MERCER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD APPROVAL OF HOUSE REQUEST AND RESIDENTIAL ENVELOPE LOCATION ON THE SINGH FARM, BLOCK 2713, LOT 19, HAMILTON TOWNSHIP WITH CONDITIONS.

WHEREAS, Mr. Charanjit Singh is the owner of a 31-acre farm ("Farm"), located on Uncle Petes Road, Block 2713, Lot 19 of the Hamilton Township tax maps; and

WHEREAS, the Farm is deed restricted pursuant to a Deed of Easement which was imposed on the Farm in 2011; and

WHEREAS, paragraph 13(b) of the Farm Deed of Easement specifies that the Farm contains a 2-acre "floating" residential envelope ("Envelope") where one single-family residence of up to 4,000 square feet may be located; and

WHEREAS, paragraph 13(b) of the Farm Deed of Easement also specifies, 1) that the CADB must approve the location of the Envelope, 2) that once approved, the location cannot be changed and the Envelope cannot be subdivided from the Farm, 3) that the Envelope must be surveyed and monumented at the owner's sole expense, and 4) that the primary and secondary septic systems and fields servicing the residence must be constructed within the Envelope; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Singh applied to the Mercer County Agricultural Development Board ("CADB") in June 2020 for approval to build a house within the Envelope and represented that:

- 1. He wishes to build a single-story 2,500 square foot single-family house with an attached garage and full basement within the Envelope and has provided the Board with an image showing the proposed location (Exhibit A); and
- 2. The driveway would be approximately 250 feet long and 15 feet wide with pavers or asphalt as appropriate; and
- 3. The house would be placed towards the front of the exception area, leaving most of it behind the house to allow for a septic system and home garden; and
- He wishes to build an approximately 100-foot by 60-foot barn for his farm equipment; and

WHEREAS, it was brought to the CADB's attention that water from the Farm has been flooding the neighboring Bartolone property, located at 117 Uncle Petes Road, Block 2713, Lot 18, Hamilton Township, and that soil erosion is occurring during rainstorms; and

WHEREAS, following consultation with Bartolone, the Township of Hamilton, the CADB Staff and the Natural Resource Conservation Service, Mr. Singh installed a berm along the boundary between the Farm and the Bartolone property and near the drainage pipe along Uncle Petes Road; and

WHEREAS, the CADB first heard Mr. Singh's house request at their June 1, 2020 meeting and decided not to act until it could be shown that the flooding and erosion had been addressed; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Singh asked that his house request be revisited at the August 3, 2020 CADB meeting, and, at its August 3, 2020 meeting, the CADB passed a resolution ("Resolution 2020-02") which granted conditional County Approval to Mr. Singh's application and which required, among other things, that Mr. Singh would seed the berm along with a five-foot buffer between the field and the berm with fescue or another similar permanent strong-rooted grass to hold the soil in place; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Singh has made application to the Township of Hamilton for a building permit for the residence and Hamilton Township has acknowledged that it cannot issue the building permit until the CADB confirms that the conditions of Resolution 2020-02 have been met; and

WHEREAS, the CADB agreed to hear Mr. Singh's request for determination on his compliance with the conditions of Resolution 2020-02 at its June 7, 2021 meeting and passed a Resolution which gave Mr. Singh the option to either, 1) receive his house approval upon entering into an Escrow Agreement with the CADB and posting the required escrow to ensure that proper seeding of the berm and buffer would take place or 2) delay his house approval until a later date when the Board was satisfied that the seeding of the berm and buffer was successful; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Singh asked that the CADB again revisit his request for determination on his compliance with the conditions of Resolution 2020-02 at their October 4, 2021 meeting; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Singh stated that he seeded the berm and buffer area with a strong-rooted grass in July of 2021 and a subsequent visit to the Property by CADB staff and one CADB member in September of 2021 determined that (i) the berm was presently in place and in good condition; (ii) the berm was apparently successful in preventing water from entering the backyard of the Bartolone property; (iii) the berm and buffer were vegetated with an annual grass and weeds; (iv) there was no evidence of sediment accumulation in the entrance to the drainage pipe adjacent to the farm field; and

WHEREAS, a visit to the Property by a CADB member during a heavy rainstorm in September of 2021 determined that the water flowing from the field did not contain significant sediment; and

WHEREAS, at the October 4, 2021 CADB meeting, following review of pictures provided by CADB staff, consideration of CADB staff's comments, and comments presented by Ms. Bartolone and Ms. Bartolone's attorney, and following discussion by the CADB, the CADB determined that Mr. Singh's house request and proposed Envelope location should be approved and Hamilton Township authorized to issue building permits for the house, on satisfaction of certain conditions; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

- 1. The CADB finds that Mr. Singh has provided the required plot plan prepared by Shore Point Engineering which depicts the location of the house site, attached hereto as Exhibit A;
- 2. The CADB finds that Mr. Singh has provided an email from Kevin E. Shelly, P.E. of Shore Point Engineering, attached hereto as Exhibit B, that confirms that "the property was designed as to not create any negative drainage issues on this property or on any adjoining properties" and that the "proposed construction of this home will not create any flooding conditions";
- 3. The CADB finds that Mr. Singh has made application to Hamilton Township for building permits for his home;
- 4. The CADB finds that Mr. Singh has provided the CADB with a survey containing monuments of the Envelope as required by Resolution 2020-02, attached hereto as Exhibit C; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that:

- 1. The CADB approves Mr. Singh's house request and Envelope location and authorizes Hamilton Township to issue the building permit for the house, subject to compliance with the following conditions:
 - a. Mr. Singh shall seed the berm and buffer with a fescue or other similar perennial pasture grass within fifteen (15) days of this resolution being finalized and provided to him.
 - b. Mr. Singh shall provide the CADB with a copy of the receipt for the purchase of the new grass seed and photographic proof that the seeding has been completed within said fifteen (15) day timeframe.

