

Subject: Proposed Article 97
From: GillSolo@aol.com
Date: Wed, 28 Nov 2007 20:44:58 EST
To: ian.bowles@state.ma.us

Secretary Ian A. Bowles
EOEA, Attn: MEPA Office
Ann Canaday, EOEA No. 14115
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston MA 02114
ian.bowles@state.ma.us

Dear Secretary Bowles,

We strongly object to the Proposed Article 97 Land Swap, as outlined in the ENF for EOEA no. 14115. We are the remaining Massachuseuk Tribal people from whom the Commonwealth took its name. The Blue Hill reservation was part of the 6000 acres that was to be set aside for us in the 17th century, called The Ponkapoag Reservation.

During the intervening years malfeasance, squatters, and outright theft abrogated our rights to live, hunt, and fish on the land, and to keep it for our children as is our tradition. Our belief was the Commonwealth's protection in keeping the area as open space as accessible to all caused us to believe that the Commonwealth would be good stewards of the land.

Now we see that our faith in the Commonwealth may have been misplaced.

The proposed article is for private profit, not public benefit. It allows a commercial abutter to convert over three acres of undisturbed and highly conspicuous wooded parkland in the Blue Hills Reservation in Randolph to a 400-space parking lot.

We urge you to protect our historic homeland for ourselves, the public, and for future generations. I ask you to tell The Hart Family Limited Partnership that they must submit an alternative that does no damage to parklands and protected open space.

Sincerely,

Gill Solomon, Sac'hem Massachuseuk
41 Marianne Drive
Bridgewater, MA 02324

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