

New Jersey Highlands Council **Letter 31**

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With the passage of the Highlands Act, I, like many other North Jersey residents, assumed that some land would be preserved, but other land would be available to allow towns to grow, renew themselves, create jobs and rateables. These, we assumed, would allow our communities to maintain services, sustain a quality of life while allowing taxation rates for individuals and business to afford to stay. Unfortunately, the interpretation of the rules by the Highlands Council has prevented my town and region, among others, from pursuing economic opportunities. Now, I understand that the Council, rather than looking for ways to remedy this situation, is pursuing a lengthy process designed to reinforce its oppressive interpretation of the law. We need for the Council to quickly review what has transpired over the past 10 years and adjust what has been done to allow appropriate, balanced smart development in areas already designated for such use by the law.

Respondent

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