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July 18, 2022

Wrentham Conservation Commission  
Town of Wrentham  
79 South Street  
Wrentham, MA 02093

RE: Sheldon West/1139 West Street

Honorable Members of the Conservation Commission,

The Pawtucket Water Supply Board (PWSB) provides potable water to 100,000 retail customers in the cities of Pawtucket and Central Falls and a portion of the Town of Cumberland. An additional population of 30,000 are served by Cumberland Water which augments its water supply with wholesale water purchased from Pawtucket Water.

The main supply of raw water treated to serve our customers is the Diamond Hill Reservoir, located in northern Cumberland. The proposed development is located within the Diamond Hill watershed which contributes flow to the Burnt Swamp Brook, which feeds directly into the Diamond Hill Reservoir. The PWSB is encouraged that the new proposal has a reduced number of housing units which will facilitate a larger buffer against the limits of the wetlands, reduce impervious surfaces and require a smaller onsite wastewater disposal system. Many of the same concerns raised by the PWSB during the review of the original proposal related to the protection of the underlying groundwater aquifer remain. This is the primary aquifer from which PWSB obtains its raw water supply which include the Diamond Hill and Arnold Mills Reservoirs. It is likely that the Conservation Commission has similar concerns related to water quality protection. PWSB's primary concerns are as follows:

- Will use of fertilizers, pesticides and other harmful contaminants be restricted?
- It appears onsite wastewater disposal will be utilized. Has consideration been given to requiring advance treatment techniques? Specifically, to reduce harmful contaminants including but not limited to nitrite, nitrate, phosphorus, chloride, bacteria inactivation, possible disinfection, etc.

- It appears that a substantial amount of fill will be required to achieve the final grades depicted on the drawings. If this fill is derived from an offsite location are there provisions to ensure the integrity of the material? Will testing be required to ensure that the fill material is “clean”?
- Who will be responsible for the inspection, maintenance and repair of the proposed stormwater management systems?
- Will homeowners be educated on proper lawn care and waste management practices given that the development is located within a sensitive groundwater recharge area?
- Will there be required ongoing monitoring of the groundwater/surface water down gradient of the development? Concern is related to malfunctioning or improperly maintained onsite wastewater disposal systems.

I appreciate and thank the Conservation Commission for their consideration regarding PWSB comments concerning the proposed development.

Sincerely,



Chris Collins, PE  
Source Water Manager  
Pawtucket Water Supply Board