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To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you today in response to a project that has interrupted our quiet lives here in Vernon. I am among many concerned citizens in the town of Vernon that live near a proposed site that will be used for outdoor concerts. The property is located on S. Frontage Road and purchased by Donald J. Vaccaro, President and CEO of Ticket Network. Mr. Vaccaro wishes to be granted approval to promote a minimum of 20 outdoor live concerts on this land. These types of concerts have a history for creating major traffic congestion, as well as alcohol and drug abuse. There are other health issues that include inadequate sanitary facilities and pollution from trash, debris, cars, buses, alcohol and possibly drugs

. What will this do the environment in the area? The civil engineers Gardener/Peterson have proposed catch basins and other safety measures to protect the Tankerhoosen Brook which is a state watershed. This is justified as long as action is adhered to. What happens when the sewage and debris are not removed? The debris-rust, fuel age and toxins produced by the influx of cars and people could and will poison this important river!

Mr. Vaccaro has disregarded applications and usage of building permits for existing projects in this area. Why should we think he will follow thru with promises made? Even imposed restrictions would need to be monitored. Who will do this? Can this River survive ongoing court hearings? What's to stop wildlife from carrying off trash in to the wetlands and contaminating the aquifer?

The community feels there is no need to have another outside concert venue when there are two fully operational facilities within a 10 to 15 mile radius. One facility is Rentschler Field in East Hartford which is less than 10 miles away. The other facility is the Meadows in Hartford which at the most is 15 miles away.

I know this letter comes with a sense of urgency but unfortunately there is a need for a quick response. The Planning and zoning is the last commission to pass this project and they will meet and decide on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 7:30pm in the Vernon Town Hall. We hope to hear from you in helping us not allow this intrusion on our town; we apologize for how quickly we need your response. Is there any way you might help us with this situation?

In the next few pages I will provide some information from sites that I have viewed in relation to our cause. We will show you articles of the Tankerhoosen protected by the Wildlife Association and Environmental Protection.

Thank you so much for your time,

Linda Vendrillo

<http://www.vernon-ct.gov/news6.html>

The Tankerhoosen River watershed is considered an important resource in the state. The high water quality in the upper regions supports one of only two Class I wild trout areas east of the Connecticut River. The 300-acre Belding Wildlife Management Area is also located within the watershed.

Because of the importance of the watershed, a coalition of several organizations has been undertaking biological and water quality assessments of the Tankerhoosen over the past three years. Led by the Friends of the Hockanum River Linear Park, the coalition includes the Town of Vernon Conservation Commission and the Town of Vernon Planning Department, the North Central Conservation District, Rivers Alliance of Connecticut, Inc., the Hockanum River Watershed Association, and the Belding Wildlife Trust.

The work has been funded by grants from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The engineering firm Fuss and O'Neill, Inc. have been conducting the assessments for the coalition. Matching funds have been provided by the coalition organizations.

The assessment teams will observe land use conditions within the stream corridors, such as streambank erosion, outfall condition, and floodplain habitat. The goal of the assessments is to identify priority restoration projects in the watershed.

<http://ctfishing.blogspot.com/2006/05/tankerhoosen-river-its-wild-spot-to.html>

The Tankerhoosen River and the surrounding area remained in pristine condition, Belding donated 282 acres of land his family acquired to the State. Today, the Belding Wildlife Management Area is home to thousands of tall evergreens that Belding planted 82 bird species, open fields and a stretch of the Tankerhoosen River that supports a healthy, self-sustaining population of wild brook and brown trout. The section between Tunnel Road and Bolton Road has been found to house a proshell freshwater mussel. This area also contains parts of land listed on Natural Diversity Database (protecting Habitat).

I have also learned as per Mr. Logins testimony that my #'s are way off- There are over 200 species that will be affected.

<http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?A=2707&Q=323852>

### **Connecticut Greenways Council Officially Designated Greenways (2001 – 2009)**

#### **Tankerhoosen Greenway, Vernon**

The Tankerhoosen River is one of the most important watercourses within the Connecticut and Hockanum River Watersheds. The Town Open Space Plan calls for a 2000-acre greenway along the Tankerhoosen. To date 1010 have been preserved and 878 are planned for acquisition or preservation. The greenway links to the Hop River Trail, Bolton Notch State Park, and the proposed Box Mountain Greenway.

I urge the commission to deny this application because it does not meet the special use criteria, sections sec.17.3.1.1 sec. 17.3.1.3 sec. 17.3.1.4 and threatening an aquifer and town water supplies sec.20

Litter Happens! Streets are littered daily and public events promote excess litter. I walk the area streets and trails and witness a great amount of trash that has been ejected from cars onto the roadsides and woods. Many of you have seen other neighbors filling large trash bags during their walks in an effort to keep our area clean and free from pollutants. Drinking and littering in the area not contained by the fence will promote hazardous toxins to the Tankerhoosen River and the wildlife that live there.

## Pollution of Streams by Garbage and Trash

Despite environmental regulations that protect the quality of streams, lakes, and wetlands, solid waste in the form of trash, litter, and garbage often ends up in these surface waters. Because surface waters collect in low-lying areas, anything that is dropped or blown into a **watershed** can eventually reach a drainageway. In urban areas, trash and litter (general terms for dry solid waste) often are transported by stormwater runoff. In both urban and rural areas, these items sometimes are illegally dumped directly into a waterbody or wetland, or deposited along riverbanks or lakeshores. Trash also comes from people who fish or participate in other forms of water-related recreation. Regardless of source or type, trash is a form of water **pollution** .

The most common litter in U.S. streams is household trash, including plastic cups, plastic bags and wrapping materials, fast-food wrappers, plastic bottles, and other plastic containers. Plastics can be especially hazardous to wildlife. Depending on their form they can either be ingested, causing internal organ failure, or they can cause a slow strangulation.\*

Organic waste (e.g., wood wastes) can have chemical and biological impacts on rivers and streams. Among the many impacts are interfering with the establishment of aquatic plants, affecting the reproductive behavior of fish and other animals, and depleting the water of dissolved oxygen as the wastes decompose.

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I am not a qualified sound expert, but I don't quite understand how sound testing done during a weekday between 2 and 5pm, when residents are working and /or taking children from schools to activities can have the same effect as a test done in the evening on a week-end when most people are home and this event will occur. Also the sound testing was done for music. I believe Mr. Bennett Brooks of Brooks acoustics was trying to say that the sound in the room (only 200 people) was louder in decibals then the sound of the music. Has any testing been done to test the noise level of 2,000 people screaming and raving within a 1 mile radius of this venue? This could be more of a noise hazard then the concert itself!

Do these acts constitute "being a good neighbor?"

A thought to ponder- Would all of this have come about if Gov. Rell in July of 2009, did not sign a release of restrictions to scalp tickets in the State of Ct. effective Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> 2009?