

**Association of New Jersey Environmental  
Commissions, Pinelands Preservation Alliance,  
Save Barnegat Bay**

Recipient: Melanie.willoughby@sos.nj.gov , Debbie.mans@dep.nj.gov

Letter: Greetings,

**Tell the State of NJ to Require More Public Meetings on Lacey Township's  
Development Plan!**

# Signatures

Name	Location	Date
Helen Henderson	Lanoka Harbor, NJ	2019-04-17
Alison Lemke	Forked River, NJ	2019-04-17
Howard Schwartz	Forked River, US	2019-04-17
Britta Wenzel	New York, US	2019-04-17
Pat Unice	Brick, US	2019-04-17
Scott Wardenski	East Brunswick, US	2019-04-17
Jason Hafstad	Lavallette, NJ	2019-04-17
MaryAnn Sorensen Allacci	Jackson, NJ	2019-04-17
Brett Middaugh	Brick, NJ	2019-04-17
Jeff Henderson	Forked River, NJ	2019-04-17
Theresa Barsch	Bayville, NJ	2019-04-17
melissa michaelson	brick, NJ	2019-04-17
Catherine Duckett	Long Branch, NJ	2019-04-18
Ronald Keller	Jersey City, NJ	2019-04-18
Patricia Doyle	Forked River, NJ	2019-04-18
susan sierung	forked river, NJ	2019-04-18
Lisa O'Hara	Forked River, NJ	2019-04-18
Mary Demarest-Paraan	Whiting, NJ	2019-04-18
Martin Vongrej	Lacey Township, NJ	2019-04-18
Amanda Casteel	Littleton, US	2019-04-18

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>
Ann Collas	Millburn, NJ	2019-04-18
April Fadeski	Brick, NJ	2019-04-18
John Budish	Brick, US	2019-04-18
Ann MacCormack	Toms River, NJ	2019-04-18
John Sonta	Morristown, NJ	2019-04-18
Jo-Eva Paul-Applegate	Barnegat, US	2019-04-18
Nadine Foreman	Forked River, US	2019-04-18
Emilia Keen	Mystic Islands, NJ	2019-04-18
KATHLEEN MASTRANGELO	FAR HILLS, NJ	2019-04-18
Kelly Fitzpatrick	Forked River, US	2019-04-18
christine Blake	Brick, NJ	2019-04-18
Michael Pisauro	Pennington, NJ	2019-04-18
john beck	manahawkin, NJ	2019-04-18
Robert McPherson	Jersey City, NJ	2019-04-18
Jenn Apito	Randolph, US	2019-04-18
joan westervelt	manahawkin, NJ	2019-04-18
maryann pietruska	Forked River, NJ	2019-04-18
Brian Palestis	Union, NJ	2019-04-18
Anthony Cline	Troutville, VA	2019-04-18
Kevin Knutsen	Manahawkin, NJ	2019-04-18
Susan Kolb	US	2019-04-18
William Davis	Philadelphia, US	2019-04-18

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>
William Goodloe	Manchester Township, NJ	2019-04-18
Susana Muñoz	Madrid, Spain	2019-04-18
Henry Colie	Mantoloking, NJ	2019-04-18
Lisa Burger	Mount Ephraim, US	2019-04-18
Dawn Wagner	Northfield, NJ	2019-04-18
Denise DiStephan DiStephan	POINT PLEASANT, NJ	2019-04-18
Mary Judge	Island Heights, NJ	2019-04-18
Alfred Clayton	Brick, NJ	2019-04-18
Joan Mattia	Brick, NJ	2019-04-18
Jessica Clayton	Brick, NJ	2019-04-18
Karen Paffendorf	Kendall Park, US	2019-04-18
Susan Rogers	Secaucus, US	2019-04-18
Hannah Lemke	Trenton, US	2019-04-18
Thomas Thorsen	Waltham, US	2019-04-18
Nicholas Kinsman	Toms River, NJ	2019-04-18
Michelle Audet	Forked River, NJ	2019-04-18
Judy Monks	Brick, US	2019-04-18
Susan Bellettiere	Lanoka Harbor, NJ	2019-04-19
Megan thorsen	Toms River, US	2019-04-19
brigid thorsen	Toms River, NJ	2019-04-19
Keri Hjalte	Lanoka Harbor, NJ	2019-04-19
Chris Klaube	Lawrence, NJ	2019-04-19

