

PUBLIC COMMENTS SUBMITTED

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April 27, 2012

Daniel J. Van Abs, Acting Executive Director and
Senior Director of Planning & Science
NEW JERSEY HIGHLANDS COUNCIL
100 North Road (Route 513)
Chester, NJ 07930-2322

Re: Pohatcong Township – Planning Area

Dear Mr. Van Abs:

In my capacity as the attorney for Pohatcong Township, please be advised that following second reading and public hearing, an Ordinance opting into the Highlands Council Regional Master Plan for the planning area portions of Pohatcong Township did not receive a second to a motion to adopt and the Ordinance was not adopted as a result. The Mayor and Council appreciate the time and effort the Highlands Council has spent in working with Pohatcong on a variety of issues, and looks forward to continuing that productive relationship. However, at this time, the Mayor and Council felt it would be best to defer a decision to opt into the planning area, with the understanding that the issue can be revisited and reconsidered at any point in the future, as the Township gets a better understanding of the direction that planning for the Highlands region in general is going to take.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very Truly Yours,

BENBROOK & BENBROOK, LLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin P. Benbrook", written over a horizontal line.

Kevin P. Benbrook

KPB:sf

Cc: Wanda Kutzman, Clerk – via email, for distribution

① my name is Hank Klumpp - I'm a farmer with 150 acres in the Highlands Preservation.

The Express Times, May 9, 2012, printed a letter from Julia Somers, Executive Director of the New Jersey Highlands Coalition that should have been printed on the comic page because it was such a joke.

Julia Somers claims that I have things wrong about my property values being stolen by the Highlands Act. Julia Somers states that Highlands values were not stolen by stating how one of my neighbors received 40 thousand dollars an acre

② for his land. This is another joke.

Before the Highlands Act even a cheap 3 acre lot was sold for 250 thousand dollars and choice lots 450 thousand. The 16 million dollar surplus with no willing sellers in open space and farmland preservation is another joke. It is peanuts.

Should I be willing to sell my farm for millions less than what it is worth? The Highlands Council has told me in letter form that they will give me 7 hundred thousand to one million two for

③ my land. Prior to 2004, I was offered - more than once - twelve million for my beautiful farm.

But Julia Somers calls my property value losses a fiction because I do not want to sell my farm and leave. Is this another joke?

Debbie Post, another property owner being affected by this Act, has responded to Julia Somers' comments about me questioning if our stocks and bonds are fictions if we decide to save

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instead of liquidate, Debbie Post is right. Julia Somers may have stumbled onto a good idea because if the State passed a law "taking" 80% of all IRA's, it could fix the State's budget problem. It is only fair. The Highlands Act took ^{80% of} the farmers' savings stored in their land values so why not have equal-non-protection of all savings?

Julia Somers shows the true colors of an environmental lobbyist pushing our society toward

⑤ eco-socialism where property is no longer private and where payment is not required for what is taken. Thank you -
Debbie Post.

And Julia Somers - I really resent having you say that I have anything wrong concerning my property. I have had over eight long years to learn all there is to know about my land value theft by the Highlands Act. I deserve, should I ever decide to sell, to receive full

⑥ real estate values for my land -
not the loss you are trying to
push. And what about my
lost equity? Julia Somers, do
you have any equity jokes?

Thank you!

Hank Klumpp
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