

DRAFT

**NEGATIVE DECLARATION
TOWN OF GOSHEN PLANNING BOARD**

Prepared April 17, 2010

ORANGE COUNTY TURF

Determination: Please take notice that, according to the provisions of NYCRR, Part 617.7, the Town of Goshen Planning Board, as Lead Agency, having reviewed and considered an environmental assessment form and plans, has determined that the actions as cited and described below will not have an adverse impact on the environment and the Planning Board has therefore adopted a resolution to this effect.

Lead Agency: Town of Goshen Planning Board

Contact Person: Ralph Huddleston, Jr., Chairman
Town of Goshen Planning Board
41 Webster Avenue
Goshen, New York 10924
(845) 294-6430

Name of Project: Orange County Turf

Location: Pulaski Highway (CR 6) South of Pumpkin Swamp Road (CR 25)

Tax Map Parcel: Section 21, Block 1, Lots 83 and 84, Town of Goshen, County of Orange

SEQRA: Unlisted, Coordinated

Action: SEU and Site Plan approval for a commercial composting facility

Project Description, Background and Reasons Supporting the Negative Declaration:

Based upon a review of plans, a Full EAF, a site visit, and several reviews by consultants for the Planning Board, it has been determined that the project will have no significant adverse environmental impact. The site lies on the edge of the black dirt, and much of the site lies within the extended 100-year floodplain of the Walkkill River. The site is served by existing dirt farm roads from Orange County Route 6, and will be served by an on-site well and a proposed septic disposal system.

Impacts on Land are limited to construction where depth to water table may be less than three feet in some areas. The area of the site to be developed for the composting use is outside the flood plain and the existing access road will be filled in part to elevate the access way above the flood plain elevation. Compensating flood plain storage will be provided on site, and this will result in the excavation and disturbance of over an acre of land to remove 1,000 cubic yards of soil material, with excavations ranging from approximately 2 feet to 4 feet at most. The land being so disturbed is currently agricultural field, and the area will be restored so that its use would not be impaired.

Consequently, the Board concludes that the action will result in no significant adverse environmental impacts on land.

Impacts on Water are related to the filling of the flood plain area in order to raise the access way above the flood elevation. Compensating flood plain storage will be provided on site. As a result of the fill for the road being off-set by compensating flood storage, there will be no expected adverse impacts on flooding and drainage patterns. Disturbed areas will be stabilized in order to avoid water quality problems. The Town Engineer will review the floodplain elevations, a future SWPPP, the drainage plans and septic field design prior to approval. Based on information provided, it is anticipated that all engineering concerns can be satisfactorily addressed.

Impacts on Plants and Animals, Agriculture, Aesthetic Resources, Historic and Archeological Resources, Open Space and Recreation, Critical Environmental Areas, Energy Resources, and Growth or Character of Community or Neighborhood are deemed unlikely to be impacted, based on a review of the plans and the Full EAF.

Impacts on Transportation – Access to the site lies across 1,450 linear feet of dirt roadway running on easements between the site and Pulaski Highway, which is Orange County Route 6. Sight distances are well over 1,000 feet in each direction at the intersection with the public highway, affording trucks the ability to slow down and access the site or wait for space to pull out into traffic. The access roadway will be widened to 24 feet for about 400 to 500 feet into the site from CR-6. Orange County DPW has reviewed the access plans, and the applicant has submitted plans that address their comments. Based on the available sight distances (1,700 and 1,100 feet) and the total number of vehicles per day expected to be generated by the site, no substantial adverse traffic and transportation impact is anticipated. Prior to construction, a permit is required from OCDPW.

Impacts on Air Quality (Noise and Odor Impacts) - The site is in the middle of the extensive black dirt agricultural area of Goshen, where residences are over 1,000 feet distant from the use. Several trucking and packing plants are located nearby, in addition to regular farm operations. As a result, no unusual noise impacts would be anticipated from the site; and the site use characteristics would be consistent with those of surrounding land uses. The composted material will be stored on-site for pickup and delivery to off-site locations. The raw materials to be processed will be brought onto the site and stored to be placed into a windrow to be composted. Machinery will regularly turn the windrows, and they will be aerated and watered as necessary to keep the pH normal, to keep the piles moist, and to limit both odor and fire potential. Based on this process method and the distance between any possible receptors, no substantial noise or odor impacts are anticipated.

Impacts on Public Health, Public Controversy – no impacts are expected in this subject area, both due to the process, its location, and experience with similar sites. With proper maintenance and operation, there is no reason to anticipate harmful impacts.

Based on the foregoing, this Negative Declaration has been issued.

Date of Action: April 19, 2012

Date of Mailing: April 20, 2012

Involved Agencies: Town of Goshen Planning Board
Town Hall – 41 Webster Avenue
Goshen, New York 10924

Orange County Department of Public Works
PO Box 509
Goshen, New York 10924

NYS DEC Region 3
21 South Putt Corners Road
New Paltz, New York 12561

Interested Agencies/Parties:

Orange County Department of Planning
124 Main Street
Goshen, New York 10924

Florida Fire Department
19 South Main Street
Florida, NY 10921

NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets
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