

COMMENTS

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SPECIAL ED OFFICE

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2986 E. Bayard St. Ext.
Seneca Falls, NY 13148
315-568-2003
June 16, 2009

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BIA-ERO
REGIONAL DIRECTOR

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

FAX: 615-564-6701

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

Dear Mr. Keel,

There is a public hearing June 17, 2009 concerning the Cayuga Indian Nation Land into Trust. We are unable to attend this hearing, but would like to share our concerns.

We have lived and worked in Seneca County for over fifty years. And our parents also lived and raised their families here. We love this area and are proud to call it home. We have paid all of our real estate taxes and sales taxes. And we expect all residence to do the same.

It would be unfair to have 'sovereign' land taken off of the property tax rolls and thus not having these residents contributing to the highway/road maintenance they would be using. If the Cayuga Indian Nation does not have pay to pay NYS sales tax, it would be an unfair playing field for businesses already established in Seneca County.

Our Finger Lakes are a jewel to this area and have been well monitored by DEC. It would be a shame if the Cayuga Indians were not under these environmental regulations and damage might be done to these lakes.

Our NYS Senator, Mr. Mike Nozzolio, represents us and takes a very strong stand against the proposal for the Cayuga Indian Nations Land into Trust. Please consider our plea and those of our senator.

Sincerely,


Don & Marilyn Adler

RESPONSES

Form Letter 7: 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. Each individual letter is included on the enclosed CD.

15-1

Your comment is noted.

Please refer to Common Response 7: Real Estate Taxes and Economic Effects, Common Response 8: Sales Taxes, and Common Response 19: Special Treatment of Indians.

The BIA understands the concern of local residents who have lived in Cayuga and Seneca Counties for many years. The BIA also acknowledges the presence that the Cayuga Indians have held in this region for many centuries, and is therefore considering the land-into-trust application, subject of this EIS. Legal tax exemptions authorized by Congress are not within the scope of this EIS.

15-1

15-2

15-2

Please refer to Common Response 15: Community Services and Infrastructure and Common Response 16: Unfair Competition.

15-3

15-4

15-3

Please refer to Common Response 9: Regulatory Jurisdiction and Common Response 21: Potential Environmental Impacts.

15-4

Your preference is noted.

Your comment is noted.