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**From:** [Beatrice Szekely](#)

**To:** [vch-trustees](#) ; [Tom Boyce](#)

**Cc:** [John Stevens](#) ; [Beatrice Szekely](#)

**Sent:** Thursday, September 16, 2010 12:07 PM

**Subject:** EIS communication update -- Tim Miller Associates

Dear All,

Tuesday Kate and I met with Gordon Batcheller, interim head of the wildlife bureau at the State DEC, for a follow up to my meeting with him a few weeks ago. This second meeting was occasioned by the suggestion that was made by Fred Wells of Tim Miller Associates last week that we ask the DEC for a letter stating clearly the options DEC will permit for us to use in culling.

At the meeting Tuesday, Gordon Batcheller agreed to send us such a letter for enclosure in our Draft EIS laying out two options that NYS DEC will permit for VCH to cull the deer herd (in addition to our sterilization plan): sharpshooting with rifles meeting the 500 feet radius specification; and baiting, netting and bolting that does not require the 500 feet radius specification because rifles are not used. Specifying both obviously affords us choice when the time comes. Batcheller mentioned to us his wish to bring a few DEC colleagues to town for a meeting in roughly a month's time.

Today Tim Miller called me on the phone (by mistake when he wanted to reach Tom), so I took the opportunity to let him know about the DEC's willingness to send us a letter laying out options they will permit. Tim has clearly done a lot of background research, using space work done by Fred Wells here last week and results of conversation with Paul Curtis. He was about to call Tom after we hung up.

Of particular interest from Gordon Batcheller's conversation was his remark that he would be meeting with Cornell colleagues about the University's deer management research program that afternoon. As it known, that involves sterilization and hunting permitted through research protocols. He noted that DEC views the Cornell research program, the permitting of

individual hunters in the Village of Lansing, and our move toward municipality permitted sterilization and culling as an important "complex" of efforts in contiguous areas aimed at deer remediation.

Kate pointed out that the argument against management in the Village based on more deer simply moving in to take the place of killed animals is greatly weakened by our geographic location. Looking at an area map to show Gordon our Village boundaries, she pointed out how we border the University's sterilization and hunting to the south and the Village of Lansing's hunting efforts to the north, with the lake to the west. Even to the east of us, there is some hunting going on in University lands and in Dryden. Interesting possibility to reduce the number of deer in a large area.

Further: Batcheller will be willing to talk to Tim Miller about wording of the EIS, which may prove helpful.

Bea