

Board of
Chosen Freeholders

Louis Cappelli, Jr.
Freeholder Director



Making It Better, Together.

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May 18, 2011

Marilyn Lennon, Assistant Commissioner – Land Use Management
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
PO Box 420
401 East State Street
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

RE: South Jersey Aquatic Regional Swim Center
Cherry Hill Township, Camden County

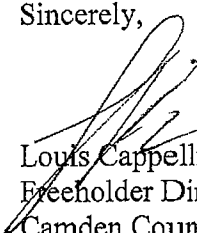
Dear Ms. Lennon,

I write to express my support for the referenced project and, in particular, the positive impact that we expect the project to have on the South Jersey economy.

The siting of a regional swim center has been a common goal expressed by several organizations and educational institutions over the past decade. Swimming is a popular sport and southern New Jersey has been hampered in its efforts to attract and host regional competitions and events due to the lack of Olympic-size facilities in the area. Regional competitions and events must now be held at smaller pools whose facilities are often overtaxed due to the number of persons, or at university-owned facilities which, when infrequently made available to outside organizations, are located significantly outside of the South Jersey area. The Cherry Hill location proposed for the location of such a center is ideally situated to attract participants from mid-to-far- south New Jersey, and the Philadelphia area, as it is close to major transportation routes and hotel/motel accommodations. This would be a major project for southern New Jersey and would create numerous temporary and permanent jobs.

It is understood that the land where the center will be constructed has issues which require specialized permitting approval by the Department. I urge the Department to take into account all of the factors affecting this land, some of which were man-made, and find a way to satisfy both the regulatory requirements and the need to bring this facility into existence. There is no reason why a project which is good for the community could not also be good for the environment.

Sincerely,



Louis Cappelli, Jr.
Freeholder Director
Camden County Board of Freeholders