









1705 Bay Avenue, Suite 6 Pt. Pleasant, NJ 08742-4505 Phone: (732) 282-2222

E-mail: Info@EMG-Environmental.com

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

JERSEY SHORE LANDSCAPING, INC.
3324 HIGHWAY 33
BLOCK 3001, TAX LOT 6
TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE
MONMOUTH COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

PREPARED ON BEHALF OF

RYAL HOLDINGS LLC 9 NORTHWOODS ROAD OCEAN, NJ 07712

PREPARED BY

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT GROUP, INC.

1705 BAY AVENUE, SUITE 6 PT. PLEASANT, NEW JERSEY 08740

DATE: MAY, 2023 EMG FILE: 22-185

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SECTION 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This *Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)* has been prepared in support of an application submitted to the Neptune Township Zoning Board of Adjustment required in connection with a parcel of commercial real estate located at 3324 Highway 33, Tax Lot 6 of Block 3001, in the Township of Neptune, Monmouth County, New Jersey.

This Environmental Impact Statement has been prepared in conformance with Neptune Township Ordinance Article VIII, Section 811.01 of the Neptune Township Land Development Ordinance Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

As per the ordinance, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required as part of any application for development involving new buildings or any land disturbance, which requires approval of the Planning Board or Board of Adjustment.

SECTION 1.1 ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY

On May 7, 1997, Neptune Township Zoning Board granted Mr. Tom Ross of RYAL Holdings LLC a Use Variance Approval authorizing the operation of a Lawn Care Business on a residential property in the ES Zone.

Mr. Ross was also permitted to construct a 900 square foot garage for equipment storage and an approval to construct an asphalt driveway.

On July 25, 2007, the Planning Board approved an application to construct a 13,500 square foot office building and parking lot with utility infrastructure, including a stormwater management system, designed for the project.

The approved office building and associated improvements were not constructed.

SECTION 1.2 <u>CURRENT APPLICATION</u>

In July 2022 the applicant submitted a Continuing Use/Changing Use Application with the Zoning Officer. The Zoning Officer denied the request. In the denial the Zoning Officer stated that "the zoning of the property is supposed to be a non-conforming detached single-family residence, with non-accessory lawn care company." The Zoning Officer further observed that the detached single-family use has been removed from the premises. As such, Use Variance Approval will be required.

The applicant is now seeking Use Variance Approval to continue to operate the current lawn care company, that was approved in 1997.

SECTION 2.0 <u>SITE DESCRIPTION / LOCATION</u>

The address of the subject property is 3324 Highway 33 in the Township of Neptune, Monmouth County, NJ. The subject property is also identified in the Neptune Township Tax Records and Mapping as Tax Lot 6 of Block 3001.

The subject property is located along the south side of New Jersey State Highway Route 33, approximately $1,600 \pm 1$ linear feet east of West Bangs Avenue (See Figure 1 – Site Location Map).

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The Use Variance Plan submitted in support of the application to the Neptune Township Board of Adjustment, prepared by D.S. Engineering dated November 29, 2022, includes an Existing Features Plan (Sheet 2 of 4).

According to the Existing Feature Plan, the land area of the subject property is 65,482.2 square feet, equaling 1.503 acres.

The subject property is developed with a one-story, ranch style dwelling that has been converted for office use with a series of attached and detached accessories structures, such as framed garages, sheds, poles and barns, storage trailers, asphalt paved access driveways, areas of asphalt pavement, landscape paver covered surfaces and areas of compacted gravel and maintained lawn and landscaped areas.

A stream by the name of Wells Brook flows along the southerly boundary of the subject property.

Appendix A of this report contains a number of Figures including a Site Location Map, a copy of the Township of Neptune tax mapping for the subject site and the location of the subject site on the USGS Asbury Park, New Jersey Quadrangle Map.

A series of captioned, color photographs providing a number of views throughout the subject site is provided in Appendix B.

SECTION 3.0 CURRENT OPERATIONS / SITE USE

The subject property is occupied by and operating as Jersey Shore Landscaping and Lawn Care, Inc.

Jersey Shore Landscaping, Inc. provides a full range of comprehensive services for residential and commercial customers including, but not limited to, lawn care and maintenance, landscape design and sprinkler installation.

The office for the landscape contracting business is located in the ranch-style former dwelling structure.

Throughout the subject property there are a number of other accessory structures serving the landscape business.

Also present within the subject property is a variety of landscape related vehicles, machinery and other equipment, and landscape materials and supplies.

One (1) of the on-site garage structures is dedicated to the maintenance and repair of equipment.

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TABLE 1 SITE DATA

Applicant/ Owner: RYAL Holdings LLC 9 Northwoods Road

Ocean, NJ 07712

Subject Site:

Jersey Shore Landscaping, Inc.

3324 Highway 33 Block 3001, Tax Lot 6 Township of Neptune Monmouth County, NJ

Site Location:

South side of State Highway Route 33

State Plane

Coordinates:

N(y) 611462 E(x) 501099

Land Area:

 $1.503 \pm acres$

Current Use:

Jersey Shore Landscaping, Inc.

SECTION 4.0 <u>SITE TOPOGRAPHY</u>

The subject property exists at approximately 61 ft. above mean sea level. Based upon a review of regional topographic information, the general topographic gradient for the subject site is to the north/northeast.

Steep and excessively steep slopes occur along the southerly property boundary.

At the south end of the subject property site elevations range from 53 feet above mean sea level to 40 feet along Wells Brook.

The Use Variance Plan submitted in support of this application does not depict any proposed disturbance/alteration of the steep slope.

SECTION 5.0 <u>HYDROLOGY / HYDROGEOLOGY</u>

The subject property is located within the Whale Pond Bk / Shark R / Wreck Pond Bk Watershed and Jumping Brook (Ocean Co) Sub Watershed.

A stream by the name of Wells Brook is present at or near the southerly boundary of the subject property.

The Surface Water Quality Classification for Wells Brook is FW2-NT/SE1.

Hydrogeologic information indicates that the general topographic gradient for the subject site is to the

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SECTION 6.0 GEOLOGY / SOILS

north/northeast.

The subject site is located within New Jersey's Coastal Plain Physiographic Province.

Soils mapped throughout the subject property are classified as Evesboro Sand. This soil type is generally described as deep, well-drained to excessively well-drained sands and gravels.

According to the Monmouth County Soil Survey, the depth to the seasonal high water table for Evesboro Sand is greater than six (6) feet,

No site specific soil information/data was available to EMG during the performance of this Phase I ESA.

The Brownfield and Contamination Site Remediation Act requires the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to map regions of the state where large areas of historic fill exist.

Historic fill is generally defined as non-indigenous material placed on a site in order to raise the topographic elevation of the site.

Mapped historic fill is not present within the subject site.

During the site visit/reconnaissance, EMG observed areas of imported non-indigenous soil. Stockpiled soil is presently stored in the southeasterly portion of the subject property.

During a telephone interview with the current owner of the subject property, Mr. Tom Ross advised EMG that temporarily stockpiled soil present at the subject property originated from residential site work.

