

TOWN OF ULYSSES

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STATE OF NEW YORK}
COUNTY OF TOMPKINS} SS:
TOWN OF ULYSSES:

REQUESTS REGARDING CARGILL'S PERMIT APPLICATION TO THE DEC FOR SALT MINE

RESOLUTION # 182 OF 2024:

WHEREAS, Cargill Inc. has submitted a permit application (0-9999-00075/00001) to renew and modify its Mined Land Reclamation Permit for the Cayuga Salt Mine, which includes plans to flood the abandoned S3 Zone of the mine beneath Cayuga Lake with wastewater, potentially impacting the environment and the community; and

WHEREAS, the NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has declared itself the lead agency under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), and issued a Negative Declaration despite the application being classified as a Type I action, which typically requires a more thorough environmental review; and

WHEREAS, significant concerns have been raised regarding the adequacy of Cargill's application, including compliance with the Mined Land Reclamation Law, monitoring treatment of waste materials, the potential for ground water pollution, the stability of the mine, and the long-term reclamation of the affected areas; and

WHEREAS, the proposed flooding of the S3 Zone raised serious questions about the safety and environmental integrity of Cayuga Lake, particularly in light of prior instability noted in this area and the implications of storing not-fully-saturated brine beneath the lake; and

WHEREAS, various stakeholders, including environmental groups and local officials, have expressed concerns regarding the potential adverse impacts of Cargill's proposed activities, highlighting the need for a more comprehensive environmental impact statement and public engagement; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Ulysses formally requests the DEC:

- 1. Deny Cargill's permit application, or, alternatively, rescind the Negative Declaration and require the preparation of a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement to assess all the potential environmental risks associated with the proposed activities.
- 2. Conduct a public hearing to allow for community input and address the substantive concerns raised by residents and stakeholders regarding the application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to the following to ensure that voices of the Town of Ulysses' residents are heard in this critical decision-making process:

- Comment.cayugasaltmine2023@dec.ny.gov
- DEC Commissioner Dereth Glance (dereth.glance@dec.ny.gov)

- OGS Commissioner Jeanette Moy (officeofthecommissioner@ogs.ny.gov)
- DEC Permit Administrator Jonathan Stercho@dec.ny.gov)

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 12/10/24

I, the undersigned Town Clerk of the Town of Ulysses, County of Tompkins, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the above resolution is an exact copy of the same adopted by the Ulysses Town Board at a meeting on the 10th day of December, 2024.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Town of Ulysses, New York, on this 12th day of December, 2024.

{ SEAL }

Carissa Parlato, Town Clerk