WVGES - GEOLOGIC HAZARDS CHECKLIST

A. FLOODING

1. □ Is the house or site on the floodplain?
2. □ Does the house or site flood often?
3. □ Is the house or site above the 100-year flood elevation?
4. □ Is the floodplain protected by a dike, levee, or floodwall?
5. □ Is flood insurance needed?

B. LANDSLIDES

1. □ Is the house or site on a hillside slope of 10% or greater?
2. □ Is the slope rough, hummocky, cracked, or slipped?
3. □ Are there bent trees or leaning posts and utility poles on the slope?
4. □ Does the rough, hummocky slope have seeps, springs, or sag ponds?
5. □ Are normally straight walls, fences, curbs, and walks across slopes bent or offset downhill?
6. □ Are there open cracks or steep scarps (breaks) across the slope?
7. □ Do outside stone, brick, or block walls have open or patched "step cracks" along mortar joints?
8. □ Do inside basement walls have open or patched cracks with bent or broken walls?
9. □ Are inside uphill walls supported with buttresses?
10. □ Are retaining walls cracked, tilted, leaning, or offset?
11. □ Are support pillars or posts tilted or leaning?
12. □ Do concrete or plastered walls have open or patched diagonal jagged cracks?
13. □ Have outside concrete steps moved downhill away from house?

C. SUBSIDENCE

GENERAL

1. □ Does or will the house rest entirely on unyielding bedrock, undisturbed natural soil, or compacted, settled fill?
2. □ Has the house or site subsided or settled (vertical drops)?
3. □ Has the house tilted or is it leaning?
4. □ Are window and door frames square and plumb?
5. □ Are windows and doors stuck?
6. □ Do pavements, floors, or foundation walls have vertical off-set cracks?

Underground Mines

1. □ Is the house or site over deep mines?
2. □ Is depth-to-mine less than 300 feet?
3. □ Is the house or site over minable coal?
4. □ If the house or site is over minable coal, will that coal be mined in the near future?
5. □ Is mine subsidence insurance needed?
Karst

1. [ ] Is the house or site on limestone with caves and sinks?
2. [ ] Is depth-of-cave less than 300 feet?
3. [ ] Does the land surface have shallow depressions, recent open cracks, or enlarging sink holes?

Fills

1. [ ] Is the house or site on fill?
2. [ ] Was the fill placed on a [ ] swamp, [ ] floodplain, [ ] hillside, [ ] gully, [ ] hollow, [ ] waste dump?
3. [ ] Was the fill site prepared and the fill compacted according to standard specifications for highway and airport embankments?
4. [ ] Does the fill surface have shallow depressions, open cracks, deep gullies, or other signs of horizontal and/or vertical movement?
5. [ ] Do adjacent houses on fill have signs of subsidence damage?

D. GROUND WATER

Water Supply

1. [ ] Is public water supply available?
2. [ ] If not public supply, [ ] private well, [ ] spring, [ ] cistern, [ ] other?
3. [ ] Is yield adequate in dry seasons?
4. [ ] Are recent State Health Department water test records available?
5. [ ] Is fire protection water available? From: [ ] hydrant, [ ] well, [ ] pond, [ ] stream?

Sewage and Septic Waste Disposal

1. [ ] Are public sewers and treatment facilities available?
2. [ ] If not public sewer, [ ] private septic tank, [ ] lagoon, [ ] home treatment plant, [ ] other?
3. [ ] Do you know location of the system and effluent outlet?
4. [ ] Are there offensive odors?
5. [ ] Are recent sanitation inspection reports available?
6. [ ] Are recent septic system maintenance records available?

Foundation and Basement

1. [ ] Are basement walls wet, damp, or have peeling paint near the floor?
2. [ ] Is basement floor cracked, heaved, or wet?
3. [ ] Is there a sump pump?
4. [ ] Is there a dehumidifier?
5. [ ] Are bases of steps and posts rusted or rotted?
6. [ ] Are outside patios and pavements heaved and cracked?
7. [ ] Are gutter drain outlets separate from foundation drains?
8. [ ] Is surface run-off diverted away from the house?