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Planning Department
P.O. Box 54
Pittsboro, N.C. 27312-0054
Angela Birchett
Zoning Administrator

CHATHAM COUNTY PLANNING DEPT.

ABB


Dear Ms. Birchett,

I am writing to you in response to the renewal request made by Evergreen Companies on Parcel No. 71030, at 1115 US 64 E. New Hope Township. By this letter I am hoping the planning board becomes aware of Mr. Fortunes failures to deliver on promises he made in the original application for conditional use and they should not assume he would fulfill the promises and commitments he makes in this application.

In the original application the applicant said he would put in an opaque vegetative barrier i.e. Trees. Over 50 % of the trees are dead and removed. I realize we have been in a drought but if the planting had been done in a timely fashion as promised the trees would have been established before the drought. He also had no system in place to supply water for new trees and this in light of the fact he runs an irrigation installation business.

The second failure is to maintain the natural area he described in the original application on the eastern portion of the property where the pump to fill septic system was to be placed. In the original application he also stated he would maintain the natural contour of the property. Instead, he has use the northeast corner of the property as a dumpsite for material apparently removed from other projects. He uses the natural area to store cuttings and removals from other landscaping jobs. There is currently a large pile of debris there along with two large rusted pieces of machinery and a large steel barrel. In the past he has used it as an illegal burn site that he has told me in writing he will burn again if he so chooses. This burning is within 500 feet of one home, 600 feet of my horse operation and 950 feet of my home. State law requires he obtain written permission to burn with 1000' of occupied structures and I have not given him such permission. The same law allows only for the burning of items that come from the property not items brought in or the burning of refuse. The planning board may want to know that Mr. Fortunes may have been cited by the fire marshal for illegal burning as my customers complained to me and the county about the burning of plastic at the site causing them respiratory discomfort while they were riding their horses.

My concern is that you will give Mr. Fortunes permission to continue to operate and the items placed in the conditional use permit to protect the value of my property will not be enforced and the value of my property will be hurt. I went along with the original plan after Mr. Fortunes made promises to the planning board and it seems no one cares he did not keep the promises. I have had to fight a one-man battle against his illegal burning and waste disposal with very little success and I feel the planning board needs to hear that the promises made to obtain the conditional use were not fulfilled.

Respectfully submitted
Thomas L. Bennett 
Managing Partner-Hindes-Bennett Development