

(RePAC)
Rehoboth Public Access Corp. Inc

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April 19, 2010

Kathleen Montagano, Superintendent
Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School District
2700 Regional Road
North Dighton, MA 02764

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Dr. Montagano:

On April 15, 2010, RePAC cablecast the following announcement on its bulletin board:

“EMERGENCY MEETING

The D-R School Committee will have an emergency meeting Thursday evening at 7:00 pm in the D-R Library. The subject is a failure of the new Septic Disposal System.”

On April 15, 2010, the School Committee voted for additional funds to put stone under sections of the new Septic Disposal System to increase the elevation as a design change due to rainfall. At the meeting, Mr. John Case III, site engineer, stated that “the reason why the stone is being put under there is because it **failed** in three 100-year storms in a row and within weeks of each other.” On April 16, 2010, David Katseff forwarded to you an e-mail, that was originally addressed to me, stating:

“Jim [Paon] and Robyn [Balents]:

Since you both seem to have close ties to the people running RePAC, I am asking you to ask them to retract this mis-statement that has been broadcast on Channel 9 and/or Channel 15. As we all heard last night, the new Septic System has NOT failed.

Thanks

David Katseff”

Obviously, Mr. Katseff disagrees with Mr. Case. Mr. Katseff’s conclusion, that the reason for the additional stone is because “the new Septic System has NOT failed”, stands in sharp contrast to Mr. Case’s televised analysis “why the stone is being put under there is because it **failed**”. To resolve the controversy, I respectfully suggest that you provide RePAC’s engineering staff, including Mr. Ed Schagrin, Chem. Eng., P.E. Ret., a fair opportunity to evaluate the design of the new septic disposal system to determine the reasons “why the stone is being put under there” by forwarding to Mr. Schagrin copies of all relevant contracts, engineering drawings, and design change/repair orders for his review. If RePAC determines that Mr. Katseff’s conclusion has any merit at all, RePAC shall retract the above bulletin board announcement. But, whether the design of the new system is inherently defective, where a failure due to foreseeable excess rainfall is unavoidable at the existing site, remains to be determined.

Very Respectfully yours,


Robyn Balents, Director

cc.: Members of the School Committee; Rehoboth Board of Selectmen; Dighton Board of Selectmen