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Mrs. Ralph T. Millet
66 Otter Cove Drive
Old Saybrook, CT 06475

FILE COPY
PLANNING
COMMISSION
EXHIBIT #172

State Senator Melodie Peters
Deputy Majority Leader
Legislative Office Building
Room 3900
Hartford, CT 06106-1595

Dear Senator Peters,

January 10, 2005

As a forty two year resident of Old Saybrook, I urge you to support complete funding for the preservation of the entire 1000-acre forest in Old Saybrook, Essex and Westbrook, the last intact coastal forest in the state. Some of my concerns with this development include the following:

1. The forest must remain unfragmented in order to function as a high quality habitat for plants and animal life that are fast losing other habitats.
2. I am deeply concerned about the burden this development will place on local infrastructure, including roads, schools, emergency services and other town and state facilities.
3. I am concerned about the potential pollution to local watersheds, such as the Oyster River, and to the aquifer beneath the forest property.
4. I do object to Saybrook's potential liability for the private sewage treatment plant that will be part of the proposed Preserve development.

In addition, this is part of the only natural habitat, which is dark (without lights) in the evenings along the entire Northeast Corridor. I urge you to please support the preservation of this tract of land and to communicate to all Connecticut's residents the importance of preserving at least a few acres of forest for generations to come.

Very truly yours,

Gunlög J. Millet