From: Charles County Government

To: Public Record

Subject: *NEW SUBMISSION* Commercial Lease Agreement with the Official Piscataway Conoy Tribe of Maryland, Inc.

Date: Tuesday, October 10, 2023 4:12:09 PM

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Commercial Lease Agreement with the Official Piscataway Conoy Tribe of Maryland, Inc.

Submission #: 2754994

IP Address: 108.28.159.75 **Submission Date:** 10/10/2023 4:12

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Public Hearing Comment Form

Questions or More Information (301) 645-0555

Name

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Are you:

Against Topic

Comment

As a Piscataway Conoy Tribal Member, I can not agree to this raised proposal for many reasons. First to be addressed is the location of which, this part of Piscataway Lands had been used as a Nike Battery Site, leaving groundwater and soil contamination. Studies in 2013 referenced years-long treatment plans that could require over one million dollars in cost, and nothing had been done while the Cedarville Band of Piscataway were leasing. So are the Piscataway People expected to continue their risk of developing diseases and cancer, when we are already suffering from genetic predispositions? Second, is the fact that the dealings on this proposal started when the process in evicting the Cedarville Band of Piscataway wasn't even completed; you cannot plan the eviction of one Piscataway because you wish to replace them with another Piscataway, furthering the divide of our tribal

communities yet remaining of no regard for our tribal sovereignty and governance. My third reasoning is against the adamance that this one location be rented to a Piscataway Person on these specially drawn terms, rather than actual investment into the community at-large; our tribal community has a land trust due to Chief Swann and property planned for much more than what this proposal includes. Why another commercial lease on toxic land when the community is working to own our cultural museum? Fourthly, I cannot support any entity going forward with the name official, because if it were truly official, it would not have to be noted. Fifthly, but never finally, I cannot support Piscataway individuals nor adjacent business with those are accused of rigging tribal elections, forming a tribal council dictatorship by overstaying their term limits, or who have multiple allegations of lawsuits being filed against them in federal, state, and tribal matters.

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Thank you,

Charles County, MD

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