FORENSIC INVESTIGATIONS





- **Roofing & Exterior Wall Advising**
- Water Intrusion Investigation
 - Facade Performance Testing (Air and Water)
- Peer Review and Design Service
- Non-Destructive Evaluation and Analysis (Infrared Thermography)

- Forensic Evaluations and Remedial Designs
- Administration
- **Document Review**
- **Litigation Support**



Service Overview

Often during completion of standard due diligence work, problematic or systemic building issues are encountered. Nova has the resources and expertise to assist with identifying, quantifying, prioritizing, and solving potential or existing physical risks and liabilities. These capabilities allow for a quick response to determine the extent of a problem's impact on the overall value and performance of a building or system.

For existing properties, some building systems fail or perform at a level that is unsatisfactory to the owner, property manager, contractor, or design professional. Nova assists clients by investigating the cause or causes of a failure and makes recommendations for corrective measures.

Experience

Nova has licensed architects, engineers, and advisors located throughout the country. Its staff is able to mobilize quickly to meet today's shortened due diligence timelines. With Nova's diverse team as a due diligence partner, clients can rest assured they'll have a versatile resource committed to providing the information they need to make informed decisions during real estate transactions. Additionally, Nova has staff trained in specific areas of expertise available to advise as needed.



DOUG KNIGHT Vice President, Equity Group Director

Mr. Knight is Director of the Equity Group. He has over 25 years of experience in the consulting engineering business, with a focus in environmental services. As a project professional, he has been involved with the identification, quantification, and mitigation of environmental and facility defects on a wide variety of commercial, residential, and raw property projects. Mr. Knight has experience in over 1,000 environmental and facility projects, including Phase I and II ESAs, hazardous substances (asbestos, lead, and radon),

remedial investigation/delineations, PCAs, and building envelope commissioning. Mr. Knight earned a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from Centre College in Kentucky and is based out of Columbus, Ohio.

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Summary

As part of the client's due diligence work, Nova was hired to complete an equity-level Property Condition Assessment for a retail site in Snoqualmie, Washington. The project consisted of five single-story retail buildings, constructed in between 2003 and 2006. The strip retail centers had a variety of exterior wall finishes.

Highlights

During the initial site observations for the PCA. Nova determined that the stucco-clad elevations of the building had excessive hairline cracking. While on-site, our associate was able to contact one of our in-house Registered Exterior Wall Consultants to review the field conditions. The Nova team was able to confirm field conditions indicative of systemic failure. We quickly communicated this information and the potential cost impact to the client. A follow-up site visit was scheduled to complete an infrared assessment (moisture survey) and collect samples for petrographic analysis. Based on the additional information obtained, Nova was able to provide an accurate repair scope and cost to our client. While the original PCA would have identified the issues with the stucco, the true extent and overall cost impact of the issue would have been an unknown risk. The detailed scope and costs gave the client the information needed to negotiate with the seller for corrective repairs. By working closely with the current building owner, their contractor and the client. Nova was able to ensure repairs were properly completed.