SECTION 7.0 <u>VEGETATION</u>

Vegetation is limited to areas of maintained lawn and landscaping in the northerly portion of the subject property and deciduous wooded wetlands at or near the southerly property boundary.

The majority of the site area is covered with buildings asphalt pavement and compacted dirt and gravel.

SECTION 8.0 WILDLIFE

The subject site is highly disturbed/altered and, as such, is not considered to be of high value as wildlife habitat.

Wildlife species identified in connection with the subject property is limited to common species of birds and small mammals that have adapted to urban and suburban environments. The limited value of

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the subject site as wildlife habitat is based primarily upon the altered condition of the landscape throughout the majority of the subject property.

SECTION 9.0 <u>VICINITY CHARACTERISTICS</u>

Existing land use in the general vicinity of the subject property consists of self-storage facilities, single-family residential properties, a cemetery, former residential properties that have been converted for professional office use, vacant commercial properties, including a vacant, former service station location to the north of the subject property on the opposite side of Route 33, and undeveloped and wooded lands.

The subject property is bordered to the south by woodland and forested freshwater wetlands associated with Wells Brook.

SECTION 10.0 <u>UTILITIES</u>

Information provided to EMG through the Neptune Township Municipal Offices indicates that the subject site is served by public potable sanitary sewer service, natural gas, telephone, electric and cable. Water serving the subject property is drawn from an on-site well.

During the site reconnaissance, EMG personnel did not observe any visually apparent evidence of the past or present existence of septic systems within the subject site. During an on-site interview, the property owner, Mr. Tom Ross, indicated that the property has always been served by public sanitary sewer.

A search of local/regional water agency records did not identify any plotted wells within the subject property.

SECTION 11.0 STORM DRAINAGE FACILITIES

Site generated stormwater tends to flow overland within a portion of the subject property flowing north towards Route 33 and a portion estimated the drain to the south.

Some overland flow emanating from the impervious surfaces, including compacted stone, soil and gravel, appears to flow south towards Wells Brook.

The applicant has proposed the installation of two (2) dry wells to accommodate roof leader discharge from the two (2) primary structures, a former dwelling converted to a office and the large-framed garage.

Dry well design details are provided on the Drainage and Details Plan submitted in support of this application (Sheet 4 of 4).

SECTION 12.0 SOLID WAS COLLECTION, RECYCLING & DISPOSAL

On the basis of the site reconnaissance and reasonably ascertainable information available to EMG, no solid/hazardous waste treatment and/or disposal activities have been identified in connection with the subject property.

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The operations of Jersey Shore Landscaping and Lawn Care results in the generation of non-hazardous wastes and common refuse. A number of roll-off containers are staged on the premises for the collection and removal of non-hazardous wastes.

SECTION 13.0 FLOOD HAZARD AREAS

Flood hazard areas are areas subject to flooding from the flood hazard area design flood, as defined by the Department under the Flood Hazard Area Control Act Rules at N.J.A.C. 7:13. Areas included those mapped by the Department, areas defined or delineated as a RV Zone by FEMA and in the unmapped areas subject to flooding by the Flood Hazard Area Design Flood. Flood hazard areas are subject to either tidal or fluvial flooding and the extent of the flood hazard areas shall be determined or calculated in accordance with the procedures at N.J.A.C. 7:13-3.

According to FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Community Panel #34025C0329G effective date June 15, 2022, the subject property is located within Zone X, area of minimal flood hazard.

An A&E Flood Hazard Zone is shown at low elevations adjacent to the southerly boundary along Wells Brook.

SECTION 14.0 RIPARIAN ZONE

It is anticipated, but has not been confirmed, that the Flood Hazard Area Control Act (FHACA) riparian zone associated with Wells Brook is 50 feet.

A portion of the riparian zone associated with Wells Brook is present along the southerly property boundary.

The Use Variance Plan submitted in support of this application does not depict any proposed regulated activities within the riparian zone.

SECTION 15.0 WETLANDS & WETLAND BUFFERS

Jurisdictional freshwater wetlands, waters and wetland transition areas (buffers) are present in the southerly portion of the subject promptly associated with Wells Brook.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) issued a Freshwater Wetland Letter of Interpretation, Line Verification (LOI) in connection with the subject property on June 9, 2008 (File #1334-07-0007.1).

A copy of the June 2008 Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation (LOI) is provided in Appendix C.

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In addition to freshwater wetlands and waters in the vicinity of Wells Brook, a 50 foot wide regulated wetland transition area (buffer) is also present. The Freshwater Wetland Letter of Interpretation was valid for a period of five (5) years and expired in 2013.

The Use Variance Plan submitted in support of this application does not depict any proposed regulated activities within freshwater wetlands, waters and/or wetland transition areas (buffers).

On behalf Ryal Holdings, LLC, EMG has submitted an application for a new Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation, Line Verification for the subject property on February 21, 2023. The new Letter of Interpretation, Line Verification for the subject property is pending.

A copy of the January 19, 2023 letter to the NJDEP Division of Land Resource Protection and Application Form is provided in Appendix C.

SECTION 16.0 HISTORIC & ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Historical and archeological resources include objects, structures, shipwrecks, neighborhoods, districts and other features or the landscape and seascape including archeological sites, which either is on, or eligible for inclusion on the State or National Register of Historic Places. The Department discourages development that detracts from, encroaches upon, damages or destroys the value of historical or archeological resources.

On the basis of reasonably ascertainable information available to EMG, the current owner of the subject property, RYAL Holdings, LLC, acquired this property in 1994.

The subject property was initially developed in 1953. At that time a single-family dwelling and garage structures were constructed within the subject property.

Monmouth County tax records indicate that the subject property was previously Block 7013, Tax Lot 8.

Information available to EMG indicates that historic uses of the subject property may have been agricultural in late 1939, 1940s and through 1951.

The subject property was single-family residential in use for a period of time with commercial operations commencing in the early to mid 1990s.

The current owner of the subject property has operated Jersey Shore Landscaping and Lawn Care at the subject property since 1997.

The subject property is not currently on the New Jersey and National Registers of historic places as viewed on the NJDEP Historic Preservation Office (HPO) website.

archeological and/or cultural resources.

Township of Neptune, Monmouth County, NJ

The subject property is not of any known local, State or National relevance in terms of historical,

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SECTION 17.0 ENDANGERED or THREATENED WILDIFE or VEGETATION SPECIES HABITATS

Endangered or threatened wildlife or plant species habitats are areas known to be inhabited on a permanent or seasonal basis by or to be critical at any state life cycle of any wildlife (fauna or vegetation flora) identified as endangered or threatened species on the official Federal or State List of Endangered or Threatened Species or under active consideration for Federal or State listings are considered special areas. The definition also includes a sufficient buffer area to ensure continued survival of the species.

The subject property is not documented potential threatened and/or endangered wildlife species habitat.

A review of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Landscape Project Mapping, Piedmont Plains Region, (*Version 3.3*), as viewed on the Department's GeoWeb Mapping Program, identifies the following habitats within the subject site:

• Rank 1 – Residential, Rural, Single Unit

SECTION 18.0 CRITICAL WILDLIFE HABITAT

Critical wildlife habitats are specific areas known to serve an essential role in maintaining wildlife, particularly in wintering, breeding and migration.

