



New York State Council Trout Unlimited

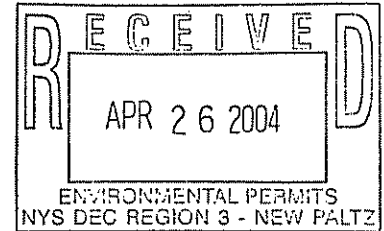
Ronald D. Urban, Chairman

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April 22 2004

Alexander Ciesluk, Jr.
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator
NYSDEC
21 South Putt Corners Road
New Paltz, NY 12561-1620



Re: Proposed Bellayre Resort

Dear Mr. Ciesluk,

I, as you can see, am the NYS Council Chairman of Trout Unlimited. We are an 8200 member nationally affiliated organization that is better known as a conservation organization. You have heard from some of my fellow members at the meetings in Margaretville and Onteora (Boiceville). Our Mission is to "Conserve, Protect and Restore" coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

I am writing you to express my and NYS Council TU opposition and concerns with the proposed Bellayre Resort project. To begin with, I am a resident in Ulster County and an avid fly fisherman for trout and person that enjoys the beauty of the Catskills. As such, I have several concerns with this project as it was presented to the general public.

I am deeply concerned about the increased traffic flow on the NYS Route 28 corridor and cost of additional services that this project bring about. Route 28 is a one-lane highway from the intersection of Route 375 northwest and the size and scope of the proposed project would have significant adverse impacts on the traffic and costs of services associated with Route 28.

Secondly, I am deeply concerned about the project's serious negative environmental impacts to the New York City watershed and on the quality of drinking water. Degradation and pollution of the water quality would have long-term negative impacts on our region and the City's drinking water effecting millions of residents of this state.

Third, I have serious concerns about the negative impacts of run-off and effluent entering our local trout streams, namely Birch Creek, Lost Clove, and the upper Esopus. This in term would negatively impact our wild fish and the aquatic eco-system that supports a wild trout fishery. I am also very concerned about increased water temperatures in these waterways resulting from direct discharges into the streams.

Fourth, I have very serious concerns about the project's encroachment on adjacent NYS Forest Preserve Lands. These mountains attract thousands of tourists to the area every year and our Catskills are world renown for their history and environment. I question whether the size and scope of this proposal is a best fit for the Catskill Mountains. Clearly this is the single largest endeavor undertaken in the Catskills since the construction of the New York City's reservoir system that benefited millions of New Yorkers. On the other hand, few people, at the expense of many, will benefit from this undertaking.

I attended the first hearing in Boiceville at the Onteora Central School. There was overwhelming opposition to this proposal then, and subsequent hearings, as I am aware. The need for the project is



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truly questionable, few benefit from it, and its costs and impacts affects millions of New Yorkers. Short of disapproving this proposal, I ask that further evidentiary hearings be conducted to address the issues that I, and I'm sure hundreds, of others have raised.

The magnitude of this project and its location cause me definite concerns. The Esopus Creek has been and will be a pristine fishery again through the efforts of concerned citizens and Trout Unlimited. I urge you and the law judge that presided over the meetings to review the piles of evidence showing the misguided, misleading and miscalculated DEIS presented by Dean Gitter. I have never seen any expensive, extensive and inept piece of work that has neglected the true environmental study required for this project.

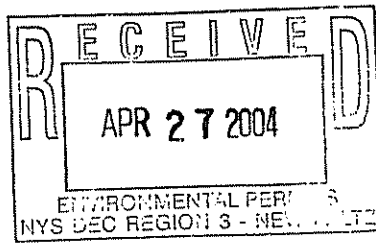
As will notice, we are supporting our local chapters and are supported by our national office and organization. I also, refer to issues on the Croton and Kensico Watersheds that in the past created concerns with runoffs and contamination to their systems in reference to golf courses. I believe Judge Wissler oversaw those decisions.

Trout Unlimited is not antidevelopment. We definitely support good science and facts to understand the DEIS. I feel that we were severely shortened in scope and principles in the DEIS as presented. There is no way to accept and proceed as the current DEIS is presented. There are too many nonbelievers and concerned TU members in this matter compared to chosen parties that support the development.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns and those of NYS Trout Unlimited

Sincerely yours,

Ron Urban, NYS Council Chairman



44 Skea Rd.
W. Hurley, N.Y. 12491
February 23, 2004

Mr. Alexander Ciesluk, Jr.
21 Putt Corners Rd
New Paltz, NY 12561

Dear Mr. Ciesluk:

This is to express my opposition to the proposed mega project near Belleayre, something I spoke about at one of the hearings.

I feel that this project will endanger the water systems both to parts of our county and, more so, to the millions in New York City where many loved ones reside. The detritus, the daily chemical spraying of proposed golf links, the run down the mountain overlooking the reservoir would be most harmful. It is really a cut and dry case for NO GO.

We, as residents of the county, have abided by strict septic system regulations which are for the protection against disease in those recipients of our mountain water. WHY should a group of investors not have to abide by the same correctly strict rules? And any "expert opinion" that attests to no harm to run down the mountain to water supplies should be taken with a grain of salt. Experts have limited knowledge of the many miracles of nature and are more often wrong than right...(ie:the question of dams, the problems in the Mississippi rivers with Army Corps of Engineers failed projects. etc") for "Man proposes, God disposes" I do not put my faith in the words of experts.

Another consideration that should be brought to the attention of all is that cost overruns are par for the course and I have no doubt that the needed structural changes, wider roads, increased police necessity, etc. will be paid for by citizens...you and I....After all, we are millions and they are few; it is more cost effective for private powers to have the millions pay. The investors and their engineers simply receive checks and tax write offs. This is not democracy in action; the public is a nuisance and a hindrance which is not as i have envisioned MY LAND.

I strongly oppose the proposal. It is "pie in the sky" and gives the wrong

impression; it does not do justice to the public's intelligence.

Many educated and informed people reside in our county which, yes, has changed over the years. The public does not worship officials nor "experts" be they legal arguers who certainly can prove a black horse is white and a white horse is black, as they did during a 40 year period in ancient China, nor do they take seriously those cost assessors who gain money for their government funded projects which turn out often to be many fold more costly, in the billions of dollars, than what is assessed at the beginning and which are then paid for by John Q. Public.

Need I say more?

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roberta Gould".

Roberta Gould

9.7. My thanks, of course, for you for receiving the many letters which must be coming in and your overseeing the receipt and communication of the public's concerns.