

TOWN OF DOUGLAS

Timothy P. Bonin, *Chairman*
Michael D. Hughes, *Vice Chair*
Mitchell S. Cohen
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OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN

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Michael J. Guzinski
Town Administrator

Suzanne L. Kane
Administrative Assistant

June 7, 2011

Edward M. Lambert, Commissioner
Department of Conservation and Recreation
251 Causeway Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114-2104

Dear Commissioner Lambert:

By letter dated April 7, 2011, DCR informed the Town of Douglas of its intent to purchase additional land to be added to the Douglas State Forest. The letter has been the catalyst for the Selectmen to ponder DCR's plans and goals in the Town and how they may affect our citizens. Currently, 25% of the land in Douglas is in the State Forest. Past discussions with DCR has led this Board to believe that the acquisition of additional acreage, including the latest proposed purchase, may not be in the best interests of Douglas or the Commonwealth for that matter. We request that you select a member of your staff to meet with the Board of Selectmen prior to June 30, 2011.

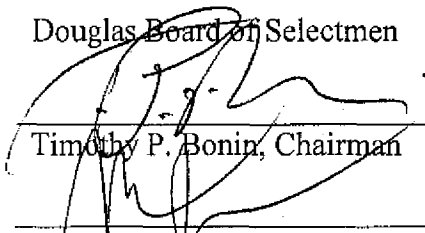
In particular, the Board has the following concerns:

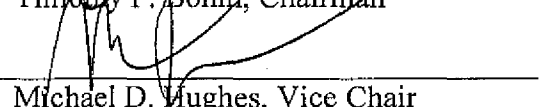
1. The economic development goals of the Town, as officially recognized and approved by the Commonwealth, appear to be at variance with DCR's land acquisition plans.
2. At least 1400 acres of industrially zoned land in Douglas has already been deprived of a key highway access by a recent DCR purchase.
3. The cost of local services such as ambulance, police and fire needed to serve Wallum Lake, the key attraction in the State Forest, far exceeds what the Town receives from the Commonwealth.
4. The residents of Douglas are often unable to access Wallum Lake because residents from other communities and states have filled available parking.

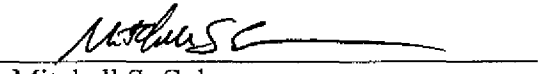
We look forward to hearing from you as to the identity of the member of your staff that can address these issues and others that the Board may have. Please contact our Town Administrator, Michael Guzinski to confirm that your representative will be able to attend the meeting.

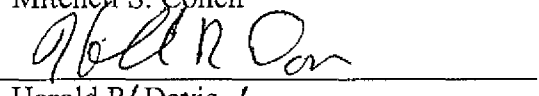
Respectfully,

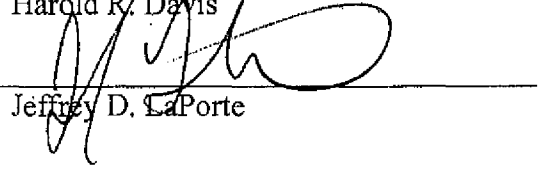
Douglas Board of Selectmen



Timothy P. Bonin, Chairman

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CC Senator Richard Moore
Representative Kevin Kuros