Presently, the NJDEP Division of Fish, Game & Wildlife has mapped critical wildlife habitat only for colonial water bird habitat based upon a 1979 aerial colonial nesting water bird survey for New Jersey. The subject site did not qualify for the limited survey and, as such, no critical wildlife habitats are presently mapped within this project site.

SECTION 19.0 CONCLUSIONS

RYAL Holdings has applied for a Use Variance associated with the continued use of the subject property as Jersey Shore Landscaping, Inc. Jersey Shore Landscaping has operated continuously at the subject property since 1997.

After completing this Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with Ordinance Article VIII, Section 811.01 of the Neptune Township Land Development Ordinance, it is submitted that the continued use of the subject property by Jersey Shore Landscaping will not result in any significant, unmitigated adverse impact of the man-made or natural environment.

SECTION 20.0 REFERENCES

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Division of Parks and Forestry, Office of Natural Lands Management, the State of New Jersey Endangered Plant Species List.

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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Parks and Forestry, Office of Natural Lands Management, Natural Heritage Database and Landscape Project (*Version 3.3*).

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, GeoWeb Mapping Program.

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Historic Preservation Office, New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places.

Neptune Township Tax Records, Tax Mapping, and selected files and records.

Neptune Township Ordinance Article VIII, Section 811.01.

Township of Neptune New Jersey Land Development Ordinance Volume II dated July 24, 2000 last amended November 10, 2003.

United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Survey of Monmouth County, New Jersey, April 1989.

"Use Variance Plan, prepared for Block 3001, Lot 6, Township of Neptune, Monmouth County, New Jersey," prepared by D.S. Engineering, P.C. dated November 29, 2022.

APPENDIX A FIGURES

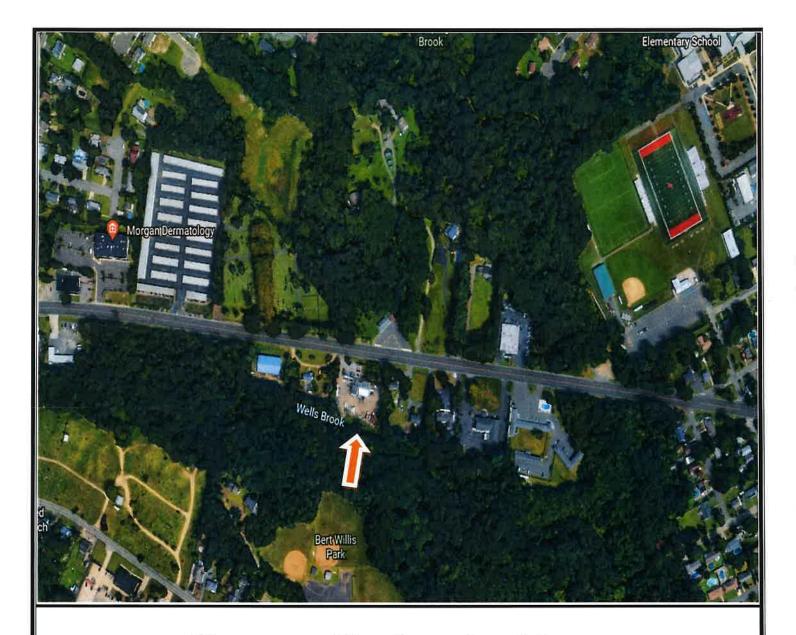


Figure 1 – Site Location Map

В**L**OCK: <u>3001</u> Lot: <u>6</u>

MUNICIPALITY: <u>TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE</u> COUNTY / STATE: <u>MONMOUTH / NEW JERSEY</u>





SOURCE: GOOGLE EARTH

SCALE (APPROX.) 1'' = 2,400'

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT GROUP, INC. 1705 Bay Avenue – Suite 6 Phone: (732) 282-2222

1705 Bay Avenue – Suite 6 Point Pleasant, NJ 08742-4505

Email: Info@EMG-Environmental.com

Jов No: <u>22-185</u>

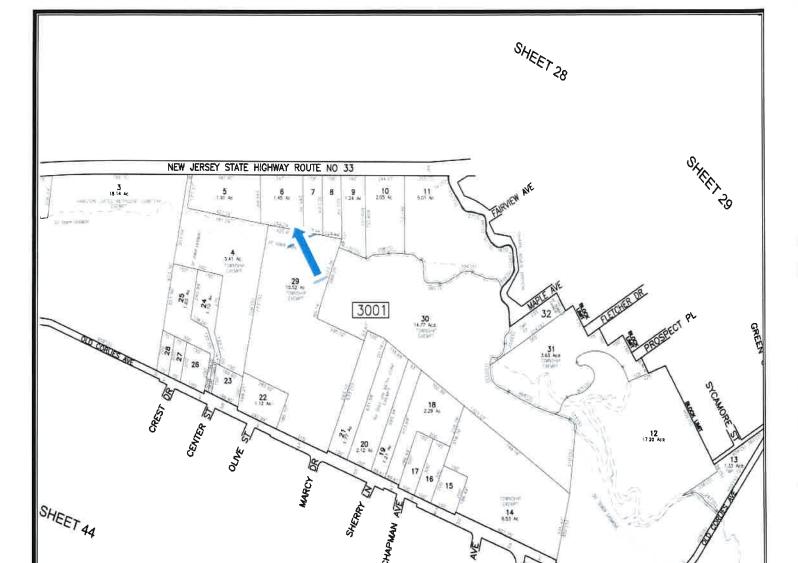


Figure 2 – Tax Map

BLOCK: <u>3001</u> TAX LOT: <u>6</u>

MUNICIPALITY: TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE

COUNTY / STATE: MONMOUTH / NEW JERSEY





SOURCE: NEPTUNE TOWNSHIP TAX MAP SCALE (APPROX.) 1" = N.T.S.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT GROUP, INC. 1705 Bay Avenue – Suite 6 Phone: (732) 282-2222 Point Pleasant, NJ 08742-4505

