

Cayuga County Health and Human Services Department

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Elane M. Daly, R.N., B.S.N. Director

Eileen A. O'Connor, P.E. Environmental Health Director

Ms. Sue Allen Town of Sterling Planning Board 1290 State Route 104A Sterling, NY 13156

Re: Development on Route 104A Sterling (T), Cayuga County

Dear Ms. Allen:

May 19, 2008

This letter will follow-up on our discussion regarding the Town of Sterling Planning Board's concerns with proposed development along Route 104A and its impact on the Village of Fair Haven's public water supply wells. You said that it has come to the Planning Board's attention that Sterling Pines is considering doubling their capacity from 30 units to 60 units. Their water supply is located in the area of the Village's wells. Additionally, you said you were aware that someone is establishing a bottled water facility in this same general vicinity.

We have contacted the United States Geological Survey (USGS) about information on the aquifer in which the Village's wells are located. Todd Miller from the USGS said that in his opinion, the recharge area of this aquifer is limited and therefore the amount of water available is also limited. Attached is a copy of a map that the USGS prepared showing where they believe the boundaries of the aquifer are located. Mr. Miller also recommended that the Village may want to hire a hydrogeologist to better quantify the aquifer's capacity. This information may prove useful as proposals for development come before the Board. We are sending a copy of this letter to William McVea, Mayor of Fair Haven, to notify him of USGS's recommendation.

Our office regulates mobile home parks. Sterling Pines Mobile Home Park would therefore need Health Department approval before any expansion of the park occurs. To date, we have not received an application for an expansion of this mobile home park. Based upon concerns from your Board as well as from William McVea, if we do receive an application for an expansion, we will request that a yield test be performed on their well to determine if there is a broader impact. We will contact the Village when this is occurring so that the Village's wells can be monitored during the yield test.

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) regulates bottled water plants. We have contacted the NYSDOH regarding concerns about potential impacts of the proposed plant on the Village's water supply. NYSDOH said that they would require the developer of the water plant to go through the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) process as well as perform yield tests on their well supply. Again, we will contact the Village when this is occurring so that the Village's wells can be monitored during this yield test. The outcome of the SEQRA process should include environmental impacts of the proposal.

Please call if you have any questions or need further information. Thank you.

Sincerely,

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Eileen A. O'Connor Environmental Health Division

cc: William McVea, Mayor, Village of Fair Haven

