



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

Northeast Regional Office • 205B Lowell Street, Wilmington MA 01887 • 978-694-3200

Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Matthew A. Beaton
Secretary

Martin Suuberg
Commissioner

March 11, 2016

Mr. Ben Stevens
c/o Creative Land and Water Engineering, LLC
P.O. Box 584
Southborough, MA 01772

WETLAND/SHERBORN
DEP FILE NO: 283-0366
247A Washington Street
INFORMATION REQUEST

Dear Mr. Stevens:

As you know, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 131, Section 40, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Wetlands Program ("MassDEP"), is reviewing the above referenced project in preparation to issuance of a Superseding Order of Conditions. MassDEP held a site inspection on December 29, 2016 with you, your representative, and members of Sherborn Conservation Commission (the Commission). Based on a review of the information currently contained in the file and observations made at the site inspection, MassDEP is requesting the following additional information.

In accordance with the Regulations, at 310 CMR 10. 10.05(7)(f) 2, additional information must be submitted **within 70 days** of MassDEP's request. MassDEP understands that more time may become necessary to gather the additional information and will consider any reasonable request for additional time to comply if it is needed and requested prior to the deadline.

- The Commission in their denial raised concerns regarding impacts of the project on the Buffer Zone. Buffer zones and their role in wetlands protection has established that buffer zones play an important role in the protection of adjacent wetland resource areas. The proximity of a proposed project which clears vegetation can result in loss of shading, changes in temperature and plant community in the wetland resource area.

The existing site conditions, particularly in the southeast portion of the project site, contain a stand of woodlands dominated by mature white pines. According to the Notice of Intent (NOI) approximately 110 trees, 80% white pines, will be removed from the site. MassDEP has concerns with the impact the removal of this mature woodland will have on the adjacent wetland resource area. Therefore, the NOI needs to address the potential shading impacts and edge effect the removal of this established woodland may have on

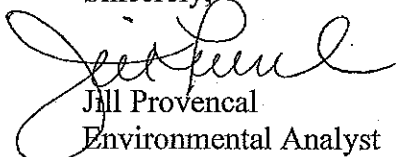
the adjacent wetland resource area and wildlife habitat. Part of this analysis should also include evaluating reducing the number of units associated with Buildings E and F or possible alternative locations.

- Please provide the amount of Buffer Zone (square footage) that currently exists on site and the amount of permanent impact (square footage) that will occur within the Buffer Zone due to construction of buildings, driveways, roadways and parking areas.
- Also, it is MassDEP's opinion that no removal or replacement of existing vegetation should occur within the area identified on the plans as A2.

Please note that all information submitted to MassDEP must at the same time be sent to all the other parties to the appeal. MassDEP also reserves the right to request additional information if required as the result of this submittal.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, or you require additional time to comply with this request, you or your consultant may contact me at 978-694-3250.

Sincerely,


Jill Provencal
Environmental Analyst
Wetlands Program-NERO

cc: Sherborn Conservation Commission