



RHODE ISLAND
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June 1, 2006

Tim Regan
EA Engineering, Science & Technology, Inc.
Airport Professional Park
2350 Post Road
Warwick, RI 02888

*Re: Fence-Barrier Issues
Former Gorham Manufacturing Facility
333 Adelaide Ave, Providence, RI*

RECEIVED
D.E.M./O.W.M.
2006 JUN -2 P 3:15

Dear Tim:

This letter is intended document our discussions with regard to the e-mail that DEM and the City received from Steven Fischbach on May 26, 2006, concerning alleged defects in the fence-barrier erected at the former Gorham facility. On May 30, 2006, Joseph Martella and myself visited the site (separately) to make observations regarding the issues raised by Mr. Fischbach. The following day we discussed our separate observations and concluded as follows:

1. **Pond-Fence Terminus:** The end of the existing fence that terminates in Mashapaug Pond on the YMCA side of the site is not in acceptable condition. The last two posts are bent over at substantially less than 90° and the final section of fence is separated from the last post and folded over on the top. In addition, vegetation adjacent to this damaged section of fencing creates abundant hand and footholds that allow the damaged section of fence to be easily scaled. In order to provide an effective barrier Mr. Martella and myself concur that the surrounding vegetation that has become entwined in the damaged section of fence needs to be removed, the final two fence posts need to be righted or replaced and the damaged section of fence needs to be repaired or replaced. However, we do not believe that the fence needs to be extended further into the Pond beyond the location of the existing post, as suggested by Mr. Fischbach. Finally, I note that the barbed wire that tops the fence running up the hill away from the pond is loose and has become detached from hangers on top of the fence-posts. Efforts should be made to tighten and reattach the barbed wire.

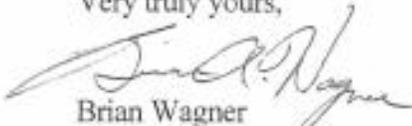


June 1, 2006
Page 2 of 2

2. **Fence Gaps at Detention Basin:** Gaps are present between the end posts of the newly installed eight-foot (8') fence and the existing six-foot (6') fence surrounding the detention basin behind the Stop & Shop. These gaps must be secured. (Note: The City may want to consider relocating the 8' post on the eastern side of the detention basin so that it abuts a post in the 6' detention basin fence rather than the fencing itself, which can be easily moved.) We also recommend adding some barbed wire or fencing connecting the tops of the 8' posts to the top-rails of the 6' fence so as to prevent someone from standing on the 6' top-rail and stepping around the 8' posts.
3. **Signage:** Our observations of the fence, vegetation and signage indicated that the various bends and corners in the fence create sight-line issues with the signage that prevents signs from being seen in various locations. Rather than locating signs an arbitrary distance from one-another, the signs should be located at strategic locations to promote visibility given the existing configuration of the fence and the location of vegetation. While more signs may be required, this problem might be able to be rectified simply by relocating some of the existing signs to higher visibility locations.
4. **Deterrent Vegetation:** The existing vegetation surrounding the detention pond fence is intermittent. Gaps in the existing vegetation should be supplemented with barrier plantings similar to those that have been planted along the new 8' fencing.

Thank you in advance for addressing these issues.

Very truly yours,


Brian Wagner
Acting Executive Counsel

Cc: Joseph Martella, RIDEM – OWM
Steven Fischbach, RILS
Sara Rapport, Providence Law Department