



**RESOLUTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF  
1199SEIU UNITED HEALTHCARE WORKERS EAST  
IN OPPOSITION OF THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF  
AN UNDERGROUND GAS STORAGE FACILITY**

**WHEREAS**, the 1199SEIU Executive Committee was contacted by members of Health Systems VII, 1199SEIU Upstate New York seeking our support in the form of a resolution to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to deny the application of Crestwood Mainstream Partners, LP for an operating permit that would allow the storage of liquid propane gas (LPG) and methane gas along the shores of Seneca Lake and in the salt caverns beneath the Lake; and

**WHEREAS**, the 1199SEIU Executive Committee recognizes the importance of Seneca Lake to the State of New York and the surrounding community as a drinking water source, for recreation, as a natural habitat, and in supporting the thriving tourism and wine making industry of the Finger Lakes Region; and

**WHEREAS**, this Committee understands that the storage of LPG along the shores of Seneca Lake and in unstable salt caverns with a history of collapse is a danger to thousands of our 1199SEIU members and their extended families who get their drinking water from this or other Finger Lakes; and

**WHEREAS**, this Committee opposes efforts to expand dependence on fossil fuels and exacerbating the crisis of climate change; especially when this involves transporting by-products of fracking, including liquid propane and methane gas from Pennsylvania, into New York where we have just won a ban on fracking; and thereby endangering the health and safety of our 1199SEIU members and New York State residents; and

**WHEREAS**, this Committee understands the importance of protecting areas such as Seneca Lake, which not only provide clean drinking water, but are also attractions for tourists and residents alike for the recreational activities and natural beauty that they provide; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed operation at Seneca Lake would import LPG to the town of Reading, New York, just north of Watkins Glen, New York, via pipeline, truck and railcar; and

**WHEREAS**, as the LPG is pumped into the salt caverns a salty brine is displaced and stored above ground in large open ponds with the gas residues burned off in 60 foot high flares; and

**WHEREAS**, when the LPG is drawn out for shipping further North and East this process is reversed with the salty brine pumped back into the salt caverns; and

**WHEREAS**, this activity poses a risk that small fissures in the caverns could release the salty brine and/or LPG into Seneca Lake thus forever damaging the water; and

**WHEREAS**, this Committee is deeply concerned with the potential for dramatic and catastrophic environmental impacts from this proposed project at Seneca Lake which could set a dangerous precedent for other companies to propose similar projects for the rest of the Finger Lakes area and throughout New York State; and

**WHEREAS**, this Committee is opposed to the issuance of an operating permit for the storage of LPG on the shore of and beneath Seneca Lake; and

**WHEREAS**, legislative bodies across the surrounding area have also expressed their opposition and passed resolutions in opposition to the project proposed by Crestwood Mainstream, including;

County of Seneca,  
County of Ontario,  
County of Yates,  
County of Tompkins,  
County of Cayuga,  
City of Rochester,  
City of Syracuse,  
City of Geneva,  
City of Ithaca,

Town of Brighton,  
Town of Rush,  
Town of Junius,  
Town of Waterloo,  
Town of Geneva,  
Town of Varick,  
Town of Lodi,  
Town of Starkey  
Town of Seneca Falls,  
Town of Fayette,  
Town of Romulus,  
Town of Ovid,  
Town of Ulysses,  
Town of Ithaca,  
Town of Skaneateles,  
Town of Caroline,  
Village of Waterloo, and  
Village of Watkins Glen

**NOW, THEREFORE; BE IT RESOLVED**, that this Resolution urges the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to consider the concerns raised by scientists, citizens, political leaders and legislative bodies of the Counties, Cities, Towns and Villages that surround Seneca Lake and requests that the application pending before the New York State DEC from Crestwood Mainstream Partners, LP, an organization out of the State of Texas, to allow storage of LPG along the shores of Seneca Lake and in salt caverns beneath Seneca Lake be denied.