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Town of Worthington Planning Board
P.O. Box 247
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Worthington, MA

Response to Comments from the Highway Superintendent – BWC Wades Stream, LLC

On behalf of BWC Wades Stream, LLC (BlueWave), WSP USA Inc. (WSP) respectfully submits this response to comments from the Town of Worthington Highway Superintendent Rheal Labrie received on July 6th, 2026, in association with the proposed Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installation (LSGMSPI, the Project) at 190 Ridge Road, Worthington, MA (the Property).

Concerns of Strain on Existing Stormwater Management Infrastructure

The Project has been designed in accordance with the Massachusetts Stormwater Management Standards (the Standards). These Standards require peak flow rate attenuation resulting in the post-development peak flow discharge rates not exceeding pre-development peak flow discharge rates. This results in the proposed conditions being equivalent to or less than (an improvement from) the existing conditions at the ultimate discharge design points. As is standard industry practice, the stormwater model assumes existing site conditions and infrastructure is functional.

The Standards do not require the runoff volume discharged at the design points to meet the pre-development conditions. Rather, the Standards require a volume of groundwater recharge to approximate the annual recharge of pre-development conditions based on the site soil type. As the Property is compromised solely on Hydrologic Soil Groups (HSG) soil types C and D, which have limited infiltration capacity, the Standards state that the recharge Best Management Practices (BMPs) can be sized only to the maximum extent practicable; however, the proposed BMPs, as designed, provide the full required recharge and water quality volumes in accordance with the Massachusetts Stormwater Handbook (the Handbook).

Overall, the volume of runoff leaving the Property shall be reduced in post-development conditions due to the proposed BMPs as evidenced in the separately submitted Stormwater Management Report; however, the volume discharging to each design point has been redistributed to address existing runoff concerns of the abutters. The volume and peak flow discharge rates directed north towards Buffington Hill Road will be significantly decreased under proposed conditions due to this redirection of stormwater



runoff to address abutter concerns; therefore, impacts to existing conditions and infrastructure in the vicinity of 140 Buffington Hill Road are anticipated to be improved as a result of the proposed Project. This additional stormwater runoff will be directed south towards the ultimate design point, Watts Stream. As mentioned above, the volume discharging to the Watts Stream design point is slightly increased due to the additional flow directed south instead of north; however, the peak runoff rates are decreased at this design point (Watts Stream) under the proposed conditions, which is required under the Standards. Increased volume alone does not increase the potential of flood hazard as conveyance BMPs are designed to manage the peak discharge rates for specific design storms. As stated above, the peak discharge rates for both the northern and southern design points are equivalent to or below the pre-development conditions.

Concerns of Public Right-of-Way Obstruction

An ALTA/NSPS land title survey of the Property was performed in November 2023 by SGC Engineering, LLC (SGC). SGC identified the public right-of-way of Ridge Road as being at least 69 feet wide along the Property frontage as shown on the Issued for Permitting Plan Set (attached). The fence as shown on the most recent Plan Set, shared with the Planning Board on 7/7/2026, is more than 33 feet from the centerline of Ridge Road; it is a minimum of 45 feet from the centerline of Ridge Road.

Regarding vegetative screening, as was discussed in the 5/26/26 submission, the landowners and farmers, the Sena's were not in agreeance with tree screening on their property as it will take existing farm field out of agricultural production; the applicant agreed to support a proposed planting plan on Town owned land in the southeastern areas of the property. Following this response, the Planning Board requested a plan showing the plantings on Town owned property, which was shared with the Planning Board on 6/15/2026. However, the landowners are now willing to consider vegetative screening within their property boundary, as is reflected in the most recent plan set, shared with the Planning Board on 7/7/2026. The Project is not anticipated to have adverse impacts on the public right-of-way nor increase related maintenance responsibilities.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Olivia Crosby'.

Olivia Crosby, PE
Assistant Vice President, Civil Engineer

CC: BlueWave Solar; BWC Wades Stream, LLC; Highway Superintendent Rheal Labrie