

I am Nancy Smythe and we have resided in Chandler's Green for over 17 years. Our home is adjacent to the proposed development. We own through the Duke Power easement and into the forest on the other side.

We, along with other neighbors, have had significant drainage issues due to run off from the easement that slopes towards our houses. For years, our crawlspace turned into a pond, and the water would sit there for weeks creating mold and mildew, until it finally absorbed into the ground. These events have increased in the past five years because rainfall in Chapel Hill was a total of 33 inches over the average. Several years ago, while replacing another exterior door that had rotted, we discovered the subflooring in our family room, adjacent to the door, had also rotted. We had to tear up wood floors four feet into the house and redo the subfloor as well.

Two years ago, we had the crawlspace encapsulated hoping it would prevent further water retention. It has not. The 'river' that flows from the easement is often so deep it seeps through the door and fills the crawlspace. Being encapsulated, it turns into a perfect Petri dish for mold, sometimes black, and mildew.

To their credit, the town's storm water management department came and did some minor work, but it was not successful.

This may not be of dire consequence to most families, however, my husband, Patrick, is permanently disabled with a rare thoracic spine condition that impacts his respiratory system. He is on oxygen nearly 24/7, sleeps in a hospital bed, and is on a respirator at night.

I believe that the clear cutting of thousands of trees behind and above our home, being replaced primarily with impervious surface, will significantly increase the run off and put my husband in further danger of respiratory distress. And the big question is "Who will be liable for this inevitable threat to his compromised condition?"

I ask that you give serious consideration to the severe environmental impact this development, as proposed, will no doubt create. I ask not only for my personal situation but for the health, well-being, and quality of life of the families in neighboring communities.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my concerns.