

58 Farm Road  
Sherborn, Massachusetts 01770

December 13, 2023

**BY ELECTRONIC MAIL: rick.novak@sherbornma.org**

Richard S. Novak, Chairman  
Sherborn Zoning Board of Appeals  
19 Washington Street  
Sherborn, Massachusetts 01770

Re: Risk to Safe and Potable Drinking Water Caused by “Farm Road Homes” Development

Dear Chairman Novak:

Among the most significant issues before the Sherborn Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) in the “Farm Road Homes” development Chapter 40B process is the effect which that development will have on safe and potable drinking water for the surrounding area. Documentary information posted on the Town web page, as well as testimony presented at ZBA hearings on this matter have raised serious concerns that this development will negatively impact the groundwater upon which abutters, including my family and our neighbors, must rely as our only source of potable water.

In addition, this hearing process has brought to light that, more than once, property development work in Town apparently has resulted in the fouling of nearby private water supply wells, and that in some cases this contamination has resulted in risks to residents of exposure to heavy metals at toxic concentrations.

The gravity of these concerns in our Town cannot be overstated – my and other nearby families have no alternative source of drinking water. Any risk of irreparable harm to the vital resource of safe and potable drinking water is unacceptable. Any risk to health and safety, as evidently is the situation here, must in good conscience be deemed of decisive consequence in rejecting the permit sought for this development, and especially as this project barely alters the Town’s Subsidized Housing Index.

I implore the ZBA to heed all the warning signs and concerns raised in this process, to learn from mistakes made with other projects in Town, to consider as paramount the risks to groundwater resources caused by this development, and to protect those limited resources from this needless harmful encroachment.

Very truly yours,

/s/

Arthur C. Fenno