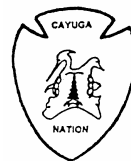


**Scoping Meeting  
Cayuga Indian Nation Trust Land Application**

**Scoping Meeting  
for an Environmental Impact Statement  
for the  
Cayuga Indian Nation Trust Land  
Application**

Sponsored by the  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
March 1, 2006



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Cayuga Indian Nation Trust Land Application

## Why are we here?

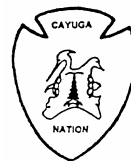
- The Cayuga Indian Nation proposes to place its Seneca and Cayuga County land – about 125 acres – into “trust.”
- If approved, the BIA would hold the land in trust for the use and benefit of the Cayuga Indian Nation.
- Before doing so, the BIA will prepare an *Environmental Impact Statement* (EIS) to assess the environmental effects of taking the land into trust.
- Tonight is the “*scoping meeting*” for the EIS



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## What is an EIS?

- The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires that federal agencies must consider environmental issues in federal agency decision-making.
- An EIS is the detailed study of potential environmental effects of a proposed federal action on the human and natural environments.



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## An EIS typically contains:

- A concise statement of the purpose and need for the proposed action.
- A description of the proposed action and alternatives considered.
- A discussion of the affected environment.
- A discussion of potential impacts of the proposed action.
- A discussion of mitigation for those impacts.



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# The EIS Process and Public Involvement

- Scoping
  - **Public involvement – Tonight’s Meeting and written comments to be received by March 15.**
- Preparation of a draft EIS (DEIS)
- Public review and comment period for DEIS
  - **45-day public involvement and comment**
- Prepare final EIS (FEIS), including responses to public and agency comments
  - **30-day “Waiting Period” following Federal Register Notice and agency decision**
- Federal agency decision
- Implementation of project or decision



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## What is Scoping?

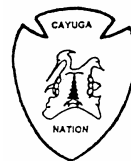
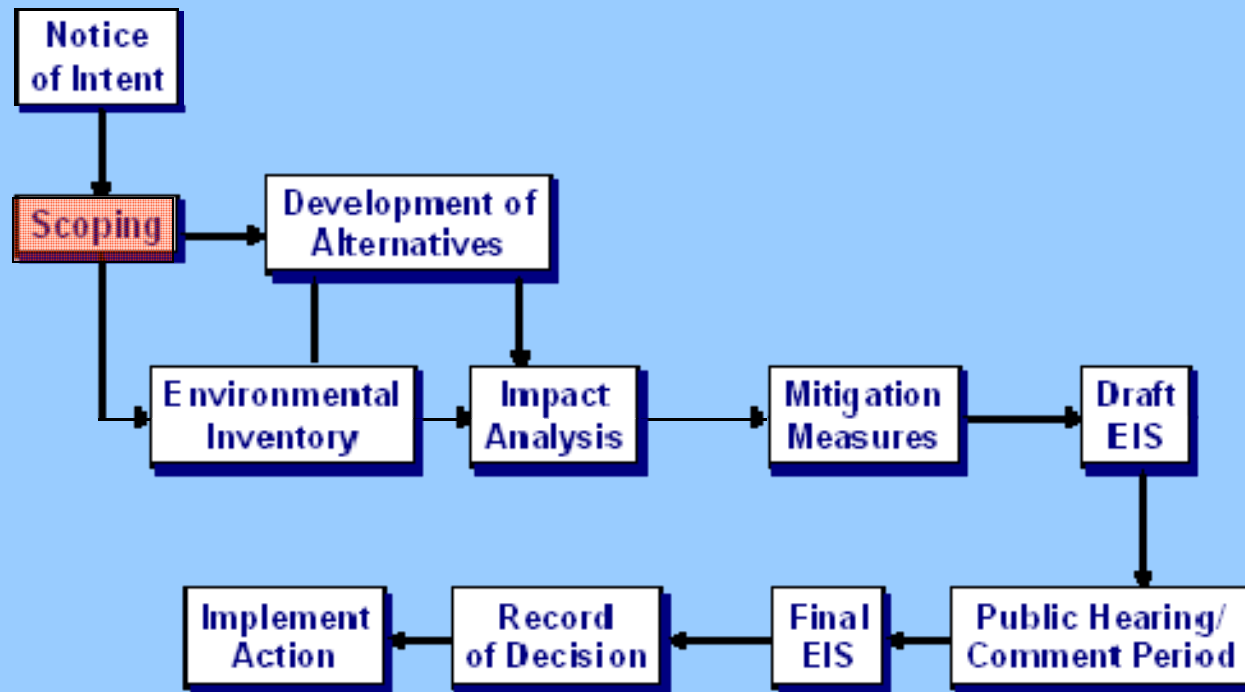
- Determines the range of environmental issues to be included in the EIS analysis.
- Identifies potentially significant impacts that should be considered in the EIS.
- Eliminates issues that are not significant or relevant.
- *Scoping is a chance for BIA to listen; it is not a debate about the proposal.*