Email: Info@EMG-Environmental.com

Jов No: <u>22-185</u>

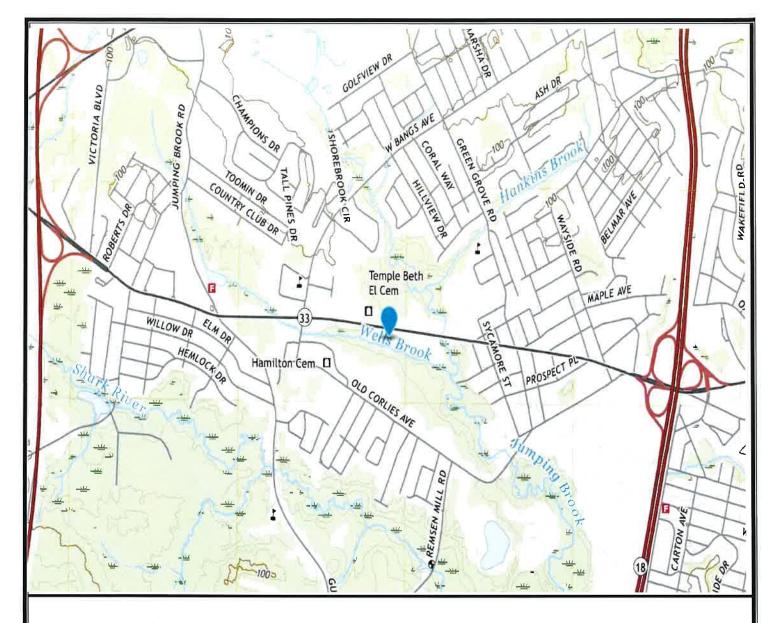


Figure 3 – U.S.G.S. Topographic Map

BLOCK: <u>3001</u> TAX LOT: <u>6</u>

MUNICIPALITY: TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE

COUNTY / STATE: MONMOUTH / NEW JERSEY







SOURCE: U.S.G.S. ASBURY PARK, N.J. QUAD SCALE_N.T.S._

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT GROUP, INC. 1705 Bay Avenue – Suite 6 Phone: (732) 282-2222

Point Pleasant, NJ 08742-4505

Email: Info@EMG-Environmental.com

JOB NO: <u>22-185</u>

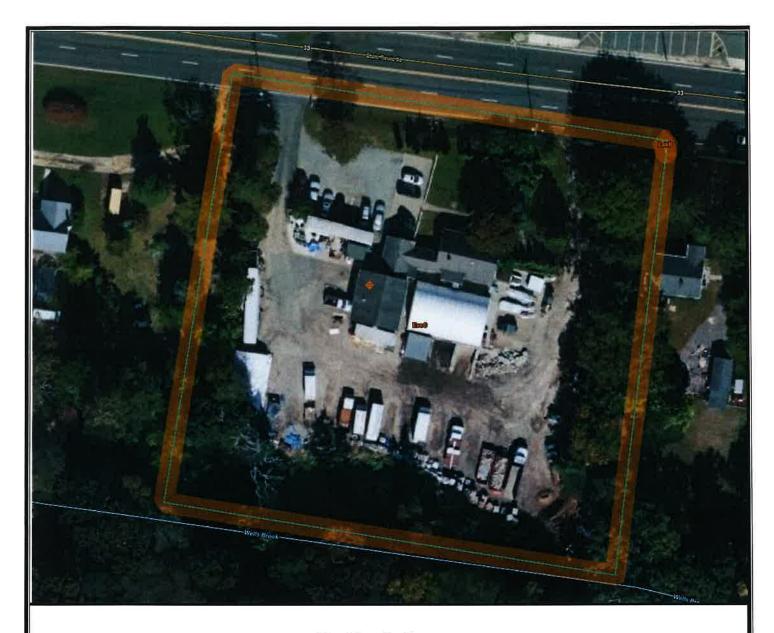


Figure 4 – Soils Map USDA/SCS

BLOCK: <u>3001</u> TAX LOTS: <u>6</u>

MUNICIPALITY: TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE

COUNTY / STATE: MONMOUTH / NEW JERSEY







SOURCE: <u>USDA SOIL MAPPING</u> SCALE (APPROX.) 1'' = N.T.S.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT GROUP, INC. 1705 Bay Avenue – Suite 6 Phone: (732) 282-2222

1705 Bay Avenue – Suite 6 Point Pleasant, NJ 08742-4505

Email: Info@EMG-Environmental.com

Jов No: <u>22-185</u>

APPENDIX B SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

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Photograph 1



Shown is the dwelling converted for office use.



Shown is the attached garage on the west side of the office.



Shown is the east side of the dwelling/office.



The view is facing south looking onto the subject property from the easterly driveway.



Taken at the same location as Photograph 5, the view is facing west looking along the Route 33 site frontage.



Shown are materials, supplies and a variety of equipment associated with the landscape operations.



Shown are materials, supplies and a variety of equipment associated with the landscape operations.



Shown are landscape contracting materials, vehicles and equipment.



Shown are landscape contracting materials, vehicles and equipment.



The view is facing south looking onto the subject property at the westerly driveway.



The view is facing down looking towards freshwater wetlands at or near the southeast property corner.



The view is facing west looking along a portion of Wells Brook.



This photograph taken from along Wells Brook is facing north.



This photograph is taken along the proposed wetlands/waters limits at flag point W-7.



This photograph is taken along a portion of Wells Brook in the westerly portion of the subject property.



Shown is a portion of the wetlands at or near the southwest property corner.

APPENDIX C NJDEP LOI DOCUMENTS



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Division of Land Use Regulation P.O. Box 439, Trenton, New Jersey 08625 FAX # (609) 777-3656 Web Site:www.state.nj.us/dep/landuse LISA P. JACKSON

Commissioner

Peter Ritchings Environmental Management Group, Inc. 1955 Route 34, Bldg. 3-D Wall, NJ 07719

JUN 09 2008

Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation/Line Verification

File No.: 1334-07-0007.1 FWW070001

Applicant: Ryal Holdings, LLC

Blocks: 7013; Lot: 8

Township of Neptune, Monmouth County

Dear Mr. Ritchings:

JON S. CORZINE

Governor

This letter is in response to your request for a Letter of Interpretation to verify the jurisdictional boundary of freshwater wetlands and waters on the referenced property. It remains valid for 5 years from the issuance date.

In accordance with established agreements, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Land Use Regulation ("DLUR") is the lead agency for establishing the extent of State and Federally regulated wetlands and waters within the State. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency retain the right to reevaluate and modify a jurisdictional determination should information prove to be incomplete or inaccurate.

Based upon information submitted, the Division has determined that the freshwater wetland and/or State open water boundary line as shown on the plan sheet entitled, "PRELIMINARY & FINAL SITE PLAN, WETLANDS LOCATION PLAN, BLOCK 7013 – LOT 8, TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE, MONMOUTH COUNTY, N.J.," dated July 2, 2007, unrevised, and prepared by R.C. Associates Consulting, Inc., is accurate as shown.

The wetlands/waters boundary line, as determined in this letter, must be shown on any future site development plans. The line should be labeled with the above DLUR file number and the following note: "Waters Boundary Line as verified by NJDEP on....(date of this letter)..., File No. (as referenced above)".

Wetlands Resource Value Classification ("RVC")

Intermediate: All Flag points. [50 foot wetland buffer]

RVC may affect requirements for wetland and/or transition area permitting. Please refer to the Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act (N.J.S.A. 13:9B-1 et seq.) and implementing Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act rules at N.J.A.C. 7:7A-1 et seq. for additional information.

General Information

Wetlands resource value classification is based on the best information available to the Department. The classification is subject to reevaluation at any time if additional or updated information is made available, including, but not limited to, information supplied by the applicant. For exceptional resource value wetland reclassification requests, refer to N.J.A.C. 7:7A-2.4(c).

Regulated activities proposed within a wetland, wetland transition area or water area, as defined by N.J.A.C. 7:7A-2.2 and 2.6 of the Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act rules, require a permit from this office unless specifically exempted at N.J.A.C. 7:7A-2.8. The approved plan and supporting jurisdictional limit information are now part of the Division's public records.

This letter in no way legalizes any fill which may have been placed, or other regulated activities which may have occurred on-site. This determination of jurisdiction extent or presence does not make a finding that wetlands or water areas are "isolated" or part of a surface water tributary system. Furthermore, obtaining this determination does not affect your responsibility to obtain any local, State, or Federal permits which may be required.

Appeal Process

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:7A-1.7, any person who is aggrieved by this decision may request a hearing within 30 days of the date the decision is published in the DEP Bulletin by writing to: New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Legal Affairs, Attention: Adjudicatory Hearing Requests, P.O. Box 402, Trenton, NJ 08625-0402. This request must include a completed copy of the Administrative Hearing Request Checklist. Hearing requests received after 30 days of publication notice shall be denied. The DEP Bulletin is available on the Department's website at www.state.nj.us/dep. [See General Information section above for initial resource value appeal protocol]

Please contact Robert Kozachek of our staff at (609) 777-0454 if you have any questions regarding this letter. Be sure to indicate the Division's file number in all communication.

Sincerely

David B. Fanz, Supervisor Bureau of Coastal Regulation 1334-07-0007.1

- راستي وفيا

PRELIMINARY & FINAL SITE PLAN WETLANDS LOCATION PLAN

BLOCK 7013 - LOT 8
TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE, MONMOUTH COUNTY, N.J.

R.C. ASSOCIATES Consulting, Inc.

Valley Park Professional Center 2517 Route 35 Building P Suite 101 Manasquan, New Jersey, 08736 Ph. 732-528-0141 • Fax 732-528-1060

RAY CARPENTER P.E.

N.J.P.E. Llc. No. 23223

C.A, #24GA28108800

DRN BY: ACAD

DATE: 7/2/07

SCALE: AS SHOWN

JOB #: 2006.55

SHEET: 1 OF 1











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January 19, 2023

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION OF LAND RESOURCE PROTECTION BUREAU OF INLAND REGULATION MAIL CODE 501-02A, PO Box 420 TRENTON, NJ 08625-0420

ATTENTION: APPLICATION SUPPORT UNIT

REGARDING: APPLICATION FOR FRESHWATER WETLAND LETTER OF INTERPRETATION/

LINE VERIFICATION
3324 HIGHWAY 33
BLOCK 3001, LOT 6
TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE
MONMOUTH COUNTY, NJ
NJDEP FILE: 1334-07-0007.1

EMG FILE: 22-185

APPLICANT: RYAL HOLDINGS, LLC

9 NORTH WOODS ROAD OCEAN, NJ 07712

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the applicant, Environmental Management Group, Inc. (EMG) is submitting for the Department's review, this application for a Letter of Interpretation, Line Verification, for the above-referenced site.

SUBJECT PROPERTY

The subject property is located along the south side of New Jersey State Highway Route 33, approximately $1,600 \pm \text{linear}$ feet east of West Bangs Avenue.

The subject property is developed with a one-story, ranch style dwelling that has been converted for office use with a series of attached and detached accessories structures and storage trailers, asphalt paved access driveways, areas of asphalt pavement, landscape paver covered surfaces and areas of compacted gravel and maintained lawn and landscaped areas.

NJDEP – Bureau of Inland Regulation Application for Letter of Interpretation, Line Verification 3324 Highway 33, Block 3001, Tax Lot 6 Township of Neptune, Monmouth County, NJ

A stream by the name of Wells Brook flows along the southerly boundary of the subject property.

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NJDEP PROPERTY HISTORY

A Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation, Line Verification was issued in connection with the subject property on June 9, 2008 (File #1334-07-007.1 FWW07001).

A Notice of Violation was issued in connection with the subject property on February 21, 2008 (PEA08001-1334-07-007.1).

A copy of the June 2008 Letter of Interpretation and correspondence related to the Notice of Violation accompany this letter.

A review of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Landscape Project Mapping, Piedmont Plains Region, (*Version 3.3*), as viewed on the Department's GeoWeb Mapping Program, identifies the following habitats within the subject site:

• Rank 1 – Residential, Rural, Single Unit

RESULTS OF FIELD STUDY

A Wetland Delineation Field Study was performed in connection with the subject properties by EMG on September 13, 2022. The Wetland Delineation Field Study concentrated on the evaluation of existing vegetation, shallow subsurface soil conditions and aspects of hydrology concentrating on lower elevations in the undeveloped south end of the subject property.

The wetland boundary for the subject property conforms to the base of an excessively steep slope along the southerly property boundary.

• Proposed Wetland/Waters Limits

As a result of the September 13, 2022 Wetland Delineation Field Study, EMG identified and delineated freshwater wetlands/waters within the subject property.

The proposed wetland/waters limits, as determined during this study, are indicated in the northerly portion of the subject site by a series of pink and blue consecutively numbered flag points starting at W-1 located at or near the southeasterly property boundary and terminating at W-9, which may be just off-site within adjoining Lot 5.

Due to the density of the existing vegetation, some of the flag points that have been placed may be difficult to locate for survey purposes. The area between flag points W-8 and W-9 is particularly dense.

The proposed wetlands/waters limits conform to the base of the steep slope at the south end of the subject property and within close proximity to Wells Brook.

NJDEP – Bureau of Inland Regulation Application for Letter of Interpretation, Line Verification 3324 Highway 33, Block 3001, Tax Lot 6 Township of Neptune, Monmouth County, NJ

The surveyed proposed wetland limits are depicted on the plan entitled, "Topographic Survey of Property, Tax Lot 6, Block 3001, Township of Neptune, Monmouth County, New Jersey," prepared by Lakeland Surveying dated October 13, 2022 last revised February 7, 2023.

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EMG File: 22-185

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:7A-4.5 & 16.3 this application package contains the following items:

- A completed and executed Division of Land Resource Protection Application Form (DLUR);
- A copy of a completed NJDEP Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation (LOI) Application Checklist;
- A copy of the Letter of Interpretation, Line Verification application issued in connection with the subject property on June 9, 2008;
- Correspondence related to the February 21, 2008 Notice of Violation;
- Two (2) copies of a signed and sealed plan entitled, "Topographic Survey of Property, Tax Lot 6, Block 3001, Township of Neptune, Monmouth County, New Jersey," prepared by Lakeland Surveying dated October 13, 2022 last revised February 7, 2023.
- A series of four (4) completed Routine On-Site Determination Method Data Forms keyed to soil boring locations shown on the Boundary and Topographic Survey Plan.
- A series of figures depicting the location of the subject site on a local road map, the Township of Neptune Tax Map, the Asbury Park, New Jersey USGS Topographic Quad Map and USDA Soil Mapping.
- A series of captioned, color site photographs. The location and direction of each photograph is shown on the plan entitled, "Topographic Survey of Property, Tax Lot 6, Block 3001, Township of Neptune, Monmouth County, New Jersey," prepared by Lakeland Surveying dated October 13, 2022 last revised February 7, 2023.
- A copy of the certified list of property owners within 200 ft. of the subject site as
 provided by the Township of Neptune Tax Assessor's Office, and photocopied
 correspondence and certified mail receipts demonstrating that all required parties have
 received appropriate notice of this application via certified mail.
- The Statement of Qualifications of Mr. Peter Ritchings, Agent for the Applicant.

