

TOWN OF TAMWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE

PLANNING BOARD

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**Date:** March 23, 2022

**From:** The Tamworth Planning Board

**To:** The Effingham Planning Board

**RE:** Input regarding a Development of Regional Impact (DRI) in Effingham.

The Tamworth Planning Board has unanimously voted to approve the following statement to be presented at the Effingham Planning Board's Public Hearing on a Development of Regional Impact within its Groundwater Protection District:

The Tamworth Planning Board agrees that the site plan application to construct a gas station within Effingham's Groundwater Protection District is a Development of Regional Impact (DRI). Groundwater, which is the source of drinking water, respects no political boundaries and actions which potentially threaten this vital resource are a concern for the entire community within the Ossipee Aquifer and watershed area.

The proposed development is a prohibited use on a sensitive site within Effingham's Groundwater Protection District. As the Tamworth Planning Board is currently formulating our own Groundwater Protection Ordinance, the approval of a variance to allow this prohibited development sets a precedent which will encourage further inappropriate developments, thus weakening and threatening our own efforts to protect this essential resource.

As most residents depend upon private wells for the source of their drinking water, actions within this or other such protected districts directly affect the health, safety, and general welfare of our citizens.

**Accordingly, it is the position of the Tamworth Planning Board that the Effingham Planning Board respect its own groundwater protection efforts and vote to deny the approval of the application for this development.**

On behalf of the Tamworth Planning Board,



Sheldon P Perry, Chairperson