

February 19, 2022

Ms. Kerry Pflugh, President Friends of New Jersey School of Conservation P.O. Box 358 Brick, NJ 08723

Dear Ms. Pflugh:

Sussex County Community College (SCCC) has provided high-quality academic and occupational programs and lifelong learning opportunities to a diverse community of students since 1982. Located in Newton, only a half hour from the New Jersey School of Conservation (NJSOC), the college is uniquely situated to share educational resources and partner in the creation of new professional certification programs at NJSOC.

We are looking forward to a partnership with NJSOC that will draw on the expertise of both organizations, resulting in mutual benefits. SCCC and the NJSOC plan to collaborate to make the NJSOC a center for professional training in such environmentally sustainable fields as solar field design and installation, wastewater management, fresh/drinking water management, wind power development, sustainable forest management, and green construction including environmentally benign HVAC design and development.

We anticipate using the NJSOC as the field center and outdoor laboratory for courses relating to our Associate Degree in Environmental Studies, as well as for continuing education programs. SCCC also envisions using the NJSOC for visual and performing arts, poetry, and design degree programs. When appropriate, SCCC will use the NJSOC's expert-staff as adjunct instructors in natural sciences courses. This increases the collaborative relationship and allows students who take classes at the NJSOC to earn college credit. Additionally, SCCC may facilitate collaboration with other community colleges in order to offer coursework that advances the NJSOC's mission.

SCCC strongly supports the proposal of the Friends of the New Jersey School of Conservation to operate the NJSOC, and applauds your efforts in reopening and revitalizing the school up to this point. We look forward to working with you to make the future NJSOC accessible to all residents of Sussex County.

Sincerely,

Jon H. Connolly, Ph.D.

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President