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SENATOR
MICHAEL F. NOZZOLIO
54TH DISTRICT
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January 2013

Yvonne Taylor
154 Ludlowville Rd
Lansing, NY 14882

Dear Yvonne:

It was a pleasure to meet with you during your visit to the New York State Capitol.

Please know that I greatly enjoyed our conversation. I appreciate the opportunity to discuss your concerns with the proposed Liquefied Petroleum Gas Storage Facility in Reading, NY and to hear your input on the environmental, economic, and cultural impact this project could have on the area around Seneca and Cayuga Lakes.

As your State Senator, I strongly believe that the health and environmental viability of the Finger Lakes is essential to the present and future of our region. New York State government must take every precaution necessary to protect our fresh water resources and the communities that rely on them. As a result of our discussion, I have once again contacted New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Joe Martens reiterating my opposition to Inergy's proposed Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) Storage Facility and urging the DEC to work with Inergy so that an alternative site can be found. Enclosed for your information and review is a copy of my letter to Commissioner Martens.

Once again, it was a pleasure to meet with you. You are to be commended for your dedication and willingness to expend your time and energy to advocate for our environment. Thank you again for sharing your concerns and please don't hesitate to let me know whenever I can be of assistance to you in the future.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike".

Michael F. Nozzolio,
Senator, 54th District

MN/bb

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Joe Martens, Commissioner
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, New York 12207

Dear Commissioner Martens:

As the New York State Senator representing the Finger Lakes region and its many beautiful lakes, rivers and streams, it was with great concern that I learned of serious questions that have been raised regarding Inergy's proposed Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) Storage Facility in Reading, NY.

A number of my constituents have expressed concerns that this facility and the DEC's DSEIS does not adequately address many questions about the environmental, economic and cultural impacts that this facility will have on Seneca and Cayuga Lakes, as well as the tourist industry that provides thousands of jobs and welcomes tens of thousands of visitors to our region each year. Route 414, which runs directly across the lake from the proposed facility, was recently designated as the Seneca Lake Scenic Byway, further strengthening the economic growth in the area.

Recently, new documents have come to light as a result of a FOIL request that call into question the structural integrity of the salt mines that are slated for gas storage. As indicated in a letter from Alan Perry, Plant Manger of US Salt, the cavern intended for liquid storage, Well 58, had been plugged and abandoned by US Salt as a result of a likely roof collapse due to a minor earthquake.

It has come to my attention that Inergy has not been forthcoming with details about this collapse and in a confidential 2010 report to the DEC stated: "There is no reason to believe now that a roof cavern collapse did occur." I believe that the safety issues of the proposed gas storage facility have not been adequately addressed within the DSEIS, by the Qualitative and Quantitative Risk Analysis (QRA), or by Inergy, particularly after learning the cavern slated for gas storage was deemed unusable for storage, plugged and abandoned just 10 years ago.

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The QPR provided by Quest Consultants, downplays a concerning history of storage accidents in salt caverns and does not outline evacuation orders, consider accidents involving human error, does not consider off-site accidents as the gas is transported, and does not determine the probability of a fatality as far away as the village of Watkins Glen. Furthermore, the QRA does not mention, and therefore does not consider, the unique nature of the proposed salt storage caverns directly adjacent to a 37-mile-long and 630 foot deep freshwater lake. It appears that Inergy may not be fully insured against all these risks, which would leave taxpayers being responsible for potentially costly damages.

The proposed facility also includes a brine pond that would be located directly above the local water table. Seneca Lake is the source of fresh drinking water for over 100,000 residents and hundreds of local businesses, farms, wineries, and vineyards. If it were to be in any way contaminated, the effects on the entire region would undoubtedly be severe and devastating.

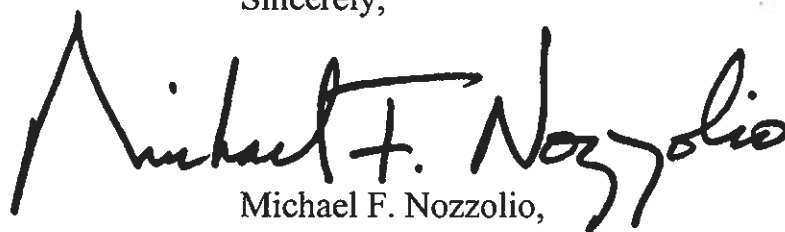
According to an EPA reported generated on 1/3/13, it would appear Inergy has been out of EPA compliance for exceeding its effluent limit each of the last 12 quarters. It is also my understanding that Inergy had failed to report a brine spill to the DEC on the shore of Seneca Lake in August 2012 until a nearby resident submitted video of the dying vegetation. I have also been advised that there is a contradiction between eyewitness accounts and reports generated by Inergy regarding the amount of brine released.

It is vitally important that our New York State government take every precaution necessary to protect our fresh water resources and the communities that rely on them. The concerns that have been raised do not inspire confidence in the facility to protect and preserve the freshwater within the lake. A more thorough and public review needs to be undertaken to address all these concerns.

In light of the recent information and the new concerns that have been raised, I reiterate my opposition to the proposed Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) Storage Facility in Reading, NY and request that the DEC work with Inergy so that an alternative site can be found.

Your immediate attention to this very serious issue is needed and will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael F. Nozzolio". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "M".

Michael F. Nozzolio,
Senator, 54th District

MN/bb