

May 3, 2010

Don Reeb
5 Norwood Street
Albany, NY 12203

Dear Don:

President George Philip has asked me to reply to your March 26, 2010 e-mail, regarding the storm water flooding challenges confronted by the McKownville neighborhood, along with the University at Albany (UAlbany) and the Nanotechnology complex on Fuller Road.

As you know, we take this matter very seriously and have revisited this issue on many occasions. The entire region, including McKownville, has seen heavier-than-normal amounts of rainfall over the past few years; and, as a result, the water table has risen significantly, which has led to this heightened ground water and storm water issue. This is the conclusion of professional analysis and has been extensively shared and discussed with you in the past.

The notion that the Nanotechnology facilities are responsible for flooding in the McKownville neighborhood is erroneous. On the contrary, every phase of growth at the Nanotech site has been subject to the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) General Permit requirements for storm water management. Construction and post-construction control measures are strictly enforced by DEC and the University to improve water quality from the site and to drastically increase storm water retention capacity at the site. Indeed, I understand that your association hosted a presentation of two DEC-funded studies at your February 18, 2010 meeting, regarding water quality measurements in the Normanskill and Krumkill Watersheds. Those studies found water quality to be consistent throughout the Krumkill test area; and neither report identified UAlbany and/or the Nanotechnology facilities as a contributor to, or factor behind, any water quality deterioration or flooding in the McKownville neighborhood.

Rather, the University and Nanotechnology facilities off Fuller Road share both the problem and the impact of storm water that you are experiencing.

As you may be aware, we are working on a design to restore and improve the detention basin behind Freedom Quad, but this work can not address the regional rise in the water table, only to better control water in that one particular parcel of land.

I am happy to discuss this further with you. Feel free to call me at 956-8090.

Sincerely,



John Giarrusso
Associate Vice President
Finance and Business

c: UAlbany President George Philip
Senator Neil Breslin
Assemblyman John McEneny
Frank Comisso, Albany County Legislator
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