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July 30, 2024

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing this recommendation on behalf of Garrett Bietz. I had the pleasure of working with Garrett during the 2022 & 2023 construction seasons on the development of Cell 7 (project) at the Watertown Regional Landfill in Watertown, South Dakota. I served as the representative of the Owner (City of Watertown) working as the Project Manager and Engineer of Record. The Project was valued in excess of \$2 million dollars and consisted of mass excavation, placement of a re-compacted soil barrier layer (liner), construction of gravel surfaced landfill access and perimeter roads, restoration of the facility's compost pad and the installation of various piping systems to manage both leachate and stormwater at the facility. During the initial excavation of the Cell, a significant amount of unsuitable soil material was discovered. The unsuitable materials extended through the proposed subbase grades of the proposed landfill Cell necessitating subgrade correction. The removal of these materials created significant challenges to the constructability of the project and the related project schedule.

For this project, I worked closely with Garrett for nearly 2 years. Garrett worked as the Project Estimator and Foreman/Superintendent for the prime contractor. My interaction with Garrett initiated with the project solicitation effort. Garrett was inquisitive and asked a number of insightful questions in the lead up to the bid opening. His questioning was very thorough. Of all the prospective bidders Garrett easily asked the most questions and was without doubt the most informed of the various project features. Upon successfully securing the low bid for the work, Garrett continued his efforts on the project via management of the day-to-day operations for the prime contractor. As noted above the project was plagued by changed in-situ conditions that created significant challenges for the prime contractor. Garrett worked tirelessly on the project. For a period of months Garrett and his crew worked long days, nights, and many weekends to maintain the project schedule. Despite the long hours and minimal time off Garrett was always in good spirits. Garrett was always prompt to respond to my inquiries and requests. Throughout the Project I never got the impression that Garrett minimized or dismissed my concerns as the Project Engineer. Under Garretts leadership the work was completed to a high level of quality.

Garrett is an intelligent and motivated young man. His dedication and work ethic combined with his solid communication skills and inquisitive nature will serve him well in the next chapter of his professional development. If you are interested in additional insights about my opinion of Garrett, please feel free to contact my cell at 763.439.5653 or by email at dmc Alpine@houstoneng.com

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