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TOWN OF HAMPDEN PLANNER
MAY 19 2016
RECEIVED

Peter Weatherbee Chairman, Planning Board
Dean Bennett Community Development Director
Town of Hampden
106 Western Avenue
Hampden, Maine 04444
May 19th, 2016

Concerning the Planning Board Review of Site Plan for Fiberight

I want to thank the Planning Board for its thorough investigation of odor and traffic issues connected with the Fiberight project, and for extending public hearings so that Hampden citizens can express their concerns on those two issues.

But I am concerned that the public has not been able to express their concerns on other issues, in particular air and water quality.

When I look at the performance standard for odor in Hampden's Zoning Ordinances, it states:

page 38. Performance Standards

4.4.1 Odorous Matter. "The emission of odorous or toxic matter in such quantities as to be readily detectable... as to produce ..a hazard is prohibited...shall comply with minimum Federal, State or local requirements

At the first Planning Board meeting, I was allowed to briefly comment on air emissions, but when I asked if Keith Bowden could present evidence that indicates that Fiberight's application is not meeting that performance standard, I was told that he could not at that meeting.

Air emissions are clearly part of Standard 4.4.1, so I don't understand why that was not considered a fair point of discussion. Kathy Walker, in her testimony earlier in the hearing, also commented on air quality, so the issue had been raised, without objection.

I was not able to attend the second Planning Board Meeting, but I understand that it too was limited to comments related to odor and traffic.

So I am asking at what point in the public hearing process will members of the public be able to comment on Fiberight's application regarding performance standards of the zoning ordinance other than odor and traffic?


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I am also sending a copy of this May 19th letter from Keith Bowden to the Planning Board regarding water quality and wastewater issues of Fiberight's application that are relevant to the performance standards of Hampden's Zoning Ordinance. I hope that these are also topics that public will be allowed to comment on. This is a major project, with many complex facets; I appreciate the challenge and care that the Planning Board is talking to review the project

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Neil L. S.", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.