

Palisades Interstate Park Commission Administration Building Bear Mountain, NY 10911-0427 Tel: 845-786-2701

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October 20, 2010

Town of Ramapo Planning Board 237 Route 59 Suffern, NY 10901

Re:

Patrick Farm Subdivision

SBL: 32.11-1-4, 32.11-1-3, 32.11-1-2, 32.11-1-16

32.11-1-14, 32.11-1-13 32.11-1-12, 32.14-2-3

32.14-2-3, & 32.15-2-1

Members of the Board:

The Palisades Interstate Park Commission (PIPC) has reviewed the site plan drawings prepared by Leonard Jackson and Associates, dated August 12, 2010 for the above reference application. PIPC remains concerned with preservation of ridge lines within the proposed development area, as these areas are highly visible from overlooks along the Suffern-Bear Mountain Trail within Harriman State Park. In review of the Environmental Impact Statements prepared for the project it appeared that the FEIS began to address our concerns, and therefore the PIPC did not provide additional comments.

Now as the applicant has moved into the preliminary approval process, we have noted that significant clearing and grading will be required to develop along the steep slopes of these ridge areas. This is a significant digression from the design ideals described in the FEIS. PIPC respectfully requests that the applicant revise the site plans to minimize disturbance of existing vegetation, and topography along the ridge lines as indicated in their response to comment #3.9-15 of the FEIS. Unfortunately the current plan fails to adequately address the concerns raised by this comment.

Specific recommendations highlighted in comments 21,22,24,25, and 26 of the Rockland County Department of Planning's GMLR review dated July 15, 2010 and Mr. John Lange's supplemental comments dated July 19, 2010 echo our concerns regarding the proposed plans. These recommendations are warranted and would help minimize the negative impacts that this application will create on nearby park resources. We respectfully request that no further action be taken by the planning board until adequate revisions are completed in response to these concerns.

Thank you for providing us with the opportunity to review and comment on this proposal.

Sincerely,

Karl B. Roecker

Landscape Architect

Palisades Interstate Park Commission

cc: Rockland County Planning Dept.