

December 2, 2025

Shannon Palmer  
Conservation Officer  
Hingham Town Hall  
210 Central Street  
Hingham, MA 02043

**RE: Response to Review Comments  
Proposed Staircase, Dock, and Seasonal Structures  
55 Whiton Avenue  
Hingham, MA 02043**

Dear Shannon:

The purpose of this correspondence is to respond to outstanding review comments related to the project at 55 Whiton Avenue.

The following responses in **bold** follow each comment for your review and consideration:

**Comments by Shannon Palmer, Conservation Agent, dated 11/24/25**

1. Please provide the Wetlands Restriction Order (box C.5 of NOI) as required by DEP Notice of Intent Instructions.

**Response: This property is not subject to a Wetlands Restriction Order. DEP will be notified of this change to the WPA Form.**

2. Due to location in coastal resource area and proximity to Salt Marsh, please include a brief discussion in narrative regarding removal of existing stairs (access, stockpiling of material, stabilization/revegetation of area). Also include construction methods, access, material staging, etc for the proposed dock.

**Response: Typical construction methodologies, means of access, and staging are now described in the Project Narrative for the removal of the existing stairs and proposed dock.**

3. The narrative included a thorough performance standards analysis for impacts to Coastal Resource Areas. For compliance with Section 23.4 (c) please include justification for the proposed dock length which should be no longer than necessary to reach the required depth for the dock's intended purpose.

**Response: Justification for the dock length is now included in this section of the narrative.**

4. Please forward Conservation the email sent to the Harbor Master per NOI Instructions (if not already submitted.)

**Response: The filing was forwarded to the Harbor Master on the date of submittal (11-20-25). A copy of this email is attached in this response.**



HANOVER OFFICE:  
427 Columbia Road  
Hanover, MA 02339  
781-826-9200

PLYMOUTH OFFICE:  
362 Court Street  
Plymouth, MA 02360  
508-746-6060

MARINE DIVISION:  
26 Union Street  
Plymouth, MA 02360  
508-746-6060

FALMOUTH OFFICE:  
448 N. Falmouth Highway Unit A  
North Falmouth, MA 02556  
508-563-2183

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5. Per the Commission's Resource Area Delineation Policy the plan should include the required information for the Coastal Bank delineation in accordance with DEP Policy 92-1.

**Response: Coastal bank details have been added to the plan view and profile. The diagram from DEP Policy 92-1 that was used to delineate the bank is now included on the plan sheet as well.**

6. Although not flagged by ECR, please include a note regarding Salt Marsh delineation (based on limits of Spartina spp. Per recommendations of Cameron Larson, Wetland Scientist, ECR.)

**Response: This note has been added to the plan.**

We appreciate the thoughtful review and comments and look forward to presenting the revised materials to you and the Board at our hearing scheduled on 12/08/25.

**Merrill Engineers and Land Surveyors**



Brendan Sullivan  
Project Manager

Enclosures

cc: C. McDowell  
File 25-117.1