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May 2, 2002

Ms. Lela Lou Merritt
870 Smith Level Rd.
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Through:
Mr. John Loftin
117 N. Churton Street
PO Box 733
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Dear Ms. Merritt:

On your behalf, Mr. Loftin applied for an existing system authorization from our office to obtain authorization for the existing septic system in order to obtain a building permit.[7.119..7B] The earlier application from Mr. Merritt stated that authorization was requested for "closing in half of the deck".

Phil Vilaro and I met Mr. Loftin yesterday to conduct the inspection. We were unaware until yesterday that the septic system was installed in recent years without the required permits and inspections. Furthermore, the addition was constructed on top of the septic tank. We are unable to issue an authorization for the existing system required by NCGS 130A-338 for the following reasons:

1. No Improvement Permit nor Construction Authorization was issued by our office in accordance with NCGS 130A-336
2. No operation Permit was issued by our office that allows the septic system top be place into use in accordance with NCGS 130A-337.
3. It is apparent that the existing system can not be approved because of its location, and the fact that it was constructed improperly and without permits and inspections.

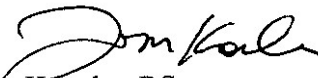
In order for the residence to be legally occupied, an approved septic system must be installed and the existing tank abandoned. You will need to apply for an Improvement Permit and Construction Authorization from our office. The application fees will apply in the amount of \$470. We will however, credit the \$100 that was paid earlier for the Existing System Inspection request. When the

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application (enclosed) is received with payment, we will schedule a meeting to evaluate the property. Based on preliminary soil evaluations yesterday, it is likely that backhoe pits will need to be provided in order to fully evaluate the layers of parent material underneath the soil. Please do not dig the pits beforehand, but have a backhoe and operator available during the meeting on site.

If you have any questions regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Tom Konsler, RS
Environmental Health Supervisor

Cc: Ron Holdway
Phil Vilaro
Michael Canova
Nick Herman
File [7.119..7B]