

Ms. Morrison, I respectfully submit for the hearing record the following comments on DRI 682B, Meeting House Way:

I have reviewed Brendan O'Neill's latest comments on this DRI submitted to you on behalf of the Vineyard Conservation Society and strongly agree with the VCS position urging you to deny this application. I also found Emily Reddington's testimony last week on behalf of the Great Pond Foundation very compelling. The applicant can continue to tweak the application details to make it more palatable to the Commission but what they cannot do is counter the scientific data on the impacts of the additional nitrogen loading to the watershed. The algae blooms in recent years are more severe because of deforestation and development in the watershed combined with rising water temperatures due to climate change. It is undeniable as Emily noted last week. The type of development proposed by this application can no longer be supported without permanent damage to our natural resources. We are at a critical point in protecting our remaining open space, water resources and wildlife.

Many folks have commented and asked you to deny this application for many reasons all of which are quite legitimate and with which I agree. But it really comes down to this - there comes a point when the door must be closed. The natural environment is resilient but will reach a tipping point where it cannot recover from human intrusion. To allow the ponds to degrade simply so a developer can make a profit off of another unnecessary high-end seasonal development is beyond sad, it is foolhardy, short-sighted and irresponsible. There is simply too much to lose and nothing to gain to allow this project to go forward. I believe you have the science to back you and with that information I hope you will deny this application.

I appreciate the difficult job you have before you and thank you for considering my comments.

Robin Bray  
Edgartown