

December 2, 2022

Re: Proposed Northgate Resort Camp FIMFO development

Dear Town of Highland Planning Board,

I have lived 30 minutes north of the proposed FIMFO development site for 33 years. I write to ask you to require that a full Environmental Impact Statement be prepared for this project.

The scale of the proposed project and the resulting threats to our natural landscape, wildlife habitats, and water quality warrant a full review and statement. Our local economy depends on the natural beauty and clean water we are tasked with protecting. Reports from other communities grappling with problems caused by Northgate developments are further evidence that a full Environmental Impact Statement is needed.


For example, nearby Gardiner, NY has been fighting to keep Northgate from continuing to expand its “campground.” An August meeting concerning Northgate’s requests for waivers and special permits for expansion led the town attorney to ask, “At what point is it not a campground?” The local paper reported that the “rhetorical question echoed **allegations made by many frustrated Gardiner residents that the recreational facility is no longer a mere campground, but has become a theme park, and a public nuisance, since its 2014 acquisition by Northgate Resorts.**

Given that the Northgate Resorts Camp FIMFO proposal will inflict significant environmental and community impact, SEQRA requires that the Town of Highland Planning Board secure/prepare a full Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to SEQRA.

Basing a decision on a mere Environmental Assessment, does not fulfill the legal mandates of SEQRA. Based on what we know to date about the proposed development plans and given the information gaps in what Northgate Resorts has provided, it would be irresponsible and unjustified for the Town of Highland Planning Board to issue a Negative Declaration pursuant to SEQRA.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Louise Washer  
646 River Road, Milanville, PA