 10-01. The applicant will comply with all other provisions of the prior CSFPO.

**Director Interpretation:**
The Director does not object to waiving the requirement listed under Section 15-133.15 of the CSFPO effective August 1, 2008 without the applicant receiving a variance, because under the current 2012 CSFPO no variance would be required. Not requiring a variance under the old CSFPO does not lessen the technical flood protection standards since the design engineer will comply with FEMA TB 10-01.