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*Registered Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors
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March 11, 2025

Hingham Conservation Commission
210 Central Street
Hingham, MA 02043

Re: 14 Spring Street, Hingham, MA
Notice of Intent
Owner/Applicant: Breakwater Development LLC

Ms. Palmer,

This letter is intended to address comments on the above referenced project expressed in an email prepared by you, dated March 5, 2025.

Submitted herewith are the following:

- Site Plan, revised March 11, 2025
- Notice of Intent, revised March 11, 2025
- Proposed Septic System Plan, prepared by McSweeney Associates, Inc., dated February 26, 2025

The following are responses to comments expressed by Shannon Palmer, Conservation Office, in an email dated March 5, 2025 (*Ms. Palmer's comments are in italics* and the **Morse Engineering responses are in bold**):

Comments

1. The wetland is categorized as Bordering Vegetated Wetland with no description and the submittal did not include BVW Field Data Sheets or Summary Report as required by the NOI instructions. Please provide and note the Commission's updated [Wetland Delineation Policy](#) for future submittals.

A Wetland Delineation Report is now included with the NOI.

2. The proposal includes an "upgraded" septic system within 100 feet of a wetland resource area. Please submit the Septic Plan and include a discussion in narrative regarding compliance with Section 23.1 of the HWR and clarify if the work is considered an expansion of the existing system.

The Proposed Septic System Plan, prepared by McSweeney Associates, Inc., is attached herewith. The narrative has been revised to include compliance with Section 23.1 of the HWR and clarifies that this is a septic system upgrade, not new construction, as there are no additional bedrooms or increases in design flow proposed.

3. Staff recommends all site plans depicting setbacks be stamped by a PLS. Also, please change wetland "setback" to wetland "buffer zone" on the plan.

A PLS stamp is now included on the plan. The wetland "setback" has been revised to "buffer zone".

4. The pervious walkway detail specifies 1/8" spacing for the pavers. The Commission generally considers a minimum spacing of 1/4" to be permeable.

The pervious walkway detail has been revised and now specifies 1/4" of spacing between pavers.

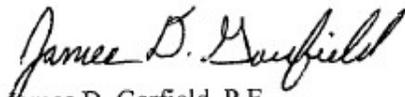
5. *The proposed mitigation area is in the location of proposed raingarden which may not be compatible due to the ongoing maintenance requirements for the rain garden. Staff will be making a site visit this week and will provide additional comments on the mitigation plan following the site visit.*

Per the Massachusetts Stormwater Handbook, bioretention cells, also called rain gardens, are shallow depressions filled with sandy soil topped with a thick layer of mulch and planted with dense vegetation. Maintenance includes removal of trash, mulching and pruning. The mitigation area being proposed within the rain garden is compatible with required maintenance.

It is our opinion that this letter addresses all comments.
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Respectfully Submitted,

MORSE ENGINEERING COMPANY, INC.


James D. Garfield, P.E.