

August 14, 2012



Michael K. Ward
Vice President, Director of Development
Dynamic Development Company, LLC
1725 21st Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404

SUBJECT: Results of Desert Tortoise Assessment – Proposed General Retail Store, Joshua Tree,
San Bernardino County, California.

Dear Mr. Ward:

This letter provides a summary of methods and results of the desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) assessment conducted for the proposed general retail store project located in Joshua Tree, San Bernardino County, California.

The 1.4-acre site is located immediately northwest of the intersection of Sunburst Avenue and Twentynine Palms Highway (Hwy 62). The site is bounded by Commercial Street to the north and Mountain View Street to the west. A search of the California Natural Diversity Database revealed one record of desert tortoise within 5 miles of the site. This record was located within a large wash approximately 2 miles northwest of the site. A site visit was conducted on October 13, 2011 to characterize desert tortoise habitat on the site and in the surrounding area. The 1.4-acres site was surveyed using full-coverage, 10-meter spaced linear transects and approximately one mile of linear transects were walked in the undeveloped parcels located east of the site.

The site has been substantially disturbed as a result of previous human use associated with nearby development. Approximately 60% of the site was unvegetated as a result of previous disturbances. The existing vegetation consisted of sparse creosote bush (*Larrea tridentata*), burrobush (*Ambrosia dumosa*), and cheesebush (*Ambrosia salsola*). No sign (live tortoises, shell/bone/scutes, scat, burrows/pallets, tracks, egg shell fragments, or courtship rings) of desert tortoise was observed on the site.

Desert tortoises were absent from the site during the survey and they are not expected to occupy the site in the future due to the level of surrounding development and isolation from regionally occupied desert tortoise habitat.

If you have any questions, please call me at (949) 351-0192.

Respectfully,

IRONWOOD CONSULTING, INC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Blandford", written in a cursive style.

Chris Blandford