NJDEP – Bureau of Inland Regulation Application for Letter of Interpretation, Line Verification 3324 Highway 33, Block 3001, Tax Lot 6 Township of Neptune, Monmouth County, NJ

On behalf of the applicant, I request that you review the enclosed materials at your earliest opportunity.

Once a Department file number has been issued and a review person has been assigned, please inform this office.

Please direct any questions or comments regarding this application to my attention.

Very truly yours,

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT GROUP, INC.

Page 4

EMG File: 22-185

PETER RITCHINGS PRESIDENT

PR/sk

ENCLOSURES

CC: TOM ROSS - RYAL HOLDINGS, LLC

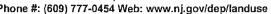
TIM MIDDLETON, Esq.



State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Land Resource Protection

Application Form for Permit(s)/Authorization(s)
501 E. State Street Mail Code 501-02A P.O. Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420
Phone #: (609) 777-0454 Web: www.nj.gov/dep/landuse





Ple	ease print legibly o	r type the following: Complete all sections and pages unless otherwise	noted.	
	Initial Application 🗆	Response to DLUR Deficiency $\ \square$ Extension / Modification $\ \square$	Is this project a NJDOT Priority 2 Repair	Project? Yes □ No □
1.	Applicant Name:	Mr./Ms./Mrs Ryal Holdings, LLC	E-Mail: tomjshore@aol.com	
	Address:	9 North Woods Road	Daytime Phone:	Ext
	City/Stale:	Ocean Township, NJ	Zip Code 07712 Cell Phone: 732	2-978-0848
2.	Agent Name:	Mr.Ms./Mrs Peter Ritchings		
	Firm Name:	Environmental Management Group, Inc.	E-Mail: pritchings@emg-envi	ronmental.com
	Address:	1705 Bay Avenue, Suite 6	Daytime Phone: 732-282-2222	Ext
	City/State:	Point Pleasant, NJ	Zip Code 08742Cell Phone:	
3.	Property Owner:	Mr./Ms./Mrs_Same as applicant	E-mail:	
	Address:		Daytime Phone:	Ext.
	City/State:	:	Zip CodeCell Phone:	
4.	Project Name:		Address/Location: 3324 Highway R	oute 33
	Municipality:	Neptune	County: Monmouth	Zip Code 07753
	Block(s):	3001	Lot(s): 6	
	N.A.D. 1983 State Plan	e Coordinates (feet) E(x): 611457 N(y): 5011156	Not Longitude/Latitude	
	Watershed:	Whale Pond Bk / Shark R / Wreck Pond Bk	Subwatershed: Jumping Brook (Ocean Co.)
	Nearest Waterway:	Wells Brook		
5.	Project Description:	Application for a Freshwater Wetlands Le	tter of Interpretation, Line V	erification.
		3		
		Previous LUR File # (s): 1334-07-0007.1		
ω. Λ		Constitution of the consti		
	SIGNATURE OF APPL ertify under penalty of	INAM (required): Iaw Ihat I have personally examined and am familiar with the information.	ation submitted in this document and all attac	chments and that, based on
my aw	inquiry of those indivi	duals immediately responsible for obtaining and preparing the inform applicant penalties for knowingly submitting false information, including the party reportation, municipal early, home-owners association etc., the party re	ation, I believe that the information is true, a	ccurate, and complete. Fam nentIf the applicant is an
*	Signature of Applicant	m m	Signature of Applicant	
	Position/Title (If not ind		Position/Title (If not individual property owner)	
	Date //)	7	Date	
	Ryal Holding	gs, LLC	Print Name	

A. PROPERTY OWNER'S CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the undersigned is the **owner of the property** upon which the proposed work is to be done. This endorsement is certification that the owner/easement holder grants permission for the conduct of the proposed activity. In addition, written consent is hereby giver to allow access to the site by representatives or agents of the Department for the purpose of conducting a site inspection(s) or survey(s) of the property in question.

In addition, the undersigned property owner hereby certifies:

1.	Whether any work is to be done within an easement?		Yes □ No ☑
	(If answer is "Yes" - Signature/title of resonsible party is required	below)	
2.	Whether any part of the entire project will be located within prope	erty belonging to the State of New Jersey?	Yes □ No ☑
3.	Whether any work is to be done on any property owned by any po	ublic agency that would be encumbered by Green Acres?	Yes □ No Ø
4.	Whether this preject requires a Section 106 (National Register of	Historic Places) Determination as part of a federal approval?	Yes □ No ☑
-			
	Somm M.L		
Signatur	e or Owner	Signature of Owner/Easement Holder	
Date	1/10/02	Date	
	Holdings, LLC		
Print Nar	Thomas m 2650	Print Name/Title	
-12/4			
0 4504104	INTO ACENT		
	ANT'S AGENT al Holdings, LLC , the Applicant/Owner a	and Applicant/Own	ner authorize to act as my
	presentative in all matters pertaining to my application the following		ner authorize to act as my
Peter	Ritchings		
Name of		Signature of Applicant/Owner	
-	onmental Consultant		
Occupation	on/Profession of Agent	Signature of co-Applicant/Owner	
	1		
	pertulcation:		
l agree	selve as agent for the above-referenced applicant:		
_1//	DVI	Environmental Management Group, In	C.
Signature	of Agent	Name of Firm	
C STATEME	ENT OF PREPARER OF PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS,	D. STATEMENT OF PREPARER OF APPLICATION, R	EDODTS AND/OD
	DR'S OR ENGINEER'S REPORT	SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (other than engineering	
I certify und	ler penalty of law that I have personally examined and am	I certify under penalty of law that I have person	
	h the information submitted in this document and all	familiar with the information submitted in this docum	ent and all attachments
	s and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining and preparing the information, I	and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals in for obtaining and preparing the information. I believe	
	t the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am	true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there	are significant penalties
aware that	there are significant penalties for knowingly submitting	for knowingly such that had false information, including	the possibility of fine
talse intorma	ation, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment.	and imprisonme/y	
		1//////	
		I IVAN V	
Signature		Signalus	
	- K	Peter Ritchings	
Print Name	9	Print Name	t Croup, Inc
Position &	Name of Firm	President, Environmental Managemen Position & Name of Firm	t Group, Inc.
Deafoari	Date.	5.	
Profession	al License # Date	Professional License # Date	

A.	PROPERTY	OWNER'S	CERTIFICAT	rion
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Position & Name of Firm

24GS04334900 Professional License #

I hereby certify that the undersigned is the **owner of the property** upon which the proposed work is to be done. This endorsement is certification that the owner/easement holder grants permission for the conduct of the proposed activity. In addition, written consent is hereby giver to allow access to the site by representatives or agents of the Department for the purpose of conducting a site inspection(s) or survey(s) of the property in question.

