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*Saving a National Treasure*

December 16, 2008

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**Ann F. Jennings**  
Virginia Executive Director

Dear Mr. Rolband:

Thank you for the opportunity you provided the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) to review the work of Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc. (WSSI) in Reston, Virginia. CBF has had our Virginia Watershed Restoration Scientist view the stream restoration work done to date on December 16<sup>th</sup>. We have also reviewed the plans proposed for continued restoration work for Snakeden Branch and the Glade.

Development of the Reston community over a number of decades has resulted in large areas of impervious surfaces, changes in runoff patterns, and consequently, declining stream health. Restoration of streams is an important component of the urban retrofits we must pursue if we are to reduce pollution and improve local and downstream water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, flood control, and the overall health of our waters.

Stream restoration activities often require considerable work within the waterway and floodplain. When working in these areas, it is important to not only ensure the construction activities address erosion and sedimentation controls but also minimize, as much as possible, clearing of vegetation and earthwork. Our review of the work to date and plans for future work indicate that WSSI has paid significant and close attention to these critical parameters of stream restoration. Ultimately, these short-term construction activities will lead to many long-term environmental and public benefits.

CBF supports and appreciates the work of WSSI, in partnership with the Reston Association, to undertake these urban stream restoration projects. While difficult and not inexpensive, restoration projects of this high quality must be pursued throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed in order to restore the Bay's living resources.

Thank you again for providing CBF with an opportunity to see and review this work. Also, congratulations on receiving the 2008 Fairfax County Land Conservation Award in the Linear Project Category for protection of

Michael S. Rolband  
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downstream properties and natural resources. This award is reflective of the high quality of work you and WSSI are conducting in Reston and are known for.

Please keep in touch as the project moves into additional phases.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ann F. Jennings". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Ann F. Jennings  
Virginia Executive Director

cc: Mr. Milton W. Matthews, Chief Executive Officer, Reston Association  
Libby Norris, Virginia Watershed Restoration Scientist



