Howard County
Health Department

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Penny E. Borenstein, M.D., M.P.H., Health Officer

October 25, 2004

Mr. Tom Cornwell
12196 Triadelphia Rd.
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Re: Glenwood Baptist Church
Percolation test results
3875 Route 97
Tax Map: 21 Parcel: 91

Dear Mr. Cornwell,

Percolation testing was conducted on October 20, 2004 and yielded satisfactory soils, however, area available is extremely limiting. Due to the lack of available area and nearby wells, the only area available is directly behind the brick addition of the church. See enclosed field notes for review.

Inspection of the soils around the existing drywell showed minimal use. The effluent level in the drywell was nearly empty due to a blockage in the pipe from the septic tank to the drywell. The scum level was near the lid of the septic tank possibly above the inlets leading to and from the septic tank. The septic tank needs to be pumped and the line need to the dry well fixed immediately.

Surrounding wells must remain at least 100 feet from your septic area and not be directly down slope. Due to the knoll feature of the topography for this property, the well location on the address 3845 Route 97 must not be compromised. Any septic repair to the north of the brick building and east of the cemetery will compromise this well. On the opposite side of the church property line is an adjacent well with its well radius extending towards the pavilion and ending about midway to the parking lot. This may not be encroached upon either. The available area which exists for this lot is only under the pavilion. Because septic repair area is to not have any structures within its boundaries, the pavilion must be removed from this location if any expansion is to occur.

Currently, the existing dry well supports 300 gallons of effluent flow. To support 130 people at 3 gallons per seat, 390 gallons of effluent must be treated by adsorption area. Enclosed are the calculations at a dosing rate of 1.2 gallons per square feet of area. Due to the lack of area available, our office is recommending nitrogen treatment for the existing septic system, and consequently can be used for the additional septic system. Failure to install the pretreatment unit may shorten the life expectancy of the system. Furthermore, as a result of the lack of available area, a holding tank may be necessary to

repair the failing system. If your facility is still interested in supporting 70 more individuals, another trench must be installed.

In summary, the current system is failing and may be rectified by pumping the septic tank and replacing the line from the septic tank to the dry well. As for increasing the number of church persons from 60 to 130, the pavilion must be removed from the septic area and a nitrogen treatment installed.

If you have any other questions, contact our office at 410-313-1771. Thank you for your time in this important matter.

Sincerely,

Kacie Noonan

Kacie Noonan, R.S.
Well and Septic Program

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Enclosures

Cc: Fyock Septic
file