



## The Coalition for Open Space at EPCAL

c/o The Nature Conservancy  
250 Lawrence Hill Rd  
Cold Spring Harbor, NY 11724  
631-367-3384

September 17, 2008

The Nature Conservancy  
Group for the East End  
Audubon New York  
Peconic Baykeeper  
Affiliated Brookhaven  
Civic Organization  
Brooklyn Bird Club  
Eastern Long Island  
Audubon Society  
Four Harbors Audubon  
Society  
Four Towns Civic  
Association  
Friends of Edgewood  
Preserve  
Great South Bay  
Audubon Society  
Huntington Audubon  
Society  
LI Trail Lovers Coalition  
Linnaean Society of NY  
LI Botanical Society  
Manorville-East  
Moriches Civic Assoc.  
North Fork Audubon  
Society  
North Fork Env. Council  
North Shore Audubon  
Society  
NYS Ornithological  
Association  
Open Space Council  
Open Space Preservation  
Trust  
Peconic Lake Estates  
Civic Organization  
Pine Barrens Society  
Ridge Civic Association  
Seatuck Environmental  
Association  
South Shore Audubon  
Society

Supervisor Phil Cardinale  
Members of the Town Board  
Riverhead Town Hall  
200 Howell Avenue  
Riverhead, NY 11901

RE: Scoping Hearing for REPCAL LLC

Dear Supervisor Cardinale and Members of the Town Board:

We are writing on behalf of the Coalition for Open Space at EPCAL (COSE). COSE is a group of 27 civic and environmental organizations who are committed to finding an appropriate balance between environmental protection and economic development at the Enterprise Park and Calverton (EPCAL).

We welcome this opportunity to submit comments on the applicant's Draft Scope for the impact statement to be written for the REPCAL LLC project at EPCAL. We would have preferred to respond to a Draft Scoping Outline, but despite a Notice of this hearing dated August 6, 2008, no Draft Scoping Outline was made available to the public until September 11, 3 business days before this hearing.

We previously prepared our own Draft Scope for this project, which is attached. Nonetheless, we request that the public comment period be held open until mid-October, or about thirty days. You have until at least early November to finalize the scoping document pursuant to 6 NYRR 617.8(f) and additional time is essential to afford the public an opportunity for meaningful review. See 6 NYCRR 617.8(e). Any of the issues and concerns we have included in our Draft Scope should be added to the applicant's Draft Scope. Otherwise, please provide a reasoned elaboration as to why you will not include them.

Some of our larger concerns include the following:

1) The 2900 acre EPCAL site is entirely within the LI Pine Barrens Maritime Reserve Boundary. The entire site is within the Central Pine Barrens Core Area and Compatible Growth Area. It is also within the watersheds of two national estuaries: the Peconic Estuary and Long Island Sound. The natural resources at this site are of regional and national importance and the Town, as lead agency, must act as the guardian of them, despite the \$190,000,000 it stands to make by selling this land.

2) The Town now has entered into two contracts to sell large acreages of public property at EPCAL to developers: the REPCAL LLC sale of 300 acres, and the Riverhead Resorts sale of 755 acres. Both of these buyers have proposed large-scale commercial projects at the site.

We believe that SEQRA requires that the Town review the cumulative impact of these two projects in the context of what is already approved and existing at the EPCAL site, including: the Berman subdivision and all of the businesses operating within it; the Water Ski Park; the Stony Brook Business Incubator site and building; the Town Sports Park; the sewage treatment and public water systems at the site; the +/- 200 acres still owned by the US Navy on which a hazardous waste clean up is underway.

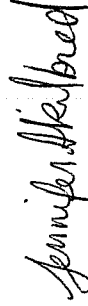
3) We also attach our Concept Three Map of EPCAL, which we believe represents a reasonable balance of environmental protection and economic development at this location. Our Plan calls for protecting 1364 acres or 52% of the Compatible Growth Area of the site in large blocks of contiguous open space, consistent with the goals and purposes of the NYS Long Island Pine Barrens Maritime Reserve Act.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this process. We look forward to a constructive relationship with the Town at EPCAL.

Sincerely (for the Coalition),



Matthew Atkinson  
General Counsel  
Peconic Baykeeper, Inc.



Jennifer Skillbred  
Environmental Advocate  
Group for the East End