

Dear Effingham Planning Board,

April 4, 2022

As a lifelong resident of Effingham Falls, and business owner, I urge the Effingham Planning Board to reject the Meena LLC. gas station application because it does not ensure adequate protection of the people of Effingham's and surrounding towns' water resources. My family as well as my neighbors in Effingham Falls all get our drinking water from private wells. We are also situated over the high-recharge area of the aquifer where contaminants can easily travel into our drinking water.

The site plan as submitted by Meena LLC. does not adequately meet the requirements of the Town of Effingham's site plan review regulations. To quote from our own regulations: "The purpose of the Site Plan Review process is to protect the public health, safety, and welfare; ... to avoid development which may result in negative environmental impacts; ... The Site Plan Review procedure in no way relieves the developer or his/her agent from compliance with the Zoning Ordinance."

Furthermore, the site plan proposal does not contain "An adequate storm water drainage system developed by a certified engineer." Currently, the site plan proposal as written would also allow stormwater runoff from the gas station to simply run off, untreated, into an infiltration basin and directly into groundwater. This does not comply with the Town's regulations: "Pollution Control: To avoid undesirable and preventable elements of pollution such as noise, smoke, soot, particulate, or any other discharges into the environment which might prove harmful or a nuisance to persons, structures, groundwater, or adjacent properties. The applicant will employ the standards and technology available at the time. No plan shall be approved which does not appropriately protect groundwater and other natural resources from adverse conditions caused by the development."

I further insist that due to the proximity of the site to the Ossipee Aquifer, public water supplies and many private wells that could be impacted, the Effingham Planning Board requires the applicant to hire a Professional Engineer to devise the Stormwater Management Plan, in addition to an Environmental Impact Analysis of the proposal.

Regards,
Moselle Spiller
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