

Stanley J. Stempien, P.E.
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March 27, 2014

State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection
Attn: Mr. Bob Martin, Commissioner
401 East State St.
Trenton, NJ 08625

Subject: Referral #212387
 Letter of Interpretation
 Lang Property

Dear Mr. Martin,


I once again call on you (letter dated August 7, 2013) requesting that as the Commissioner of DEP to withdraw the Department's Letter of Interpretation for the above land development.

I spoke to Mr. Harris on February 4, 2014 and he informed me that he cannot answer the two (2) questions I asked in my letter of December 4, 2013 (cc to you) but he would forward my letter to those that will. I realize now that Mr. Harris is in the Land Use Division and could not answer for the Fish and Wildlife or the Water Supply Division.

To date I have not received an answer to either question; however, I now have obtained information that the answers are no longer necessary. This information supports my position for the C1 Classification of the Raritan River.

The city of New Brunswick draws water from the Raritan River and supplies water to the city, the town of Milltown and Franklin Township. Adding the resident population for New Brunswick, 55,181 (2010 census); Milltown, 5500 (estimate); Franklin Township, 62,000 (2010 census) and the Rutgers University student body residing on campus, 17,800 (2013/2014) with the majority 50% ± living in New Brunswick and not including the increased residents since the 2010 census, the total is at least 131,822 residents being serviced by the Raritan River water. **THE RARITAN RIVER IS A C1 CLASSIFIED WATER BODY AND ITS TRIBUTARIES MUST BE PROTECTED WITH A 300 FT BUFFER.**

I am requesting that your office notify the Bridgewater Township Planning Board that drawings must be resubmitted for your approval having the (2) streams with the spring as shown on the USGS Quad map to be identified with a 300 ft. buffer with a notation that the area is not to be disturbed. Areas beyond the buffer zone that are considered



as wetlands should also be approved by your department before start of any construction on the wetlands.

For the record, the area surrounding the spring that I maintained the flow channel for the previous owner for over 20 years is now an impenetrable jungle of fallen trees with a very thick underbrush making it impossible to locate the spring without bringing in heavy equipment to clear the area exposing the source of water creating the wetlands.

I have full confidence in the work performed by Mr. Harris and his DEP staff as well as the contractor's engineer of record. I respect the engineer of record for stating that he did not find the spring, I believe it was the responsibility of the Bridgewater Planning Board to verify the presence of the spring before casting their vote and granting preliminary approval for developing the land.

As a registered Professional Engineer my responsibilities to the public is to protect their health, safety, and welfare. Humans can survive on what nature provides but not without WATER.

Please let me know if I can be of any assistance. Looking forward to your reply.

Thank you.

God Bless

Stanley J. Stempien

CC: Governor Chris Christie, State of New Jersey
Mayor Dan Hayes, Bridgewater Township, Somerset County
Mark Harris, DEP, Division of Land Use Regulation