by Smita Bharti · 2,240 supporters

Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors: Deny Toll Brothers development plan

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Petition update

EPA and DOJ Record of Toll Brothers' Clean Water Act Violations



Smita Bharti

State College, PA

Feb 5, 2016 — By Virginia Belser

As a concerned State College resident, I sent a letter to the editor of the Centre Daily Times about my opposition to the Toll Brothers development on Whitehall Road at Blue Course Dr., including my concerns that Toll Brothers have numerous violations of stormwater management ordinances on their record all over the country.

Here's a small excerpt from extensive information posted by the US Environmental Protection Agency:

http://www.epa.gov/enforcement/toll-brothers-inc-clean-water-act-settlement

(Washington, DC - June 20, 2012) - "The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Justice announced that Toll Brothers Inc., one of the nation's largest homebuilders, will pay a civil penalty of \$741,000 to resolve alleged Clean Water Act violations at its construction sites ..."

This settlement covers 370 sites in 23 states including 40 sites located in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. 55 of these sites are in PA.

"Permit violations include the failure to stabilize disturbed soil and properly install and/or maintain stormwater controls such as silt fences, swales, sediment basins, sediment traps, storm drain inlet protection, and construction entrances and exits."

The settlement also required Toll Brothers to implement a compliance program to ensure adequate management and oversight of construction sites.

To Toll Brothers, this is just the cost of doing business. Is State College next?

This is the company that Ferguson Township Supervisors trust to build a large development where our drinking water supply is at risk due to the proximity of the Harter-Thomas wellfields.