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>
Martin Sedlacko	Forked River, US	2019-04-19
Brian Foreman	Forked River, NJ	2019-04-19
Emily Joseph	Tacoma, US	2019-04-19
Katherine Reilly	Ireland	2019-04-19
Leona and George Fluck	Clarksburg, US	2019-04-19
Jay Schoss	Browns Mills, NJ	2019-04-19
beth mackenzie	West Creek, NJ	2019-04-19
Diana Bulger	Lyndhurst, NJ	2019-04-19
Navi b	Tyler, US	2019-04-19
Mia Henderson	New Jersey, NJ	2019-04-19
Lee Santucci	Dover, NJ	2019-04-19
Karen Caine	Brick, US	2019-04-19
Ms Arendts	Washington, US	2019-04-19
Philip Siciliano	Forked River, US	2019-04-19
Gabriella Gonzalez	Forked River, NJ	2019-04-19
Kathryn Cahalane	Forked River, NJ	2019-04-19
Stephani Stephens	Newark, NJ	2019-04-20
Lorraine Sansone	Lanoka Harbor, NJ	2019-04-20
Maria Ruffalo	Forked River, NJ	2019-04-20
Lindsey Roethke	Manchester Township, NJ	2019-04-20
Tricia McAvoy	Brick, NJ	2019-04-20
Matthew Blake	Pitman, NJ	2019-04-20

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>
Nicole Neaves	Lacey, NJ	2019-04-20
Alex Fitzpatrick	Forked River, NJ	2019-04-20
Sandra Bausback-Aballo	Brick, NJ	2019-04-20
paul Jeffrey	Seaside Heights, NJ	2019-04-21
Barry Bendar	Forked River, NJ	2019-04-21
Robyn Griffith	Beachwood, NJ	2019-04-21
Thomas Cannavo	Beachwood, NJ	2019-04-21
Robert Witanek	NJ Town, NJ	2019-04-21
Shawn Field	Stark, US	2019-04-22
Kathryn Gibson	Chicago, US	2019-04-22
Theresa Vanover	Lanoka Harbor, NJ	2019-04-22
Matt McCurdy	Newark, US	2019-04-22
james a hughes	forked river, AL	2019-04-22
Toni Granato	Toms River, NJ	2019-04-23
Kari Martin	Oceanport, NJ	2019-04-23
Jeanine Cava	Tuckerton, NJ	2019-04-23
Katherine Korwan	Forked river, NJ	2019-04-23

**Clean Water Action  
Lacey Rail-Trail Environmental Committee  
Save Barnegat Bay  
Grandmothers, Mothers, and More for Energy Safety (GRAMMES)**

March 30, 2018

Via Email: [feedback@sos.nj.gov](mailto:feedback@sos.nj.gov)

New Jersey Business Action Center  
Office for Planning Advocacy  
Department of State  
P.O. Box 820  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0820

**Re: Lacey Township Petition for Plan Endorsement**

The above organizations **request immediate review and reconsideration of the waiver** granted by the Office for Planning Advocacy for reduced requirement on the number of visioning sessions for Lacey Township's Plan Endorsement process.

This request is made for the following reasons:

1. The public opportunities over the last 5 years, as outlined in the table below, are inadequate as consideration for replacements in lieu of specific public meetings on the Township's current proposed center application. Clearly, a regular planning board meeting and a Township Committee meeting would not engage the public on the petition planning issues in the same way a specific visioning session or advertised public hearing would.

Additionally, the dates of the 2013 Oyster Creek Nuclear Facility Feasibility Study of Proposed Energy Enterprise Zone hearings were **held only 6 months after Hurricane Sandy devastated large areas of Lacey Township** and the surrounding area. Considering attendance at such a hearing -- especially when so many community members were displaced or suffering tremendous hardships -- as a substitute for a more specific conversation, visioning session, and/or public hearing almost 5 years later is unacceptable.

The following information is from the Lacey Township Plan Endorsement, Community Visioning Report.

