

COMMENTS

RESPONSES

Stephanie Abrahamson
150 West Village Place
APT #13
Ithaca, NY 14850
06/21/09

Mr. Franklin Keel, Regional Director
Eastern Regional Office
Bureau of Indian Affairs
545 Marriott Drive
Suite 700
Nashville, TN 37214

RE: DEIS Comments, Cayuga Indian Nation of New York Trust Acquisition Project

Dear Mr. Keel:

This letter contains my comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement with respect to the Cayuga Indian Nation's Land into Trust Application. I support the proposal by the Cayuga Nation. Allowing the Cayuga Nation to place privately bought land into trust is the least the government can do to redress the injustices committed against the Cayuga Nation.

The Cayuga Nation was militarily attacked by order of the United States Congress and thousands of civilians were forced to flee this land as refugees. This is a historical wrong which needs to be addressed. The Cayuga Nation was denied legal standing in U.S. courts for nearly two hundred years.

When the Supreme Court threw out the New York treaties in 1977, the State of New York, the United States Government and the Cayuga Nation came to a negotiated agreement which would not have involved the transfer of any private land. Congress never enacted the agreement.

The Cayugas have agreed to several negotiated proposals to resolve the land claim from the 1970's to the late 1990's. A 1994 court case determined that the Cayuga Nation's claim to 64,000 acres is still legal and several court decisions have agreed that the Cayuga's are entitled to redress, but still the Cayugas get no land.

Private individuals have bought land with their own funds. They want to place the land in trust, acknowledging that the land is Cayuga land, not just private property. Denying them this minimal legal protection amounts to continued aggression against the Cayugas.

I urge you to accept the Cayuga Nation's proposal as a minimal step towards a just and lasting redress to an historical injustice.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my comments and concerns into the public record.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Abrahamson

Form Letter 4: Multiple Commenters

The following is a form letter submitted by multiple individuals. Please refer to the Table of Contents for the complete list of people who submitted this letter. Any letters with alterations are included here. All other individual letters are included on the enclosed CD.

12-1

Your preference is noted.

Your comment is noted.

12-2

Your comment is noted.

Please refer to Common Response 4: Cayuga Indian Reservation.

12-1

12-3

Your preference is noted.

Your comment is noted.

12-2

12-4

Your preference is noted.

Your comment is noted.

12-3

12-4

COMMENTS

RESPONSES

RECEIVED

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SIA-ERO
REGIONAL DIRECTOR

KATHRYN ENGEL name
6401 POTOMAC RD street address
TRUMANSBURG NY 14886 City/town/village, NY ZIP
6/28/09 date of letter

Mr. Franklin Keel, Regional Director
Eastern Regional Office
Bureau of Indian Affairs
545 Marriott Drive
Suite 700
Nashville, TN 37214

RE: DEIS Comments, Cayuga Indian Nation of New York Trust Acquisition Project

Dear Mr. Keel:

I fully support the proposal to allow the Cayuga Nation to place land into trust. This letter contains my comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement with respect to the Cayuga Indian Nation's Land into Trust Application. I support the proposal by the Cayuga Nation. Allowing the Cayuga Nation to place privately bought land into trust is the least the government can do to redress the injustices committed against the Cayuga Nation.

The Cayuga Nation was militarily attacked by order of the United States Congress and thousands of civilians were forced to flee this land as refugees. This is a historical wrong which needs to be addressed. The Cayuga Nation was denied legal standing in U.S. courts for nearly two hundred years.

When the Supreme Court threw out the New York treaties in 1977, the State of New York, the United States Government and the Cayuga Nation came to a negotiated agreement which would not have involved the transfer of any private land. Congress never enacted the agreement.

The Cayugas have agreed to several negotiated proposals to resolve the land claim from the 1970's to the late 1990's. A 1994 court case determined that the Cayuga Nation's claim to 64,000 acres is still legal and several court decisions have agreed that the Cayuga's are entitled to redress, but still the Cayugas get no land.

Private individuals have bought land with their own funds. They want to place the land in trust, acknowledging that the land is Cayuga land, not just private property. Denying them this minimal legal protection amounts to continued aggression against the Cayugas.

I urge you to accept the Cayuga Nation's proposal as a minimal step towards a just and lasting redress to an historical injustice.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my comments and concerns into the public record.

Sincerely, *Kathryn Engel*

Engel, Kathryn - June 28, 2009

12-5

Please see Responses 12-1 through 12-4.

12-5