

Developer Must Comply with Mugar Site Groundwater Data Collection

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To:ConComm <ConComm@town.arlington.ma.us>

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Hello, Conservation Commission,

I recently became aware that the Mugar Wetlands' Developer's groundwater data derived from test pits done in the fall has been called into question by both Scott Horsley, a Hydrologist hired by Arlington Land Trust, and Hatch, the peer reviewer for the Conservation Commission. As a result, the Con Comm requested that wells be installed/monitored by the Developer on the site during the spring months when seasonal high groundwater is at its highest, as specified in the ZBA's Order of Conditions in the Comprehensive Permit.

Recently the Developer notified the Con Comm that they will NOT comply with this request. Honestly, this is not surprising, because the developer knows that the groundwater data will show that (quite accurately) they are trying to build in a floodplain, where people have flood insurance, and they want to barge ahead and build at all costs. This is ridiculous, and should not be allowed. Frankly, it is unacceptable that the Developer has refused to validate their data - accurate groundwater data is essential in determining the outcome and possible denial of this project. Without reliable facts, we will literally be under water.

The developer cannot cherry pick their data. Accurate data takes many samples to verify - a sample size of one or two readings does not accurately reflect the status of the ground water in this area. The developer must be held to account on this issue.

Thank you.

-GM Hakim
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