



# DHEC moving forward with Patrick Square

By Greg Oliver (Contact / Staff Bio)  
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CLEMSON – A Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) official has said the state agency has provided clearance for Patrick Square officials to begin construction on two model homes while plans submitted to them last week addressing stormwater concerns remain under review.

"We received revised plans and calculations from the developer last Friday and are at the point of reviewing them and moving forward," said DHEC spokesman Adam Myrick.

DHEC ordered a temporary halt to Phase 1A of the 179-acre planned development in a Feb. 9 letter issued to Patrick Square LLC President Michael Cheezem, saying the development was in violation of its stormwater permit.

The letter stated workers disturbed an area not included in plans DHEC had already approved, and sediment deposition into a nearby stream and wetlands was discovered during an initial inspection. Cheezem said a misunderstanding between the project contractor and DHEC developed because the contractor removed the silt fences in the belief that the site was stabilized. However, DHEC officials wanted the fences put back up, and Patrick Square officials have since complied.

While pointing out that he is confident that Eighteen Mile Creek has not been negatively impacted by the project, Cheezem said additional water quality enhancements were made to the site as well as more ecological planning, including the use of native and natural plants rather than riprap to improve aesthetics. He added that such measures would provide a more natural habitat for deer, turkeys and waterfowl.

Cheezem added that an additional permanent sediment basin is being added, several more inlet basins are being protected and some slope stabilization and silt fencing are taking place to satisfy concerns issued by the agency.

"We've had numerous studies done, and there's been no sediment in excess of what is allowed going into the adjacent watershed. We're confident our system is performing as designed and even better," Cheezem said. "We hope to get it resolved very shortly."

Last week, Myrick said DHEC officials informed Cheezem plans initially approved for Patrick Square would require updating in order to provide information regarding changes discussed during meetings between the two officials.

"We don't plan to go any further until we have the completed and modified plans," Myrick said at that time, adding, "We're figuratively waiting on some blanks to be filled in."

But those plans have since been submitted, and Cheezem said his group is proceeding with construction on the model homes.

"They were fine with us going ahead with the model homes, so we've started there," Cheezem said.

Myrick said Patrick Square could remain subject to periodic inspections by DHEC even after the review comes to a successful conclusion.