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**IN THE MATTER OF** :  
**FRED A. HOUGH, FORMER** :  
**SECRETARY/TREASURER,** :  
**SUSSEX COUNTY SOIL** :  
**CONSERVATION DISTRICT,** :  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,** :  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE** :     **STATE ETHICS COMMISSION**  
:     **Commission Case No. 30-16B**  
:     **DECISION**

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This matter arises from an allegation that Fred A. Hough, former Secretary/Treasurer, Sussex County Soil Conservation District, Board of Supervisors (“Board”), Department of Agriculture, engaged in an impermissible private business relationship with the Board’s District Manager.

After considering the results of an investigation into the allegation, the Commission **dismissed** the matter pursuant to *N.J.A.C.* 19:61-3.1(g).

DECISION RENDERED BY THE  
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION ON  
THE 16<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2017