In addition, the undersigned property owner hereby certifies: 1. Whether any work is to be done within an easement? Yes □ No Ø (If answer is "Yes" - Signature/title of resonsible party is required below) Whether any part of the entire project will be located within property belonging to the State of New Jersey? Yes I No 🔽 Whether any work is to be done on any property owned by any public agency that would be encumbered by Green Acres? Yes □ No ☑ Whether this project requires a Section 106 (National Register of Historic Places) Determination as part of a federal approval? Yes □ No ☑ Signature of Owner Signature of Owner/Easement Holder Date Ryal Holdings, LLC Print Name Print Name/Title B. APPLICANT'S AGENT Ryal Holdings, LLC the Applicant/Owner and . co-Applicant/Owner authorize to act as my agent/representative in all matters pertaining to my application the following person: Peter Ritchings Name of Agent Signature of Applicant/Owner **Environmental Consultant** Occupation/Profession of Agent Signature of co-Applicant/Owner **AGENT'S CERTIFICATION:** i agree to serve as agent for the above-referenced applicant: Environmental Management Group, Inc. Signature of Agent Name of Firm C. STATEMENT OF PREPARER OF PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, D. STATEMENT OF PREPARER OF APPLICATION, REPORTS AND/OR SURVEYOR'S OR ENGINEER'S REPORT SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (other than engineering) I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible immediately responsible for obtaining and preparing the information, I for obtaining and preparing the information, I believe that the information is believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties aware that there are significant penalties for knowingly submitting for knowingly submitting false information, including the possibility of fine false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment. and imprisonment. Signature

Peter Ritchings
Print Name

Position & Name of Firm

Professional License #

President, Environmental Management Group, Inc.

Date



Effective October 5, 2021, applications for most land use authorizations and permits <u>must</u> be submitted electronically through <u>NJDEP Online</u>. Such applications include general permits, individual permits, water quality certificates, freshwater wetland transition area waivers, and associated flood hazard area verifications. Paper applications will **NOT** be accepted for the aforementioned types of authorizations and permits.

Paper applications will be accepted for Letters of Interpretations, modifications to existing permits/authorizations, extension requests for existing permits/authorizations, applicability determinations, Highlands Area applications, stand-alone Flood Hazard Verifications, and consistency determinations. For more information, please visit https://www.ni.gov/dep/landuse/eservices/lurgath/ auth permits.html.

FEE CALCULATION TIPS:

- Whenever the calculation requires an acreage figure (including the Stormwater calculations), you will need to round UP to the nearest whole number, for example: 0.25 acres gets rounded up to one (1) acre or 2.61 acres gets rounded up to three (3) acres.
- The stormwater review fee is applied only one time per project, maximum of \$20,000, regardless of multiple applications.

APPLICATION(S) FOR. Preads their seen permitted horizoned and you are up by dyster and fill in the Labelskell fee (to Fill do in the The Field coupling

	Coastal Applications	Fee Amount	Fee Paid
1	Modification of a Coastal GP	\$500	
n	Minor Technical Modification of a Coastal Welfand Permit	\$500 x# of items to be revised	
g	Minor Technical Modification of a CAFRA IP	\$500 x# of items to be revised	
C	Minor Technical Modification of a Waterfront IP	\$500 x# of items to be revised	
+1	Major Technical Modification of a Coastal Wetland Permit	0.30 xoriginal fee = Fee (Minimum \$500)	
0	Major Technical Modification of a CAFRA IP	0.30 x original fee = Fee (Minimum \$500)	
ā.	Major Technical Modification of a Waterfront IP	0.30 xongina) fee = Fee (Minimum \$500)	
	Zane Letter (Waterfront Development Exemption)	\$500	
1,1	CAFRA Exemplion Request	\$500	
Ĥ	CZM General Permit Extension	\$240 x# of GPs to be extended	
a	Walerfront Development Individual Permit - Extension (Waterward of MHWL)	0.25 xoriginal fee = Fee (Maximum\$3,000)	
	Meadowlands District Water Quality Certificate	\$5,000 + (\$2,500 x # acres regulated area disturbed)	
	Individual Permit Equivalency/CERCLA	No Fee	

	Consistency Determination	Fee Amount	Fee Paid
17	Water Quality Certificate	\$5,000 + (\$2,500 x	
	(NOTE: No fee required under the coastal program)	regulated area disturbed)	
1	Federal Consistency	No Fee	

	Applicability Determinations	Fee Amount	Fee Paid
F	Coastal Applicability Delermination	No Fee	No Fee
2	Flood Hazard Applicability Determination	No Fee	No Fee
а	Highlands Jurisdictional Determination	No Fee	No Fee
ä	Executive Order 215	No Fee	No Fee

	Letter of Interpretation	Fee Amount	Fee Paid
73	LOI Presence Absence	\$1,000.00	
	LOI Foolprint of Disturbance (3 Maximum)	\$1,000 00 each	
	LOI Delineation < 1 00 Acres	\$1,000 00	_
X	LOI Verification	\$1,000 + (\$100 x 1 45 # of acres of the site)	\$1,200 00
а	LOI Partial Site Verification	\$1,000 + (\$100 x# of acres of the site subject to LOI)	
а	LOI Extension Presence/Absence, Footprint, Delineation < 1 acre (Re- Issuance)	\$500	
a	LOI Extension Line Verification (Re- Issuance)	0.50 xoriginal fee (Minimum \$500)	

	Freshwater Wetlands Authorizations	Fee Amount	Fee Paid
0	FWGP Administrative Modification	No fee	
Ω	FWGP Minor technical modification	\$500.00	
	FWGP Major technical modification	\$500.00	
	Individual Permit Administrative Modification	No Fee	
Ę	Individual Permit Minor Technical Modification	\$500.00	
ē	Individual Permit Major Technical Modification	0.30 xoriginal fee (Minimum 3500)	
	TAW Administrative Modification	No Fee	
D	TAW Minor Technical Modification	\$500 00	
0	TAW Major Technical Modification	0 30 x original lee (Minimum \$500)	
†I	FWGP Extension	5500 x # of items to be extended	
ā	Individual Permit/Open Water Permit Extension	0 30 xoriginal fee (Minimum \$500)	
Ę	TAW Extension	\$500 x# of items to be extended	
	Freshwater Wetlands Exemption	\$500.00	
	TAW Exemption	\$550 00	
0	Permit Equivalency/CERCLA	No Fae	

	Flood Hazard Area Authorizations	Fee Amount	Fee Paid
.(3	FHA GP Administrative Modification	No Fee	No Fee
I=	FHA GP Minor technical modification	S500 x# of project elements to be revised	
0	FHA GP Major technical modification	0 30 xoriginal fee (MInimum \$500)	
٥	FHA Individual Permit Administrative Modification	No Fee	No Fee
Ð	FHA Individual Permit Minor Technical Modification	\$500 x# of project elements to be revised	
	FHA Individual Permit Major Technical Modification	0.30 xoriginal fee (Minimum S500)	
Ω	FHA Verification Administrative Modification	No Fee	No Fee
ם	FHA Verification Minor Technical Modification	\$500 x# of project elements to be revised	
	FHA Verification Major Technical Modification .	0.30 xoriginal fee (Minimum \$500)	
0	FHA GP Extension	5240	
D	FHA Individual Permit Extension	0.25 xoriginal fee	
	FHA Verification Extension of Methods 1, 2, 3, 5, or Riparian Zone Only	\$240	
	FHA Verification Extension of Methods 4 or 6	0.25 xoriginal fee	
CI)	FHA Individual Permit Equivalency/CERCLA	No Fee	No Fee

NOTE: Flood Hazard verifications may be submitted via a paper application ONLY when not submitted in conjunction with any permit/authorization required to be submitted electronically.

