

[by Smita Bharti · 2,240 supporters](#)

[Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors: Deny Toll Brothers development plan](#)

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**Petition update**

## **PRD Review Deadline Postponed to September 22**



**Smita Bharti**

State College, PA

Jul 9, 2015 — C-Net video of the July 7 joint work session between Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors and State College Borough Water Authority Board is up.

<http://cnet1.org/video/ShowByMember/7/>

Two points of particular interest:

- 1) The deadline for Ferguson Township to review and vote on whether to approve or deny The Cottages plan has been moved to September 22.
- 2) When asked about the SCBWA Board view – in an “approve or deny?” framing – on what the Ferguson supervisors should do, SCBWA Board Member Jeffrey Kern emphasized that, if the water authority had been asked back in 2004 to weigh in on the original rezoning from RA to R4, the water authority would have recommended denial, because they have known for decades that the area is an ecologically sensitive, ecologically essential water well recharge zone.

Although SCBWA was not asked, regional planning experts were consulted, and they made the same recommendation, and were ignored.

Just a reminder - our petition - now signed by 2,121 people - demands that the Ferguson Township supervisors:

"Deny the Toll Brothers Final Planned Residential Development application, citing your obligation as public officials to protect public health, safety and welfare, including safe drinking water supplies."

More information online at

<https://steadystatecollege.wordpress.com/land-use/>

See especially:

<https://steadystatecollege.files.wordpress.com/2015/07/7-6-15-harter-thomas-wells-public-record-compilation.pdf>

One public statement I forgot to include in that compilation:

<http://wren.palwv.org/documents/September2013Feature-ProtectingDrinkingWaterMeansProtectingForestsReprint.pdf>

"...To find out how quickly potential pollutants would show up in the drinking water wells, State College Borough Water Authority conducted dye-trace testing in its recharge area. The findings were a wake up call and brought a sense of urgency to acquire and protect the wellfield recharge property in perpetuity: under low stream flow conditions, the dye showed up in the wells in about three weeks; in high flow conditions, it took only two days.

'In Pennsylvania, a well that produces 200 gallons per minute is unique. The Harter and Thomas wells produce 3,000 gallons per minute, making them extraordinary... These wells are very productive and will be able to serve the community essentially forever.'

– Max Gill, former Executive Director of the State College Borough Water Authority”

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## Discussion

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**Lorelee Swab** · Penn State

Thank you so much for the time you spend on this issue. You have done an excellent job of informing the public and keeping the pressure up.

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