



Town of Freedom BOARD OF SELECTMEN

September 9, 2022

Theresa Swanick, Chair
Effingham Planning Board
68 School Street
Effingham, NH 03882

Re: Meena, LLC

Dear Theresa Swanick, Chair of Effingham Planning Board,

As a DRI town, we have been following closely the progression of the Meena, LLC gas station project. We would like to acknowledge and express our thanks to the Effingham Planning Board for all its efforts towards this goal. In our letter dated April 4, 2022, we stated our position for the protection of the stratified drift aquifer. Specifically, we raised concerns regarding the stormwater management plan (SMP) and the spill containment plan (SPCC) originally submitted. Since that time, with the input from your third-party reviewer Northpoint, the engineering and overall quality of these plans has increased significantly. We strongly support your decision to seek expert advice and direction in this matter and are pleased with the progress made.

As previously stated in our letter, Freedom relies on the Ossipee Aquifer through use of private and public wells. The risk of an accident with its potential negative impact on public health and environmental quality of the surround communities is high. The recent decision by the State of NH to disallow stormwater discharge into the right-of-way alters the project significantly. Just as the hiring of North Point provided clear, unbiased professional analysis of the specifics in the SMP and SPCC plans, an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) would provide a similar professional, unbiased view of the potential environmental impact of the gas station. We request you consider this strategy.

Respectfully submitted,

Freedom Board of Selectmen:


Ernest F. Day, Jr.


Melissa M. Florio