Annexure: Confidentiality Request Letter

Date: 14/07/2025

The Director Centre for Graduate Studies, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, 94300, Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, Malaysia Subject: Request for Confidentiality of Thesis for a Period of 2 Years

Dear Sir/Madam,

I, Imtiyaz Akbar Najar, a student of Doctor of Philosophy in the department of civil engineering at Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, hereby request that my thesis titled "A Framework for Investigation of Soil Suffusion and Soil-Structure Interaction Effects on Seismic Performance of Prestressed Concrete Bridge" be classified as CONFIDENTIAL for a period of 2 years from the date of submission.

Reasons for Confidentiality:

- i. Portions of my thesis are currently under review for publication in academic journals, and premature public disclosure may affect the review process.
- ii. Additional papers are being prepared/written based on the thesis, and public access at this stage may lead to unintended plagiarism or misuse of unpublished data.

This confidentiality period will allow me to finalize and publish my research work without compromising its originality or violating journal submission policies.

I confirm that the requested confidentiality period is necessary and justified. My supervisor has reviewed and supports this request.

We acknowledge that after the 2 year period, the thesis will be made publicly available as per university regulations.

Student

Name: Imtiyaz Akbar Najar Signature:

Date: 14/07/2025

Supervisor Name: Ir Dr Raudhah Ahmadi **Designation:** Senior Lecturer

Senior Lecturer Department of Civil Engineering Faculty of Engineering University Malaysia Sarawak 94300 Kota Samarahan, Sarawak.

IR. DR RAUDHAH BINTI AHMADI

Signature: