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Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council
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JACK J. SCHRIER
Acting Chairman

EILEEN SWAN
Executive Director

January 29, 2010

The Honorable Douglas Steinhardt
Lopatcong Township
232 S Third Street, Morris Park
Phillipsburg, New Jersey 08865

Subject: Petition for Plan Conformance
2009 Plan Conformance Grant: Module 7
Lopatcong Township - Grant #09-033-011-2115

Dear Mayor Steinhardt:

Thank you on behalf of the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (Highlands Council), for your municipality's submission of a Petition for Plan Conformance. In accordance with Highlands Council Plan Conformance guidelines, we have reviewed your municipality's Petition for purposes of completeness. Please be advised that as of the date of this letter, additional submission materials are needed and the Petition has thus been deemed Administratively Incomplete.

Substantive review of the Petition cannot begin until all required items have been provided to the Highlands Council. It is important that missing items be provided in a timely fashion, particularly in the case of any Petition involving Preservation Area lands. We seek to expedite the process for all petitioners and will update the status of your Petition as any item is received. A detailed list of all components missing from your Petition is provided in the enclosure to this letter. Each item should be submitted in accordance with the procedures established under Module 7 of the Plan Conformance Grant Program, "Municipal Petitions for Plan Conformance."

For Preservation Area components, all items must be submitted to the Highlands Council within 45 calendar days of the date of this letter. For Planning Area components, we request that you submit all outstanding items as soon as possible.

We would be pleased to assist your municipality, including any staff and professionals working on the Petition, to address the outstanding items and encourage you to contact our offices as needed. A Highlands Council Staff Liaison has been assigned to each municipality to coordinate interactions with municipal staff and consultants on any issues regarding Petitions for Plan Conformance. The Staff Liaison for your municipality is Chris Ross, Senior Resource Management Specialist, who may be reached by telephone at (908) 879-6737 ext. 116 or via e-mail at chris.ross@highlands.state.nj.us. Should any Liaison assignment or contact information change, we will notify you without delay. If you have questions specifically regarding the Module 7 Petition for Plan Conformance package, you may also contact Erika Webb Cramer, Regional Planner by telephone at (908) 879-6737 ext. 104 or via e-mail at erika.webb@highlands.state.nj.us.

Please note that this letter has been copied to all individuals on the also enclosed Plan Conformance Service List, which was developed based on the most current municipal information available to the Highlands

Council. The list should contain the names and contact information for the specific individuals designated by the municipality to receive copies of all direct communications from the Highlands Council regarding Plan Conformance. Please review the Plan Conformance Service List for inclusion of all appropriate individuals and accuracy of contact information. To the extent feasible, we would prefer to send copies of the original paper communication to Service List representatives by e-mail. Please be aware that the Service List will become a public document, however, and should not contain personal e-mails that individuals may wish to keep private. Should modifications to the Service List be necessary, please forward the requested changes by e-mail to your Highlands Council Staff Liaison. Please be advised that the Service List should be limited to municipal officials, staff representatives, and/or municipal professionals responsible for guiding or assisting in the Plan Conformance process. All other interested parties will have access to municipal Plan Conformance reports, status, and Petition materials via postings and tracking sheets to be incorporated into the Highlands Council website. The Service List is a subset of the complete municipal contact list maintained by the Highlands Council, which will be updated by the municipality on-line, as discussed in the Module 7 instructions for Municipal Petitions for Plan Conformance (see Part C, on page 6). Separate instructions have been provided to your Clerk for this update process in time to meet the February 15 and March 15, 2010 deadlines.

Lastly, please be advised that to the extent that you have not already done so, invoices for work completed to date on all portions of the Petition package that have been submitted to the Highlands Council, may be submitted for payment, provided that:

9. The municipality has provided the Highlands Council with an adopted resolution or ordinance petitioning the Highlands Council for Plan Conformance; and
10. The resolution or ordinance submittal has not itself been deemed incomplete, as evidenced by its inclusion on the enclosed list of items needed for Administrative Completeness.

If you have questions or concerns regarding grants or invoices, please contact Herbert August, Manager of Grants Administration by telephone at (908) 879-6737 ext. 105, or via email at herbert.august@highlands.state.nj.us. Should you or other elected or appointed officials have any other questions, I will continue to be available to you for all Highlands matters and can be reached at (908) 879-6737 ext. 101, or via e-mail at cileen.swan@highlands.state.nj.us.

We recognize the significant level of effort required to develop a complete Petition for Plan Conformance and appreciate what has been accomplished thus far. We look forward to receipt of all outstanding materials and to working with you to keep this process moving forward. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Yours sincerely,



Eileen Swan
Executive Director

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New Jersey Highlands Council Administrative Completeness Review
Municipal Petition for Plan Conformance

Municipality: Township of Lopatcong

Date: January 29, 2010

SUBMISSION ITEMS NEEDED FOR COMPLETENESS

1. **2009 Plan Conformance Grant Program Documents**
 - a. **Module 3 – Housing Element & Fair Share Plan**
 - i. Summary of Obligation: Prior Round Obligation – The Municipal Assessment Report indicates that the Summary of Prior Round Obligation is complete; however, it was not included within the Petition. (The adjusted Growth Share Projection was received.)

Advisory: The listing(s) above is/are intended to be all encompassing for purposes of Administrative Completeness. However, a finding of Administrative Completeness shall in no event preclude the Highlands Council from requesting such additional information as may prove necessary during the process of its review of a Petition for Plan Conformance, to clarify, complete, correct or modify a Petition in the interest of ultimately achieving Plan Conformance.

Submission Format: All information should be provided in both electronic (MSWord, Adobe Acrobat, GIS Shape Files) *and* paper form in accordance with the Municipal Petitions Instructions Document (see Plan Conformance Grant Program Module 7).

Douglas Steinhardt, Mayor
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Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

Margaret Dilts, Clerk
Lopatcong Township
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