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# The EIS Flow Chart

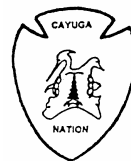
- *Scoping* occurs at the very beginning



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## Issues that this EIS may include

- Local infrastructure (roads, traffic)
- Municipal services (fire, police, EMS)
- Fiscal conditions (property taxes)
- Economic conditions (tourism, jobs, visitor spending)
- Natural and Cultural resources





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**Cayuga Indian Nation Trust Land Application**

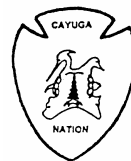
## Location of the Cayuga Nation Lands

– **Cayuga County**

- 110 ± ac. - **Village of Union Springs** (vacant land, gas station and convenience store, car wash, gaming facility)
- 3 ± ac. - **Town of Springport** (vacant land)
- 0.05 ac.(2,200 sq. ft.) - **Town of Montezuma** (vacant land)

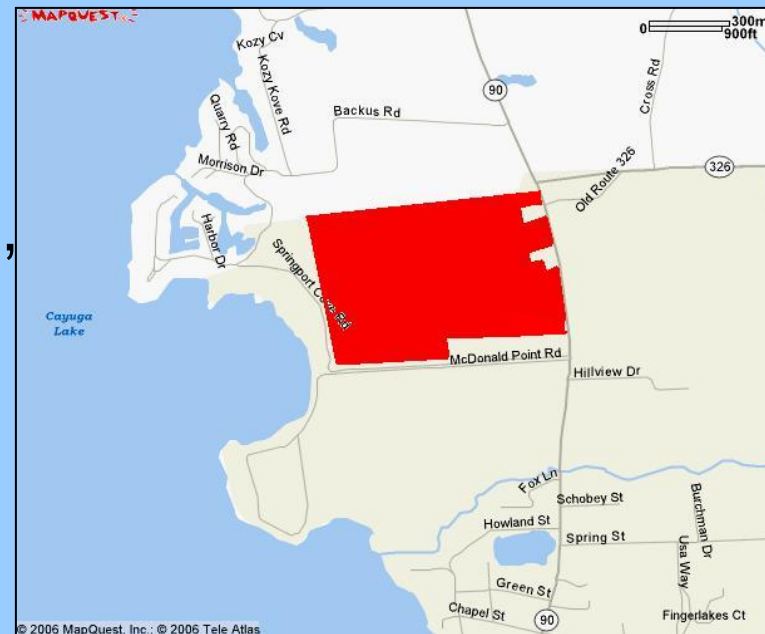
– **Seneca County**

- 14 ± ac. **Town of Seneca Falls** (gas station, convenience store, and gaming facility)



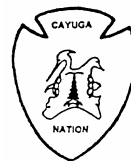
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- Cayuga County
  - Village of Union Springs
  - Approx. 110 ± acres
    - 108 ac. of vacant land
    - 3 ± ac. with gas station, convenience store, car wash, gaming facility



