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## Pinelands Preservation Alliance

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PPA  
1989 - 2009

Celebrating 20 years of  
Pinelands Preservation

### **PPA Comments at Commission meeting, Feb. 19, 2010**

*Provided by Russell Juelg*

In reference to Appl. # 1987-0065.024, a project that involves the construction of a fence at Woodbine Airport. Although we understand the staff plans to meet with us to discuss broader topics raised with this project, we would like to ask why the Commission is allowing the applicant to destroy all the native vegetation in the corridor where the fence is to be installed. If the idea is just to cut a corridor through the woods to install a fence, then allow the native trees and shrubs to re-colonize the corridor, why disturb the soil? It looks to us like this entire corridor will become a vector for non-native species to colonize, and, in all likelihood, the outside corridor will become a welcome new avenue for ORV riders. We need fewer roads in the Pinelands, not more. What will prevent ORV riders from using this?

In reference to Appl. # 2009-0193.001, a "roadway improvement project" in Pemberton, once again, it looks like the Commission is not bearing down on the issue of higher mortality rates for wildlife on paved roads. The commission's own science staff concurred with the universally accepted premise that paved roads mean more wildlife injuries and fatalities. When we last discussed this matter, with respect to a paving project on a little country road in Chatsworth, the Commission seemed content to make two mutually exclusive statements. 1. "We don't know how to evaluate the impact on wildlife." 2. "Even so, we assume, contrary to common sense and scientific evidence, that the project doesn't violate our rules." We hope the Commission will steer a different course on this and all similar proposals.