

Dear Committee Members,

We are Robert and Diane Ratcliffe. Our place of residence is 5348 Channel Dr., Gillsville, GA, 30543. It is also the residence of Jay and Cindy Hollis, along with their daughter, Diana Hollis. Cindy is my youngest daughter from a previous marriage. We have four horses, two donkeys, two dogs, and a cat who also call this wonderful place home.

The property originally consisted of 12 acres along with the current 4500 sq ft home on it. The previous owner purchased an additional 5 adjoining acres from the neighbor, bringing the total acreage to 17 +/- acres. It is our wish to separate a 5-acre plat to the west side of the property on which we could build a home of our own. Our plan is to build a handicap accessible 2500-3000 sq ft home that will face Channel Drive. My husband and I, aged 83 and 75, respectively, want our own home, but feel it is important that we have family members close by as we are getting older. Our other children either live out of state or long distances from us, rendering them unavailable to assist us on a daily basis. Also, my daughter's father and mother-in-law are also aging quickly and will eventually require living assistance as well, thus emphasizing the need for separate dwellings.

Due to having such family circumstances, it is necessary that Robert and I possess a separate deed so that our new home and property would become part of our estate upon our passing. Our ultimate hope is that the home will stay in the family, but in the event that is not possible, having the separate title deed would provide much peace of mind for our family.

We all love living on our little farm, lovingly named "Sweet Creek", here on Channel Drive. Being able to build our own home on our own adjoining property next to caring loved ones would truly be a blessing for our entire blended family. It would then truly become a place where we could all gather and enjoy one another for generations to come.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We greatly appreciate your time and consideration, and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Thank you,  
Robert and Diane Ratcliffe

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