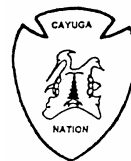
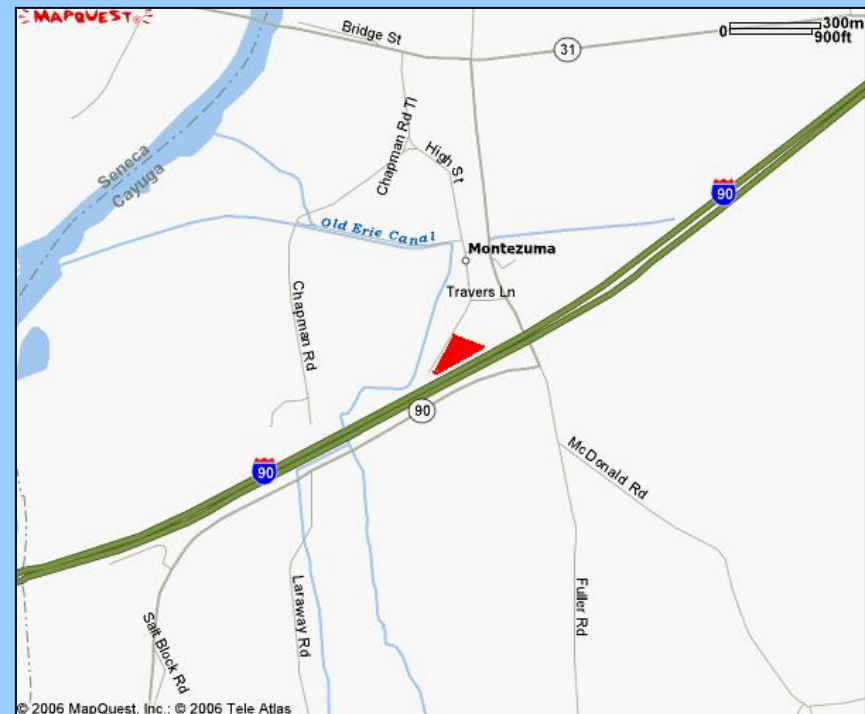
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- Cayuga County
  - Town of Springport
  - 3 ± acres
  - Vacant land



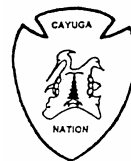
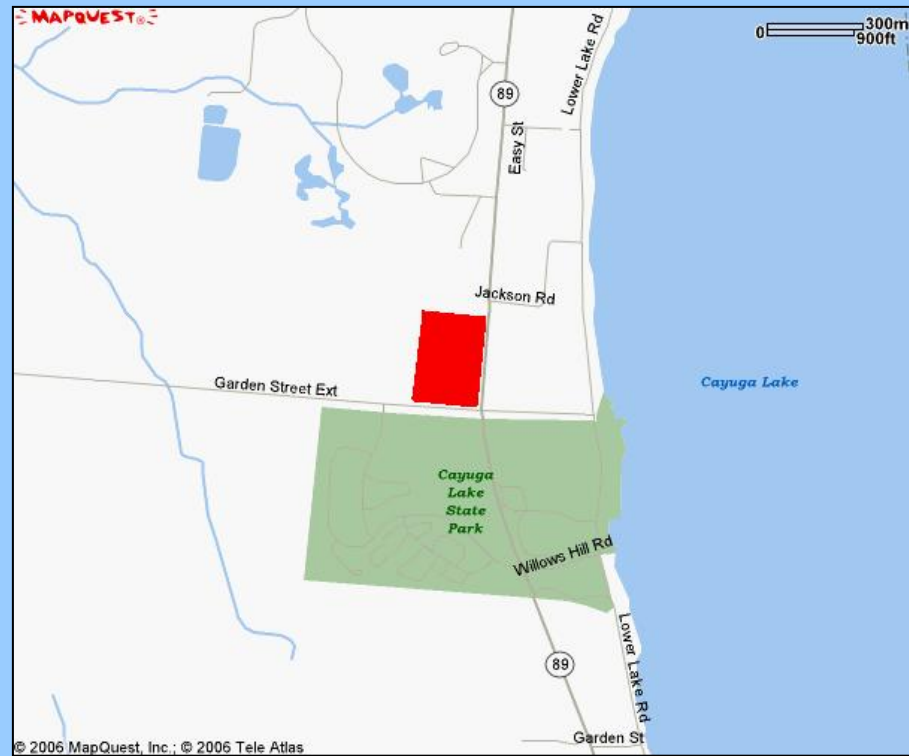
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- Cayuga County
  - Town of Montezuma
  - 0.05 acres (2,200 square feet)
  - Vacant land



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- Seneca County
  - Town of Seneca Falls
  - 14 acres
  - Convenience store and gaming facility.



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## **Ground Rules – Public Comment Period**

- Speakers must sign in.
- 3 minutes per speaker – *you will be timed.*
- Speakers will be called to the podium in groups of five.
- If you have a script, please give to stenographer.
- Federal & State Elected Officials may speak first.
- Identify yourself for the reporter.
- Please be respectful.
- Try not to repeat what has already been said.
- You may speak a second time after everyone else has had an opportunity to speak.



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**Adjournment  
of  
Scoping Meeting  
for an Environmental Impact Statement  
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Bureau of Indian Affairs  
March 1, 2006

