



CITY OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN
Community Services Area
Planning & Development Services Unit
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February 21, 2016

Building Board of Appeals
City of Ann Arbor

Re: American Honda Addition
3947 Research Park Dr.
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Dear Board Members:

American Honda received a permit in December of 2013 to construct an addition onto their existing automotive testing and research development facility located at the above address. At some point in November of 2014 field inspections revealed concerns with regard to the installation of hazardous gas detection systems, electrical equipment installations and mechanical ventilations systems. At that point the previous Building Official hired an outside consultant (Ino-Tek) with expertise in the Emergency Alarm Systems (EAS) field. Ino-Tek quickly determined that the submitted and previously approved plans had lacked the sufficient information necessary for a comprehensive review and recommended that the City require Honda to submit a "Hazard Review Report", prepared by a qualified company, per the 2009 Michigan Building Code. This report should contain information such as;

1. Identification of all hazardous materials being used, quantities and their hazard classifications.
2. Hazard classifications for control areas such as the machinery room, basement dynamometer room (pits), automobile test cells, hazardous gas bottle rooms and gasoline storage room.
3. A comprehensive set of drawings, including riser diagrams for the proposed EAS, all mechanical ventilation systems and electrical equipment.

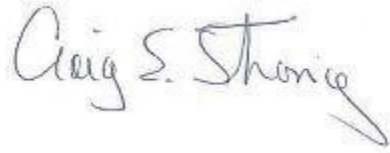
Upon my arrival as the City's Building Official, in December of 2014, I reviewed a request from Honda to accept Parker Engineering as a qualified company as they claimed to have the necessary qualifications to prepare the Hazard Review Report. Since that time we have gone back and forth with submittals, reviews and meetings and frankly are at an impasse.

Honda's team feels that we are misinterpreting the codes and have filed an appeal for your consideration. The following code section should be used in determining a final resolution for each of their appeals listed in my enclosed report.

113.1 Means of appeal. An interested person may appeal a decision of the enforcing agency to the board of appeals in accordance with the act. An application for appeal shall be based on a claim that the true intent of the code or the rules governing construction has been incorrectly interpreted, the provisions of the code do not apply, or an equal or better form of construction is proposed. The decision of a local board of appeals may be appealed to the construction code commission in accordance with the act and time frames.

If you have any questions, please call me at 734 652-6813.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Craig E. Strong". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Craig E. Strong, Building Official
City of Ann Arbor