United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
3817 Luker Road
Cortland, NY 13045

October 7, 2002

RECEIVED
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CHAS. H. SELLS, INC.

Ms. Rebecca E. Straub
Design Engineer
Chas. H. Sells, Inc.
555 Pleasantville Road, South Building
Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510

Dear Ms. Straub:

This responds to your letter of September 19, 2002, requesting information on the presence of endangered or threatened species in the vicinity of the proposed Park and Ride Lot #6 at Route 6 and Mount Hope Road in the Town of Carmel, Putnam County, New York.

Except for occasional transient individuals, no Federally listed or proposed endangered or threatened species under our jurisdiction are known to exist in the project impact area. In addition, no habitat in the project impact area is currently designated or proposed "critical habitat" in accordance with provisions of the Endangered Species Act (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). Therefore, no Biological Assessment or further Section 7 consultation under the Endangered Species Act is required with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service). Should project plans change, or if additional information on listed or proposed species or critical habitat becomes available, this determination may be reconsidered.

The above comments pertaining to endangered species under our jurisdiction are provided pursuant to the Endangered Species Act. This response does not preclude additional Service comments under other legislation.

For additional information on fish and wildlife resources or State-listed species, we suggest you contact the appropriate New York State Department of Environmental Conservation regional office(s) as shown on the enclosed map, and:

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
New York Natural Heritage Program Information Services
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233
(518) 402-8935

Since wetlands may be present, you are advised that National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) maps may or may not be available for the project area. However, while the NWI maps are reasonably accurate, they should not be used in lieu of field surveys for determining the presence of

as or delineating wetland boundaries for Federal regulatory purposes. Copies of specific NWI maps can be obtained from:

Cornell Institute for Resource Information Systems
302 Rice Hall
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853
(607) 255-4864

Work in certain waters and wetlands of the United States may require a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). If a permit is required, in reviewing the application pursuant to the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, the Service may concur, with or without stipulations, or recommend denial of the permit depending upon the potential adverse impacts on fish and wildlife resources associated with project implementation. The need for a Corps permit may be determined by contacting the appropriate Corps office(s) as shown on the enclosed map.

If you require additional information please contact Michael Stoll at (607) 753-9334.

Sincerely,

Mark W. Clough

Acting For
David A. Stilwell
Field Supervisor

Enclosure

cc: NYSDEC, New Paltz, NY (Environmental Permits)
NYSDEC, Albany, NY (Natural Heritage Program)
COE, New York, NY