

CZU LIGHTNING COMPLEX FIRES



Phone 831-454-5323
Email RPC@SantaCruzCounty.Us

Temporary Geologic Hazard Clearance (TGHC)

Instructions for Temporary Housing Permits

PURPOSE

As those displaced by the CZU Fire transition to temporary housing, the Temporary Geologic Hazard Clearance (TGHC) provides a general screening of the parcel to be occupied to determine if there are any known geologic hazards that may threaten the safety of temporary occupants. The TGHC is one of two clearances required prior to submission of the Temporary Housing Permit Application.



APPLICATION & ISSUANCE OF TEMPORARY GEOLOGIC HAZARD CLEARANCE (TGHC)

A Temporary Geologic Hazard Clearance is required prior to application for a Temporary Housing Permit. Application for a clearance may be made at the Recovery Permit Center (RPC) by remote appointment, [\(831\) 454-5323](tel:8314545323) or [email submission to RPC@santacruzcounty.us](mailto:RPC@santacruzcounty.us).

TGHC Submittal Documents

- TGHC Application (Page 1 completed by Applicant)
- Site Plan (see Temporary Housing Permit application for site plan requirements)

TGHC APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The TGHC application form contains fields for the applicant to complete (Page 1 only) and fields to be completed by County geologic staff during review of the application. See below for instructions and further detail on the County review process.

PAGE 1 of the application is to be *completed by the applicant* as follows:

- 1. Location:** Provide the address and Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) of the site on which the temporary residence will be located. Please provide the latitude and longitude of the temporary residence footprint; this information can be obtained using your cellular phone. See instructions on the next page.
- 2. Owner Information:** Provide current contact information for the owner of the site listed in the "Site Location" section.
- 3. Applicant Information:** Provide current contact information for the person applying for the TGHC, if different from the property owner. The proposed temporary resident, contractor, architect, designer or engineer might make the application.

LATITUDE/LONGITUDE COORDINATES USING A CELLULAR PHONE

To obtain latitude/longitude coordinates for your temporary residence using Google Maps on your smart phone, visit the site, position yourself in the estimated center of the temporary residence footprint and follow these instructions:

IPHONE:

1. On your iPhone or iPad, open the Google Maps app.
2. Zoom all the way in on your position (a blue dot). Touch and hold the blue dot marker that shows your location on the map. A red pin will appear.
3. At the bottom, tap "Dropped pin" (you might need to scroll down.) The coordinates will look something like this: (37.0783179, -121.9802743)

ANDROID:

1. On your phone or tablet, open the Google Maps app.
2. Zoom all the way in on your position. Touch and hold on the blue dot marking your position. A red pin will appear.
3. Coordinates appear in the search box at the top. They will look something like this: 37.0783179, -121.9802743

TGHC APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS (CONT.)

4. Site Plan: A site plan is required to process the TGHC application. The site plan submitted for the TGHC should be identical to the site plan submitted for the Temporary Housing Permit; see Temporary Housing Permit brochure and application for site plan requirements. If submitting electronically, the site plan may be uploaded as a .pdf attachment. Please check the "Attached" box, to confirm that the site plan .pdf has been provided. RPC staff will work with you to review your application and site plan submitted.

5. Applicant Signature: Applicants are required to provide a signature, acknowledging that the information provided in the application and site plan is true and accurate to the best of their knowledge.

PAGE 2 of the application consists of geologic review items and is *completed by County staff* as follows:

6. Site Evaluation (Completed by County staff) Based on the information provided by the applicant, County geologic staff will conduct a limited in-office review of available maps and data to determine whether the site is located in an area subject to potential geologic hazards with the potential to threaten the lives of temporary occupants. Such hazards include debris flows, flood plains or a known history of slope instability.

Please review the "Reviewer Notes" section for observations and conditions included by the reviewer for informational purposes. The referenced CZU Temporary Housing Siting Recommendations Handout will be provided upon issuance of an approved TGHC, and can also be found on the Temporary Housing Permit page on our website.

County geologic review does not include a site visit or field investigation of the temporary housing location. Applicants must be aware that though a clearance has been obtained geologic hazards may be present on the property. Applicants are encouraged to engage a private consulting registered geologist to determine if any additional site-specific geologic hazards exist other than what has been identified by County staff at your location.



TGHC APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS (CONT.)

PAGE 3 of the application consists of geologic review items and is *completed by County staff* as follows:

7. Findings After review of geologic information County geologic staff will make findings regarding issuance of the Temporary Geologic Hazard Clearance. If geologic review has concluded that the housing site is not within a known debris flow hazard area, flood plain, or parcel with other known geologic hazards that may affect the housing site, or if the hazards identified have been mitigated via implementation of technical report recommendations, County geologic staff will approve the Temporary Geologic Hazard Clearance and clear the site for submittal of a Temporary Housing Permit application.

Should an imminent life safety hazard be identified during geologic review, the Temporary Geologic Hazard Clearance will not be issued until review and acceptance of a technical report which includes a site-specific assessment of the potential hazards, and any applicable recommendations to mitigate the hazard. A brief description of the technical reports that may be required is provided below.

8. Technical Reports Required to Evaluate Property for Temporary Housing In the event a Temporary Geologic Hazard Clearance cannot be issued, review and acceptance of technical report(s) are required to evaluate the potential hazards in a more detailed, site specific manner and to determine if effective hazard mitigation is feasible. Potential technical report types are as follows:

Geologic Report: This is a site-specific report prepared by a Professional Geologist registered in the state of California that evaluates all geologic hazards present on the parcel and provides recommendations to mitigate the potential for these hazards to impact the proposed development. Due to the investment of time and funds required to obtain a report and complete the review and acceptance process, applicants are encouraged to scope the report such that it includes consideration of both the temporary and permanent residence locations.

Hydrologic Report: This is a site-specific report prepared by a Civil Engineer registered in the state of California that evaluates flooding conditions for sites within a mapped FEMA Flood Zone and provides a "Base Flood Elevation" to determine the areas of the parcel that would be inundated during a 100-year flood event and a current surveyed topographic map that delineates the inundated areas in relation to the temporary housing site. Any subsequent Temporary Geologic Hazard Clearance would be approved with the condition that the temporary structure be located outside the areas of potential inundation.

Applicants can apply for review of their geologic or hydrologic report at the Recovery Permit Center (RPC).



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NOTES AFTER A TEMPORARY GEOLOGIC HAZARD CLEARANCE IS ISSUED

It is important for applicants to understand that a Temporary Geologic Hazard Clearance does not guarantee that a Rebuild Geologic Hazard Clearance will be issued for permanent structures without a requirement for a technical report for the permanent home. Applicants are encouraged to discuss their permanent rebuild proposals with RPC staff and when ready, submit for a Rebuild Geologic Hazard Clearance to determine the level of geologic review required for their permanent rebuild proposal.

Geologic processes are continuous and change over time, especially during periods of inclement weather. Temporary occupants must remain aware of their surroundings and regularly monitor for slope movement or unsafe conditions. When in doubt, contact a private consulting geologist to determine the safety of your temporary housing site.

