

1/15/14

Acton Conservation Commission  
Acton Town Hall  
427 Main Street  
Acton, MA 01720

Re: Additional Information  
4 Horseshoe Drive, Acton, MA (DEP File #CE-085-1143)

Dear Acton Conservation Commission:

Goddard Consulting, LLC is pleased to submit the additional information requested at the site walk with the Commission on January 14, 2014. During the site walk, soil auguring in the area of the proposed house was requested, as well as data on the stream along Concord Road.

### Stream Watershed

During the site walk, Streamstats data of the stream along the road was requested. USGS Streamstats could not get a watershed for the stream in question, as there is no stream marked on the USGS maps. Using the USGS map from Streamstats and the USGS Data Layer from MassGIS Oliver, the direction of water around the site was estimated. The approximate watershed of the stream is .25 square miles, which does not reach the threshold under the WPA of a perennial stream. As the stream does not show up on a USGS map, nor does it have a watershed over 1 square mile, it is considered intermittent under the WPA and Bylaw.

### Soil Auger Test Pits

The area where the proposed house is located did not have the wetland boundary confirmed under the ANRAD previously filed on the site. During the site walk, further investigation of the area was requested, as wetland indicator plants including red maple and cinnamon fern were observed upgradient of the delineated boundary. Red oak trees, white pine trees, and upland ferns were also noted. Soil test pits in the area of the house were requested. Several test pits were dug throughout the house location, with three documented. Test pit 1 was approximately located in the proposed garage, and consisted of 12 inches of rocky topsoil of the 10YR3/2 value. Refusal was reached at 12 inches. Test pit 2 was approximately located in the proposed house envelope at the 198 elevation, and consisted of 10 inches of 10YR3/1 topsoil with refusal underneath. Test pit three was approximately in the far corner from the garage of the proposed house location, and consisted of 8 inches of 10YR3/2 color topsoil, followed by 6 inches of 10YR5/8 soil with no redoximorphic features. Although free water was observed in the test pit holes at approximately 10-12 inches, varying on the location, all the test pits showed soils were either 10YR3/2 topsoil to refusal or topsoil to reddish soils underneath, with no redoximorphic features or mottles observed. As the wetland indicator plants are not dominant, and the soils are not hydric, Goddard attests that the delineated boundary is accurate.

## Potential Floodplain

The firmette attached to the NOI shows that a corner of the area of proposed work may be in floodplain. As the area of the proposed house location has both wetland and upland indicator plants, the area may be Bordering Land Subject to Flooding, which would explain the features seen on site. A revised site plan is being prepared that will include the floodplain according to the elevation. Should the area fall within the floodplain line, research will be performed as to whether the area is compensatory flood storage. Should the proposed work be in an area of flood storage, mitigation measures for the proposed house would be offered.

If there are any questions concerning this submission, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Goddard Consulting, LLC

by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott G. Goddard", written over a horizontal line.

Scott G Goddard, PWS  
Professional Wetland Scientist

cc:

- Steve Marsh, Westchester Homes, Inc., 360 Massachusetts Ave., Acton, MA 01720