

May 3, 2023

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Land Resource Protection
P.O. Box 420, Mail Code: 501-02A
Trenton, New Jersey 08625
Attention: Township of Upper Freehold Supervisor

Re: Flood Hazard Area Individual Permit and Freshwater Wetlands
Proposed Warehouse
Old York Road
Block 26, Lots 1 and 3
Upper Freehold Township
Monmouth County
Block 41.01, Lots 3 and 4
Robbinsville Township
Mercer County
New Jersey

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing in response to the notification that was provided for an application for a Flood Hazard Area Individual Permit and Freshwater Wetlands, GP-6, GP-7, and Transition Area Waiver – Averaging Plan, which has been submitted to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Please accept this letter as my objection to the proposed development.

I am extremely concerned about the impact of the amount of impervious surface that will be constructed on this property. I am concerned for the Indian Run Creek, Lake, and Downstream Doctors Creek. The area downstream of these proposed warehouses currently experiences flooding. I believe that any additional runoff volume from this site will only add to the stormwater currently discharged and will make flooding in the area worse. I also write to object to the Wetlands Transition Area Waivers requested and the Flood Hazard Individual Permit along with the disturbance of this site. I object to the GP-6 Freshwater Wetlands Disturbance of 20,354 square feet. I object to a Transition Area reduction of 14,884 square feet. I object to the Flood Hazard Area disturbance of 393 square feet. The site in question is large. The encroachments on the Flood Hazard Area, as well as the Wetlands Transition Area, and Wetlands Reduction Area should be denied and all disturbance in all environmentally sensitive areas should not be approved.

The proposed development has an intensive impact on the wetlands and the environment. The adjacent Johnson Development in Robbinsville Township on the West side of the Indian Run also encroaches into the wetlands and requires a Flood Hazard Area Individual Permit, and that stormwater also flows to the same downstream point on Indian Run. The Two (2) developments adjacent to Allentown Borough will discharge to the waterway that serves Allentown Borough. Many Borough residents are adjacent to the Indian Run, as well as the Borough's Water Treatment Plant. The impact on these two (2) developments, including this Steinberg Property proposal, is much larger than the impact that either of the developments will convey individually. We request that the NJDEP review these two (2) properties in conjunction and that the Borough of Allentown be assured that it will be preserved and not become a repeatedly flooded location as a result of two (2) warehouse developments of hundreds of thousands of square feet, which both discharge stormwater, and disturb wetlands, wetland transition areas, and impact the flood hazard area requiring individual permits.

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Our File No.: A2802
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I request that the NJDEP provide a thorough review of both developments together and assure that the Borough of Allentown will not become the recipient of all the proposed stormwater to be discharged from massive warehouses about to be constructed at two (2) locations on its borders.

As a concerned resident of the adjacent Municipality and as a property owner who will be impacted by the increase in stormwater runoff and anticipated downstream flooding, I request that the NJDEP request modifications to this site plan and not allow additional flood volume to be discharged from the site and that this permit be denied.

Very truly yours,