

Board of County Commissioners

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Carroll County Government
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October 19, 2007

Ms. Cynthia Parr, Chief
Office of Administrative Services
225 N. Center Street
Westminster MD 21157

Dear Ms. Parr:

In follow-up to the hearing held on October 16, 2007, I have several additional questions regarding the application you submitted for a variance from Chapter 115, Forest Conservation. Please review the below questions and provide me with written responses within 10 days.

- What are the established performance criteria for the preservation of small trees?
- What is the calculation for the number of trees that the County would need to plant to mitigate the difference between a basal area of 70 and 25?
- What is the background for the proposal to install the 4 PAPI lights?
- What information, if any, is there from the FAA or other sources regarding greater safety enhancement when an airport goes from a 2 light to a 4 light PAPI system?
- What, if any, buffer is there to properties adjacent to the harvest? Please specify the specific buffer area including approximate size and type of buffer relative to each adjacent property to the harvest.
- Is the County required to do an environmental review for endangered species as part of the forest conservation management plan or the harvest plan? If one was conducted, who performed the review and what are his/her credentials?
- Is there any issue with the logging activity for the harvest and the Federal endangered species act?

CARROLL COUNTY

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Variance Request Questions

- Mr. Henry Hepner asked if Tom Robertson, County Forester, disagreed with the State Forester with regards to Pinch Valley Road and the trees being cut. Please respond.
- Is there data to support the assertion that oak trees will grow back from stumps?
- When did the 2 light PAPI quit functioning, and what is its current status?
- Will the elimination of the trees from the harvest impact the noise footprint?
- What environmental protections are in place for the trees that are to “remain” after the harvest in the logging contract? Are any environmental protections in place to protect wildlife?
- Who is the logger that will conduct the harvest if the variance is granted? What are his/her credentials?
- Mr. Horst testified that the 4 light PAPI was part of the 1986 Airport Master Plan. Why did the County delay moving forward with the installation of this system?
- Does the proposed harvest include removing diseased trees? If so, if this variance is not granted, what will happen with the diseased trees?

Please submit your responses to me in writing with 15 copies. Thank you in advance for your time and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Steven D. Powell
Hearing Officer

SDP/kd