

COMMENTS

RESPONSES

June 17, 2009
Agustus H. & Evelyn L. Bentley
3154 Williamson Road
Seneca Falls, New York 13148

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


This letter is to express our concerns about the **DEIS, Comments, Cayuga Indian Nation of New York Trust Acquisition Project.**

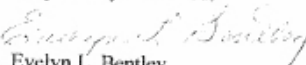
The above listed document is severely flawed in the assumption that there is no significant impact on the area. The impact of the tribes sale of untaxed cigarettes and gas to Non-Native Americans severely impacts the free trade of other merchants in the area. This was demonstrated when the Indian Stores were stopped by orders of the courts from selling untaxed cigarettes to non-native Americans, a violation of New York State law. The potential loss of tax revenue for the Towns, County and School districts for a small county such as Seneca County is devastating and will have to be born by the other residents of the counties and towns. The ability of the Native Americans to disregard the laws of the area and still reap the benefits of utilities, road maintenance and other supplied services all paid for by the others in the area is not fair.

The small parcel listed in the DEIS does not stipulate what is to be done on the parcel or future uses for the said lands as well as the rest of the lands owned by the tribe, all acquired with moneys gained through sales of untaxed cigarettes and gasoline. Most people in this area welcome new residents and neighbors to our county on an equal basis not with special preferential exceptions to our laws, regulations, and taxes.

The DEIS document is severely flawed as there would be significant impact to the area and the Trust application should be refused. These people are welcome to take up residency and participate as all other land owners and residents under the laws of the United States, The State of New York, and local Towns and Municipalities as all other Seneca and Cayuga County residents.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.


Agustus H. Bentley

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn L. Bentley

2009 JUN 17 10:00 AM
3154 WILLIAMSON RD
SENECA FALLS, NY 13148
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Form Letter 8: 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.

16-1

Your comment is noted.

Please refer to Common Response 7: Real Estate Taxes and Economic Effects.

Please refer to Common Response 8: Sales Taxes.

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

Please refer to Common Response 16: Unfair Competition. The Nation's status as a sovereign Indian Nation and its legal exemption from certain state and local laws is under the discretion of Congress and not a subject of this EIS.

16-2

Common Response 17: Future Development.

Common Response 19: Special Treatment of Indians.

The Nation has no plans to change land uses on any of its properties subject to the land-into-trust application.

16-3

Your preference is noted.

Your comment is noted.

The land-into-trust program is a process authorized by Congress. The validity of this program, the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA) of 1934, and other federal statutes related to Indian affairs is not under the purview of this EIS.

16-1
16-2
16-3