

From: [Ruby Erickson](#)
To: [Thompson, Alexis](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Opposition to Use Variance for Narragansett Improvement Co. (Applicant) and Cumberland Farms, Inc. (Owner) at 338 Allens Avenue
Date: Monday, October 11, 2021 5:26:49 PM

Dear City of Providence Zoning Board of Review,

My name is Ruby Erickson, and I live in Wayland in Providence. I am writing to you today to comment **in opposition** to Narragansett Improvement Co. and Cumberland Farms, Inc.'s application for use variance pursuant to Sections 900.B., 901, and 1200.B. of the Providence Zoning Ordinance, to use the property for non-waterfront dependent Materials Processing and storage of concrete, stone, aggregate and asphalt.

This variance would allow Narragansett Improvement Co. to continue its polluting activities on this additional parcel legally, which it has been doing illegally for years. These kinds of decisions are how companies avoid accountability for their illegal and damaging behavior. **The Zoning Board should not allow another company that violates zoning laws in the Port of Providence to continue its illegal behavior without consequence.** The Zoning Board has an opportunity to stop the trend of allowing the abuse of the South Providence and Washington Park communities for the benefit of companies.

The Port of Providence is laden with polluting facilities that contribute to air pollution and noxious fumes. In Providence, asthma accounts for [13.7 out of every 1,000](#) children's emergency room visits. This land use further contributes to air pollution in the neighborhood, and **could have deadly consequences for local residents.**

Finally, supporting more polluting-generating activities like this is **inconsistent with Rhode Island's Providence's Climate Justice Plan**, which supports a vibrant, green Port of Providence that benefits all of its local residents.

I urge the City of Providence Zoning Board of Review to turn down this application for use variance and require the applicants to clean up their dumping ground.

Thank you for your consideration,
Ruby Erickson