

**ROBERT G. TORGERSEN, LA, CPESC**  
**LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**  
THREE MAIN DRIVE, NANUET, NY 10954  
Tel. 845 623 4835 Fax 845 627 6622 E-mail [rtorger@verizon.net](mailto:rtorger@verizon.net)  
NYS LA LIC # 451  
NJS LA LIC # 148  
CPESC Cert. # 899

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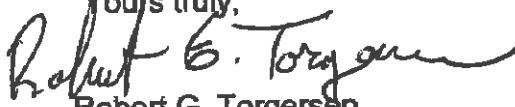
Karen Emmerich  
Lehman & Getz Engineering  
17 River Street  
Warwick, New York 10990

Re: 203 Black Meadow Road

Dear Ms. Emmerich,

I visited the above site last Tuesday to determine if any Bog Turtle habitat currently exists onsite. There is none. In my opinion the entire site has been impacted by previous development and no original habitat remains onsite. The site currently has a single story industrial use building and a 9,525 square foot addition is proposed. The existing building has an onsite septic system that is located in the front yard. Reviewing Google Earth photography shows that the east half of the site appears to have been filled back around 2009 and again in 2013. The existing vegetation is clover, grasses and weeds. Along the rearmost property line is a manmade ditch that was flowing steadily on the inspection date. Bog Turtles do not utilize streambeds with a storm water runoff based water supply. Bog Turtles usually are found in places with a spring fed or ground water outlet based hydrology that would remain stable and would not pose any risk of flooding the nests. Behind the project site is what appears to be an actively harvested hay field growing in an area with hydric soils. Nowhere in this field are springs or ground water outlets, other than within the ditch along the property line this large field has fairly dense soils and would not qualify as suitable habitat for Bog Turtles. I have previously worked on the large farm adjacent to the south and that site has no Bog Turtle habitat onsite. Across Black Meadow Road to the west there are emergent meadows as well as forested wetlands however these areas also have been impacted by previous development and no longer qualify as Bog Turtle habitat.

Yours truly,

  
Robert G. Torgersen