#### BACKGROUND TO THE VISIONING PROCESS IN LACEY

“Normally the Plan Endorsement process involves three community visioning sessions and two public hearings. In Lacey’ s case, the Township has recently undertaken a number of planning initiatives that had a public outreach component, including:

Planning Process	Date of Hearing(s)	Type of Hearing
2012 Master Plan Reexamination	June 11, 2012 November 13, 2012	Planning Board meeting
2013 Oyster Creek Nuclear Facility Feasibility Study of Proposed Energy Enterprise Zone	May 8, 2013 May 22, 2013	Open House workshops with local and state officials
2014 Strategic Recovery Planning Report	March 13, 2014	Township Committee meeting
2016 Updated Land Use Element	November 30, 2016	Planning Board meeting
2017 Housing Element & Fair Share Plan	March 13, 2017	Planning Board meeting

On that basis, the Office of State Planning Advocacy supported a waiver from one visioning session and one hearing. Consequently, the present Plan Endorsement process included two community visioning sessions and one public hearing.”

2. Lacey’s proposed center process has not provided the public the opportunity to understand and comment on all impacts of the proposal, especially on public health and safety of not only Township residents, but also the surrounding area to the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station.

Exelon announced in February 2018 that the plant would be closing in October 2018, a year ahead of schedule. Exelon has now petitioned the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to sizably scale back emergency preparedness when the plant closes.

This will include that emergency planning **no longer include:**

- a 10-mile evacuation zone
- distribution of potassium iodine pills
- emergency sirens

This is new information to the proposal, must be considered immediately, and warrants an additional visioning session and public hearing.

Lacey Township’s proposed regional center and population increases are staggering on their own for a variety of reasons, but is especially troubling when you consider the massive evacuation area and needs in a community that will continue to host a nuclear



power facility containing a highly radioactive spent fuel storage pool and spent fuel rod storage casks for an undetermined amount of time; quite possibly, forever.

Sincerely,

Britta Wenzel, Executive Director  
Save Barnegat Bay

Janet Tauro  
Clean Water Action, NJ Board Chair

Jeff Brown  
GRAMMES (Grandmothers, Mothers, and More for Energy Safety), founding member

Alison Lemke, Vice Chair  
Lacey Rail-Trail Environmental Committee

**Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions • Barnegat Branch Rail Trail Alliance • Pinelands Preservation Alliance • Save Barnegat Bay**

April 23, 2019

Via Electronic Mail

Director Melanie Willoughby  
[Melanie.Willoughby@sos.nj.gov](mailto:Melanie.Willoughby@sos.nj.gov)  
NJ Business Action Center  
Office for Planning Advocacy  
33 W. State St., 4th Floor  
P.O. Box 820  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0820

Dear Ms. Willoughby:

We are writing to present over 100 signatures gathered over the last several days requesting additional local public meetings for Lacey Township's Petition for Plan Endorsement.

Specifically, we object to the July 10, 2017 waiver granted by Director Gerry Scharfenberger to reduce the number of public visioning sessions and public meeting requirements and we demand that Lacey Township be required to fulfill those obligations. Director Scharfenberger's waiver clearly states that "An additional public meeting may be needed depending on public input and turnout".

For the reasons outlined in our previous communication of March 2018 (copy included); public comments made at the March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Plan Implementation Committee meeting; and as reflected in the attached petition which includes additional public comments such as those below, we respectfully request that you require Lacey Township hold additional meetings for the public to be fully heard.

***"As a resident this is unacceptable!"***

***"The need for public input on this issue cannot be overstated. Lacey Township must be held to comply with the correct number of meetings."***

***"Decisions that impact the public should not be made without the involvement of and engagement with the community that will be impacted."***

***"We need to save land from over development. Once it is gone, it will be forever! Especially our pinelands areas and Barnegat Bay."***

***"Lacey Township development needs to be transparent. Cutting meetings makes it look underhanded."***

***"Listening to community members is a must, esp. when discussing the fate of our local environments."***

***"I care about due process...Public Hearings allow for "full disclosure".***

For good reason, the state Plan Endorsement and center designation process in New Jersey is required to have robust public participation including at least three community visioning sessions and two public hearings. No matter where we live, we all deserve the opportunity to have our voices heard about the future of our communities. Limiting public

involvement is problematic and sets a bad example. If the State doesn't require the full amount of public hearings for Lacey Township, other towns will be quick to get in line to request a waiver for their public participation requirements.

We anticipate your immediate consideration and action on this request. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Coffey  
Executive Director  
Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions

Helen Henderson  
Chair  
Barnegat Branch Rail Trail Alliance (formerly Lacey Rail-Trail Environmental Committee)

Jaclyn Rhodes  
Assistant Executive Director  
Pinelands Preservation Alliance

Britta Wenzel  
Executive Director  
Save Barnegat Bay