

DAVID E. ROSS ASSOCIATES, INC.

Civil Engineers, Land Surveyors, Environmental Consultants

January 25, 1999

Mr. Jack Chandler, Chairman
Sterling Building Needs Committee
Butterick Municipal Building
1 Park Street
Sterling, MA 01564

Re: Sewage Disposal System Upgrades
Sterling "Old Town Hall" & Renovated Fire Station
Main Street, Sterling, MA
Ross Assoc. Project No. 11770

Dear Mr. Chandler;

As requested by the Sterling Board of Health at our meeting with them on January 11th, I have compiled the following list of variances or waivers that would be required to construct a replacement sewage disposal system to serve the above-listed facilities. The Board of Health discussed the relocation of the subsurface drain that runs along the rear of the Fire Station site. The following list and variances all assume that this drain can be relocated to meet the offset requirements of the Code. If it cannot, then the use of this site may need to be re-examined.

Please note that this office has only schematically designed the replacement system, as such the list of variances is also only a general list.

Variance to Title 5 of the State Sanitary Code (310 CMR 15.00):

1. From the requirements of Section 15.211: Minimum Setback Distances, (1)
A possible variance may be required from 100' to a lesser distance for a "Open, Surface or Subsurface Drain which discharges to Surface Water Supplies or tributaries thereto." In this case there may be existing catchbasins or other related drains that are not on-site which cannot be moved. In which case a waiver from this section may be necessary.

Variances to the Sterling Board of Health Regulations:

1. From the requirements of the mandated minimum groundwater offset. This requires that all observed groundwater, be a minimum of two (2') feet from the surface of the ground. We believe that this is the case in the area previously tested to the east of the park's gazebo. However, a definitive test must be undertaken to ensure this.
2. From the prohibition that limits expansion areas between primary trenches. In this area, suitable conditions may not exist to permit a fully separate expansion area.

Sewage Disposal System Upgrades
Sterling "Old Town Hall" & Renovated Fire Station
Main Street, Sterling, MA
Ross Assoc. Project No. 11770
Page 2.

- OK
3. From the prohibition which does not allow for "Shared Systems." It is our belief that the control over the system will be the Town, as such this provides the Board of Health a responsible definitive entity to hold accountable for routine maintenance and repair. These are usually the prime issues of concern for the Board when the shared systems are discussed.

It is our belief that the above list is inclusive of those items discussed with the Board of Health and those which may be needed as part of any submission.

We are still waiting for the historic water use information to complete the recalculation of the sizing of the replacement system.

Please contact the undersigned regarding this matter.

Sincerely ,
DAVID E. ROSS ASSOCIATES, INC.

By:


William E. Murray, L.A.

cc: Mr. Greg Carell, The Carell Group, Inc.

DAVID E. ROSS ASSOCIATES, INC.

111 Fitchburg Road P.O. Box 368 Ayer, Massachusetts 01432-0368
978-772-6232 978-368-1065 978-448-3916 FAX 978-772-6258
E-Mail: derinc@ma.ultranet.com Home Page: <http://www.ma.ultranet.com/~derinc>