

Debra Thompson

From: Bill Tremblay <brtrembla@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 4, 2020 2:34 PM
To: Assembly
Cc: Stephen Giesbrecht; Debra Thompson
Subject: Corps of Engineers analysis of the Kake Road

The recent coverage of the Kake Road mentioned that the Federal Corps of Engineers (COE) is still considering whether or not to provide permits to the State to build the Kake Access Road. The news information says that the COE is preparing an environmental analysis to consider the effects.

I'm not asking the Assembly to weigh in with a letter to the COE regarding the road. However, I would like to see the Assembly send a letter to the COE asking them to include the citizens of the Petersburg Borough in an opportunity to make comments to this project.

As a federal agency, I'm sure their statutes and regulations require public participation as a part of the analysis since allowing public scoping or comments is required by the National Environmental Protection Act. Not only should the public have the right to comment on the project but also be allowed the opportunity to evaluate the findings of the project when/if the COE makes a decision to proceed.

I'm sure the COE found it necessary to initiate their own evaluation of the project since there is no existing documentation by a State or Federal agency to evaluate the effects of this project. If you remember; the State and Federal Highway Administration agreed in 2016 not to further their environmental analysis when they determined that there was no purpose or need for the project. Also, the Forest Service Environmental Impact Statement evaluating the potential Petersburg/Kake Intertie (listed on the State site for the Kake Access Project) wouldn't be sufficient for use by the COE as it proposes no new roads and therefore wouldn't have an analysis for this kind of land use to evaluate.

I've seen several letters submitted to the COE asking that their environmental analysis be more open and inclusive when seeking comments. As this project is of concern to many in the borough, I'd hope you might ask the COE to be more responsive.

Thank you;

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