

From: Deborah Moshier-Dunn [<mailto:debm0727@sbcglobal.net>]

Sent: Wednesday, December 05, 2018 10:53 PM

To: Bachman, Melanie <Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov>

Cc: Fred Grimsey <cfgrimsey@sbcglobal.net>; Samuel R. Volet <svolet@murthalaw.com>; Bruce McDermott <bmcdermott@murthalaw.com>; Steve Trinkaus <strinkaus@earthlink.net>; Mercier, Robert <Robert.Mercier@ct.gov>; Inglese, Oswald <Oswald.Inglese@ct.gov>; Paul Sen. Formica <paul.formica@cga.ct.gov>; Lee D. Hoffman <lhoffman@pullcom.com>; Abby Piersall <apiersall@waterfordct.org>; First Selectman of Waterford Daniel M. Steward <dsteward@waterfordct.org>

Subject: Fw: Petition 1347

Dear Ms. Bachman,

As Attorney Hoffman has responded to the letter DEEP submitted today, Save the River-Save the Hills, Inc. would like to offer a response to Mr. Hoffman's and the landowner's letter. Please see the below attached email from the Professional Engineer STR-STH has retained for work on this Petition, Steve Trinkaus, PE, who also happens to have a degree in Forest Management. I will bring hard copies to the Council meeting tomorrow.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Moshier-Dunn

VP, Save the River-Save the Hills, Inc.

Love, Light and Laughter!

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: strinkaus@earthlink.net <strinkaus@earthlink.net>

To: 'Deborah Moshier-Dunn' <debm0727@sbcglobal.net>; 'Don Danila' <abcfish@atlanticbb.net>; 'Fred Grimsey' <cfgrimsey@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Wednesday, December 5, 2018, 10:07:05 PM EST

Subject: RE: Petition 1347

Deb,

Here are my thoughts on the letter from attorney Lee Hoffman for the applicant, GRE concerning the timber harvest conducted on the subject property at 117 Oil Mill Road in Waterford, CT. These comments are made based upon my Bachelor of Science in Forest Management from the University of New Hampshire. The owners of the subject property state in a letter dated December 5, 2018 (attached to counsel's letter) that the property has had timber harvests conducted routinely in the past to provide income to the owners. This raises a question that must be addressed by the owners and the Town of Waterford land use department. Over the past twenty years, how many timber harvests have been conducted on the site? How many trees were removed in each harvest? What were the sizes of the trees removed? This information is prepared by the Forester who would prepare the plan and mark the trees for each timber harvest. Based upon aerial views of the subject property (google earth pro), what was done to site is not a timber harvest that would improve the overall health of the forest, which is the primary goal of harvest operations. Timber harvests do not just remove a percentage of large trees. They remove a percentage of large, medium and small trees to create a variable forest canopy as well as open up some area of the forest floor to sunlight which allows for a herbaceous layer and shrub layer to develop below the canopy layer.

When you view the site on google earth pro, the result is not a timber harvest, but almost a clear cut of the trees on the site. There are too so many timber haul roads that form a fan out from Oil Mill Road. It can clearly been seen that the even where trees were left that the soil under them were disturbed. In a proper timber harvest, slash (unusable tops of the trees) are left where the tree fell to provide both habitat for terrestrial species and ultimately decompose and return nutrients to the forest floor. As you can see in the image from Google Earth Pro, no slash is visible on the ground surface. It is my expert forestry opinion that this most recent timber harvest was done in this manner to basically render the site unsuitable for uses permitted under the current zoning and prepare it for the possible solar farm which is currently proposed on the site. The result of this timber harvest has significantly reduced the habitat value of the this property and would take a long time (in excess of 30 years, in my opinion) before the area might regenerate sufficiently so that another harvest could be done to provide income to the current owners.

Steven D. Trinkaus, PE (Bachelor of Science in Forest Management from the University of New Hampshire)

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From: Deborah Moshier-Dunn <debm0727@sbcglobal.net> **Sent:** Wednesday, December 5, 2018 8:07 PM
To: Steve Trinkaus <strinkaus@earthlink.net>; Don Danila <abcfish@atlanticbb.net>; Fred Grimsey <cfgrimsey@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: Fw: Petition 1347

And I'm not surprised... Here's the "They can't do that and even if they could" letter from Hoffman about the DEEP letter. It will be interesting discussion tomorrow. :) Deb

Deborah Moshier-Dunn
VP, Save the River-Save the Hills, Inc., VP, Soroptimist Int'l CT Shoreline
Love, Light and Laughter!