



TOWN OF
STONEHAM
MASSACHUSETTS
Town Hall
35 Central Street

Stoneham Conservation Commission
781-279-2696

Mr. Sweeny, Chairman
Board of Selectmen
Town Hall
35 Central Street
Stoneham, MA 02180

Dear Mr. Sweeny,

The Stoneham Conservation Commission did a site visit at Weiss Farm on December 3, 2011 in conjunction with an Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation dated October 11, 2011.

The SCC observed at the site visit that the area to the north and west of the existing buildings was solid, hard packed fill. Immediately following the filled area, the ground was wet and spongy.

Stoneham's geology is unique in the fact that the geology will change abruptly from rock to deep pockets of peat. We envision that there is a huge deposit of peat over this entire area. Peat is a very unstable structural material that entraps large quantities of ground water. Therefore, the SCC requests that a geotechnical soils engineer and hydrologist be employed to determine the characteristics of the area with regards to development.

If the area is filled in order to meet ground water separation, it is possible that the compaction of the fill will cause the settlement of adjacent areas and divert ground water elsewhere.

Another issue which has arisen is the testimony concerning historic land fills adjacent to, and on the property. Will the disturbance of, or the settlement of adjacent areas caused by increase fill on the proposed site cause ground water contamination.

Sincerely,


Robert Conway

cc: Conservation Commission
John Witten, Esq.