	Flood Hazard Area Verifications	Fee Amount	Fee Paid
С	Verification-Delineation of Riparian Zone Only	\$1,000	
12)	Verification-Method 1 (DEP Delineation) *	\$1,000	
D	Verification-Method 2 (FEMA Tidal Method) *	\$1,000	
13.0	Verification-Method 3 (FEMA Fluvial Meปเอส) *	\$1,000	
Ü	Verification-Method 4 (FEMA Hydraulic Method)	34,000 + (\$400 x per 100 linear feet)	
8	Verification-Method 5 (Approximation Method)*	\$1,000	
n)	Verification-Method 6 (Calculation Method)	\$4,000+(\$400 x per 100 linear feel)	

Stormwater Review Fee (Maximum Fee = \$20,000)	Fee Amount	Fee Paid
Stommwater Review (Fee is calculated by adding the base fee to the specific elements below)	\$3,000 Base Fee	
Review of Groundwater Calculations	+ \$250 x# acres disturbed	
Review of Runoff Quantity Calculations	+ \$250 x # acres disturbed	
Review of Water Quality Calculations	+\$250 x_ # acres impervious surface	
Total	Stormwaler Review Fee	

	Freshwater Wetlands Authorizations	Fee Amount	Fee Paid
E	Pre-application Meeting	\$500.00	
0	Resource Area Determination Boundary Delineation < one acre	\$500.00	
	Resource Area Footprint of Disturbance	\$500 + (\$50 x# of acres of the site	
	Resource Area Determination Verification (> one acre)	\$750 + (\$100 x # of acres of the site)	
	Resource Area Determination Extension	0.25 xoriginal fee (Minimum \$250)	
ā	Preservation Area Approval (PAA)		
	PAA with Waiver (Specify type below)		
	Waiver Type:		
	HPAAGP 1/ Habitat Creation/Enhance	No Fee	No Fee
0	HPAAGP 2 Bank Stabilization	\$500	
	HPAA Extension	\$1,000	

TOTAL FEE:	
	\$1,200.00
CHECK NUMBER:	111
	146

Page 4

APPLICANT NAME:	Ryal Holdings, LLC	FILE # (if known):	1334-07-0007.1

			RM - APPENDIX I				
Section 1	<u>:</u>	Please provide the following information for the overall project site. All area measurements shall be recorded in acres to the nearest thousandth (0.001 acres).					
<u>P</u>	PROPOSED: RIPARIAN ZONE CZMRA FORESTED (CZMRA IP – Only) E & THABITAT Endangered and/or Threatened FRESHWATER WETLANDS		PRESERVED	<u>Undisturbed</u>	DISTURBED		
R							
(C E Er							
Section 2:		Freshwater Wetlands		each permit/authorization re a measurements shall be reco if necessary			
	ERMIT YPE	·	WETLAND TYPE Emergent, Forest, Shrub, Etc.	RESOURCE CLASSIFICA Ordinary, Inte	ATION ermediale,		
<u>Pi</u>	ROPO:	SED DISTURBANCE;	WETLANDS	TRANSITION AREA	<u>SOW</u>		
Fi	ILLED						
E	XCAVA	NTED					
C	LEARE	ED.		/	4		
TE	EMPOF	RARY DISTURBANCE					
PERMIT TYPE		e	WETLAND TYPE Emergent, Forest, Shrub, Etc.	RESOURCE CLASSIFICA Ordinary, IntExceptional,	ATION ermediate,		
<u>Pi</u>	ROPOS	SED DISTURBANCE:	<u>WETLANDS</u>	TRANSITION AREA	<u>sow</u>		
Fi	LLED			<u> </u>	-		
E)	XCAVA	TED					
Cı	LEARE	ED.					
TE	EMPOF	RARY DISTURBANCE					

APPENDIX D STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS









1705 Bay Avenue, Suite 6 Pt. Pleasant, NJ 08742-4505 Phone: (732) 282-2222

E-mail: Info@EMG-Environmental.com

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY/QUALIFICATIONS MR. PETER RITCHINGS PRESIDENT

Peter Ritchings is President and founder of *Environmental Management Group, Inc.* As President, Director of Operations and Senior Environmental Biologist, Mr. Ritchings has developed, directed and taken part in *thousands* of environmental assignments related to natural resource inventory, environmental impact assessment, wetlands identification and delineation, coastal projects, land use regulation and permitting and environmental site assessment/investigation.

Mr. Ritchings professional environmental consulting career began in 1984.

In over 39 years as a professional environmental consultant, Mr. Ritchings has attained considerable experience in the following areas:

Coastal/Waterfront Development Permitting
Delineation of Freshwater and Coastal Wetlands
Wetland Permitting/Approvals
Wetland Mitigation
Natural Resource Inventory
Environmental Impact Assessment
Wildlife Inventory/Habitat Evaluation
Threatened and Endangered Species Evaluation
Phase I & II Environmental Site Assessments
Industrial Site Recovery Act (ISRA)

Over the last 39 years, Mr. Ritchings has been retained to provide expert environmental assessment/evaluation and permitting services on behalf a diverse clientele consisting of public and private corporations, professional organizations, real estate investors and developers, Municipal, County and State governmental agencies and boards, private citizens and public interest groups.

Mr. Ritchings has represented his clients' interests before local, State and Federal Review Boards and Agencies and is experienced in providing expert testimony before local Environmental Commissions and Planning Boards and State and Federal regulatory agencies.

EDUCATION

Mr. Ritchings earned a B.S. in Forest and Environmental Biology from the College of Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse.

Mr. Ritchings has augmented his college education by completing a number of continuing education courses and certification seminars involving a wide variety of environmental topics.

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Mr. Ritchings' professional environmental career began in 1982 at Wave Hill, New York City owned and operated Cultural Institution in Riverdale, New York. At Wave Hill, Mr. Ritchings held positions in the Natural History and Environmental Education Departments.

For the period 1984 through 1988, Mr. Ritchings was Project Manager and Senior Environmental Biologist for a multi-disciplinary engineering, planning and environmental consulting firm.

President Environmental Management Group, Inc. (EMG) 1988 – Present.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

As a **community volunteer**, Mr. Ritchings presently serves as the Environmental Commission Chair, the Dune Inspector, a Shade Tree Commission member and Chair of the Planning Board in his hometown.