Upon satisfaction of the aforesaid conditions, the CADB shall provide written notification to Hamilton Township that the CADB approves Mr. Singh's housing request;

- 2. Mr. Singh shall obtain all other necessary municipal approvals and shall comply with all other regulatory requirements with respect to his construction, as well as continued efforts to eliminate the flooding and erosion conditions. The Deed of Easement is and shall continue to be the governing document;
- 3. The CADB continues to recommend that Mr. Singh plant a cover crop over the winter to hold the soil in place; and

4. Hamilton Township and the Mercer County Soil Conservation District will be provided with a copy of this Resolution.

I certify that the above Resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Mercer County Agricultural Development Board on October 4th, 2021.

Emily Blackman, CADB Administrator

EXHIBIT A

DEPICTION OF ENVELOPE AND HOUSE/SEPTIC LOCATION

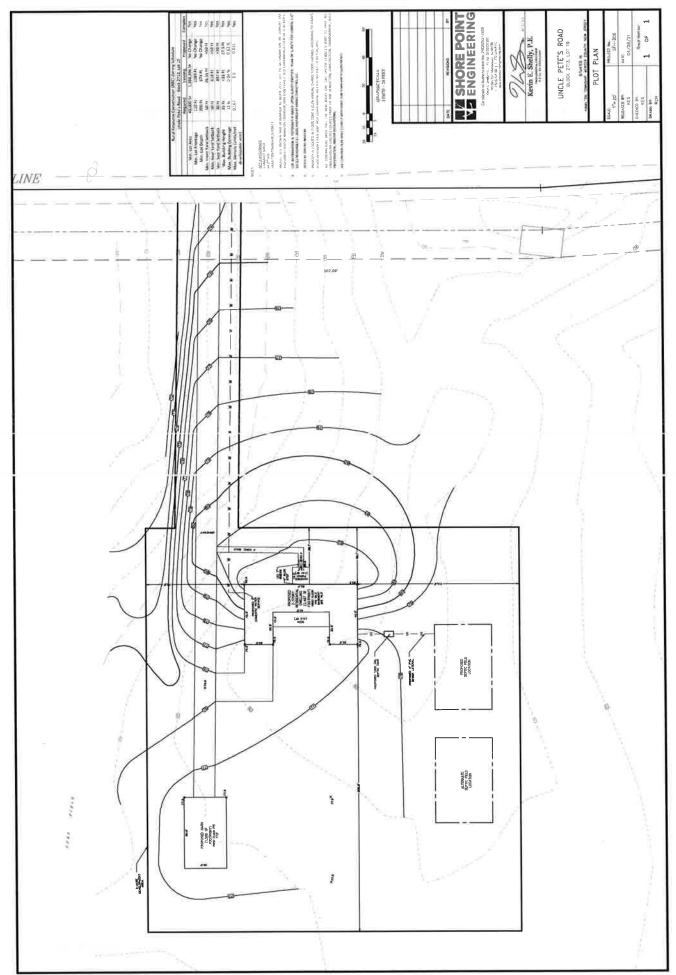


EXHIBIT B

EMAIL FROM ENGINEER

Fwd: Uncle Pete's Road Plot Plan

Charanjit Singh <csdhillon@gmail.com>

Thu 4/8/2021 3:57 PM

To: Blackman, Emily <eblackman@mercercounty.org>

1 attachments (401 KB) 2021-04-08 Plot Plan.pdf;

Here is a statement from Engineer house should cause any flooding or erosion. Pitch by nature of the house we picked is toward the opposite side of Lynn's property. Tx

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Kevin Shelly < kshelly@shorepointengineering.com >

Date: Thu, Apr 8, 2021 at 3:52 PM Subject: Uncle Pete's Road Plot Plan

To: Charanjit Singh < csdhillon@gmail.com >

Charanjit,

Please find attached the completed plot plan for your new home. The property has been designed as to not create any negative drainage issues on this property or on any adjoining properties. The proposed construction of this home will not create any flooding conditions either. Upon submission of this plan to the township, the Township Engineer will review the proposed design to ensure that the project does not negatively impact any adjacent properties.

Kevin



Kevin E. Shelly, P.E.

O: 732-924-8100 x 1001

C: 908-415-4335

KShelly@shorepointengineering.com

Wall Circle Park

1985 Highway 34, Suite A7

Wall, NJ 07719

T: 732-924-8100 | F: 732-924-8110

www.Shorepointengineering.com

Regards Charanjit Singh

WARNING: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

EXHIBIT C

SURVEY

