

January 17, 2017

Martha's Vineyard Commission

Re: DRI 671

*Via email*

Dear Members of the Martha's Vineyard Commission:

I am writing to you with regard to DRI 671 (Rivera ANR). I don't know all of the legal and zoning issues relevant to this DRI. I do know both George and Robin Rivera and have a long standing professional and personal relationship with the family.

At the time the Rivera's purchased the property I was the Executive Director of Sheriff's Meadow Foundation. They contacted me to see how they might coordinate their land use planning with larger conservation efforts in the area, such as a walking trail easement or possible gift of land or conservation easement.

Years later we met again, this time in my role as an environmental consultant and again discussed land use and habitat issues. I was, and am, convinced that the Rivera's truly want to implement their land use planning in a manner that complements the planning and conservation goals for the area.

Over the years I also developed a personal relationship with the family. I understand that as a young family they want to be able to enjoy their land and ensure that their daughter will have that opportunity as well. In addition to their love of the Island, they bring a mix of creative talents and ideals that I believe make them a valuable addition to the Island community.

I trust that you will give all these factors your usual careful consideration as you review this DRI.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Richard Johnson