For a structure on a site, classified Site Class F for liquefiable soils, a site response analysis is required, unless the fundamental period of vibration for the structure is less than or equal to 0.5 s ([ASCE 7-05] 20.2, 20.3.1(1.) Exception). Buildings with moment-resisting frame seismic force-resisting systems up to 35' in height will have periods approximating 0.5 s.

According to the exception to [ASCE 7-05] 20.3.1(1.) for liquefiable soils, in lieu of the site response analysis, a site class may be determined in accordance with [ASCE 7-05] Section 20.3, and corresponding values for site coefficients $F_a$ and $F_v$ may be determined from Tables 11.4-1 and 11.4-2. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance for the selection of the appropriate site classification for determination of the applicable site coefficients. See conditions 1 and 2 below.

**Condition 1:**
For granular soils, Site Class D may be assumed provided $\bar{N} > 15$ for the top 100 feet. Otherwise, Site Class E may be assumed. $\bar{N}$ = Average Field Standard Penetration Resistance per [ASCE 7] 20.4.2.

**Condition 2:**
For silty soils, Site Class E may be assumed.

Approved by:  
Seimone Jurjis, Chief Building Official

Policy/Build [ASCE 7-05] 20.2 (supersedes UBC 1636.2)