Board of Chosen Freeholders County of Burlington New Jersey



Department of Resource Conservation

Mailing Address:
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June 27, 2012

Jerrell's Landscapes & Nurseries Inc. Mr. Wayne B. Jerrell Jr

Mt Laurel, NJ 08054

Re: Jerrell Property

Mount Laurel - Block 401.03, Lot 13,18 &19

Dear Mr. Jerrell,

Please allow this letter to serve as an update regarding your request for a Site Specific Agricultural Practice (SSAMP) determination in accordance with the NJ Right to Farm (RTF) Act.

As detailed in N.J.A.C. 2:76-2.1 et. seq. commercial farm owners or operators may make a request to the local County Agriculture Development Board to determine whether or not his or her operation constitutes a generally accepted agriculture operation or practice. Prior to this determination the operator must meet the RTF eligibility criteria for a "commercial farm" as detailed in the Right to Farm Act, N.J.S.A 4:1C-9. A "commercial farm," among other requirements, must meet the eligibility criteria as detailed in the NJ Farmland Assessment Act of 1964. The Farmland Assessment Act requires that a minimum of 5 acres of land be "actively devoted" to an agricultural or horticultural use.

On January 23, 2012 and April 3, 2012 I met with you on site to discuss your specific request SSAMP request and also to review the minimum eligibility criteria. During these meetings I expressed my concern with the total amount of acreage devoted to agricultural use. Through the County's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping I was able to approximate the total acreage devoted to agriculture on your property as less than 5 acres. I am aware that you believe the mapping is inaccurate and the area is greater than 5 acres.

During the April 3, 2012 meeting, you also indicated that there are outstanding issues relating to a NJ Department of Environmental Protection wetlands violation issued on April 24, 2008. A subsequent inquiry to the NJ DEP confirmed that the wetlands violation indicated that a portion of your land currently devoted to agriculture was the subject of this violation.

Due to the current outstanding wetlands violation and the violation's direct impact to your ability to meet the minimum eligibility criteria for RTF protection Burlington County will not be processing your request for a Site Specific Agriculture Management Practice determination. Once the wetlands issue is resolved, upon your request, the Burlington County CADB can then reevaluate the qualification requirements and the specifics of your SSAMP request.

Sincerely

3ran D. Wilson, Coordinator

Burkington County Agriculture Development Board

cc:

Phillip Prickett, Chairman, Burlington CADB Jeffrey N. Rabin, Sr. Asst. County Solicitor Tim Willmott, Asst FPP Coordinator Ms. Marci Maute, Zoning Officer, Mt Laurel Twp Michael Palmquist, NJDEP Land Use Enforcement

File:

Municipality / Right to Farm