

IN THE MATTER OF THE *PROFESSIONAL GOVERNANCE ACT* S.B.C. 2018, CHAPTER 47

and

IN THE MATTER OF YE MING (YEMING) LI, P.ENG., STRUCT.ENG.

ENGINEERS AND GEOSCIENTISTS BC FILE NO. T20-006(B)

CONSENT ORDER

Background

- 1. On September 18, 2023, pursuant to section 66(1) of the *Professional Governance Act*, S.B.C. 2018, c. 47 (the "*PGA*"), the appointed Investigation Subcommittee of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of the Province of British Columbia, doing business as Engineers and Geoscientists BC, issued an investigation report (the "Report") regarding Mr. Ye Ming (Yeming) Li. The Report was provided to the Investigation Committee pursuant to section 9.7.6(1) of the *Bylaws* of Engineers and Geoscientists BC.
- 2. The Report concerned Mr. Li's engineering services in relation to an independent structural concept review of the design drawings designed and submitted by another registrant in support of a building permit application to the City of Powell River (the "Structural Review").
- 3. On November 9, 2023, the Investigation Committee appointed a Resolution Subcommittee to attempt to resolve this matter by means of a Consent Order.
- 4. The Investigation Committee and Mr. Li wish to resolve this matter by consent pursuant to section 73(2) of the *PGA* to avoid the need for a disciplinary hearing.
- 5. Mr. Li consents to the disposition set out below.

Legislation

- 6. On February 5, 2021, the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 116 (the "*EGA*") was repealed and replaced by the *PGA*.
- 7. The conduct of Mr. Li took place at a time when the *EGA* was in force. As a result, the conduct in question is considered pursuant to sections 30(9)(b) and 30(9)(c) of the *EGA*, and the Bylaws and Code of Ethics under the *EGA*.
- 8. Pursuant to sections 35(2) and 36(1)(c) of the *Interpretation Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 238, investigations commenced under the *EGA* carry on procedurally under the *PGA*.

Admissions

- 9. Mr. Li admits that he demonstrated unprofessional conduct in relation to the Structural Review. In particular, Mr. Li admits that he failed to:
 - a. carry out an adequate review with respect to the gravity and lateral force resisting elements set out in the structural design; and
 - b. identify, or in the alternative, document deficiencies in the structural design including inadequate details regarding the connections between the interior shear walls to the roof diaphragm, the connections between the shear walls to the existing floor structure, and the continuation of load paths to the foundation.
- 10. The conduct set out above at paragraph 9 is contrary to section 14(b)(4) of the Bylaws of Engineers and Geoscientists BC, as they stood at the time, which required, among other things, that the reviewer examine representative samples of the structural assumptions, continuity of gravity and lateral force resisting elements necessary to satisfy any reviewer concerns before the documents are issued for construction, and determine if the structural systems appear complete, consistent and in general compliance with the applicable codes.
- 11. The conduct set out above at paragraph 9 is contrary to Principle 1 of the Engineers and Geoscientists BC Code of Ethics (the "Code of Ethics"), as it stood at the time, which required that all members and licensees shall hold paramount the safety, health and welfare of the public, the protection of the environment and promote health and safety within the workplace.
- 12. The conduct set out above at paragraph 9 is contrary to Principle 3 of the Code of Ethics, as it stood at the time, which required that all members and licensees shall provide an opinion on a professional subject only when it is found upon adequate knowledge and honest conviction.

Disposition

13. By consent, this Consent Order is made pursuant to section 73 of the PGA.

- 14. Mr. Li's registration with Engineers and Geoscientists BC is suspended for a period of one month commencing on February 3, 2025 (the "Suspension Period").
- 15. Prior to the end of the Suspension Period, Mr. Li will:
 - a. Provide a declaration that he has read and is familiar with the Engineers and Geoscientists BC Quality Management Guides Guide to the Standard for Documented Independent Review of Structural Designs, Version 3.0, published on June 15, 2023; and
 - b. Provide written notice that, at his own expense, he has completed the Professional Engineering and Geoscientists Practice in BC Online seminar.
- 16. Mr. Li must, at his own expense, complete the following educational course, or an equivalent course approved in advance and in writing by Engineers and Geoscientists BC: Structural Design for Lateral Loads and Stability (provided by EPIC online, April 7-9, 2025, Course Code 15-0417-ONL25).
- 17. Six months after the conclusion of the of the Suspension Period, Mr. Li agrees to undergo a practice review conducted by Engineers and Geoscientists BC (the "Practice Review"), at his own expense. The precise timing and process of the Practice Review will be determined by the Audit and Practice Review Committee.
- 18. Mr. Li will pay \$5,500 to Engineers and Geoscientists BC contemporaneous with the execution of this Consent Order as a contribution towards the legal and investigative costs incurred in this matter.
- 19. In the event that Mr. Li fails to comply with any of the terms of this Consent Order, his registration with Engineers and Geoscientists BC will be suspended until every default has been remedied in accordance with the terms of this Consent Order.

Consequences of the Consent Order

- 20. The full text of this Consent Order will be published on the website of Engineers and Geoscientists BC, and a summary will be published in print and electronic publications, including in public communications.
- 21. This Consent Order has the same force and effect as an Order made under section 75 of the *PGA*.
- 22. Mr. Li agrees that Engineers and Geoscientists BC has recommended that he receive independent legal advice regarding this Consent Order and that Engineers and Geoscientists BC has given him the opportunity to obtain independent legal advice.

23. Mr. Li and Engineers and Geoscientists BC agree that this Consent Order may be executed in counterparts and delivered as an electronic document

This Consent Order is approved and accepted by Mr. Li and the Investigation Committee this <u>30</u> day of January, 2025.

<original by="" signed=""></original>	Jiang Zhong
Ye Ming Li, P.Eng., Struct.Eng.	Name of Witness
	<original by="" signed=""></original>
	Signature of Witness

The Investigation Committee of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of the Province of British Columbia

<original signed by>

Per: Peter Helland, P. Eng. Chair, Investigation Committee