

## **Remarks from Rob Scrivener, BBSS, Inc.**

I'd like to thank the many Anne Arundel County residents who took the time to attend the public meeting September 25<sup>th</sup> to discuss the future of our Gambrills property. I am also grateful to the Anne Arundel County Health Department, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), and Constellation Energy for participating in such an important discussion.

BBSS and its partners have been a mainstay in this community for nearly eighty years. Our families attend local schools and churches; we hire local employees and pay local taxes. Our future is directly tied to the well-being of this community.

Since the 1950s sand and gravel from our Gambrills property has been used to build the area's roads, schools, and houses. But rather than leave the site depleted after these useful materials have been extracted, we believe this property, when properly refilled or "reclaimed," possesses enormous economic potential for the Gambrills community as it is returned to the county tax base.

In 1994, the Anne Arundel County legislature passed bill 60-94 encouraging coal ash as a beneficial use in sand and gravel pit reclamation and we felt ash held the greatest potential for further beneficial re-use of the property. Beginning in 1995 our partner company, Constellation Power Source Generation, adhering to permit requirements and strict state and county guidelines for safe handling and disposal of these materials, began using coal ash to reclaim these gravel pits. When properly sealed off, coal ash has proven to be a solid and stable material on which to construct new commercial developments, and many such projects have already been undertaken in Anne Arundel County and nationwide.

Recently, elevated levels of material found in coal ash were identified in nearby sources of drinking water. This discovery prompted us to reevaluate how ash is contained both above and below ground at the Millersville site. As a result, BBSS is working closely with the Maryland Department of Environment (MDE), the Anne Arundel County Department of Health, and Constellation Energy to ensure that the reclamation project is completed in a safe and legal manner, that nearby residents whose water sources were affected have access to clean water, and that air quality on the site remains safe and appropriately monitored.

With current groundwater issues in mind, commercial development continues to be the best option for this site. Storm water controls, buildings, and impervious surfaces encapsulate the site and protect against further water infiltration.

Our development plan for the site, to be known as Waugh Chapel South, consists of a mixed-use commercial project including popular stores such as Wegman's Food Market and a 14-screen movie theater, as well as a neighborhood of 55+ age-qualified condominiums. In addition to these new retail and residential opportunities, the Waugh Chapel South development will create an estimated 2,000 jobs, generate over \$20 million in property taxes, impact fees and related government revenue, and an estimated \$10 million will be invested in new roads and improvements here in Anne Arundel County.

We are deeply committed to working with our partners in business and government to ensure that our community – our neighbors and our friends – are protected as the Waugh Chapel South property is reclaimed and developed.