

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 07, 2019 9:18 AM
To: dec.sm.r3admin <r3admin@dec.ny.gov>
Subject: concerns about the 850 Route 28 LLC Site Plan / Special Use Permit Application

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Dear Mr. Petronello,

I am very concerned about a proposal before the Town of Kingston Planning Board to construct a large-scale concrete manufacturing facility on land surrounded by the Catskill Park's Bluestone Wild Forest and other property conserved by the Open Space Institute (OSI). This proposed facility could have significant environmental impacts on the adjacent Bluestone Wild Forest and OSI Property. I respectfully request that the Planning Board rescind the Negative Declaration issued in March, and require the developer to prepare a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement, and keep open the public hearing for site plan/special use permit until a thorough review has been completed.

The production of concrete is linked to many environmental impacts including:

- Landscape degradation. A thorough analysis of the impacts of the proposed construction and operations on the adjacent Bluestone Wild Forest and on the OSI Property has not been conducted.
- Dust can be hazardous due to the presence of some substances in concrete, including useful and unwanted additives, and can cause health concerns due to toxicity and (usually naturally occurring) radioactivity
- Visual impact on some areas of outstanding natural beauty. No thorough analysis of the visual impacts of the construction of a huge manufacturing plant within the Bluestone Wild Forest nor the OSI Property has been conducted.
- Use of potable water to wash aggregates, dust suppression and in the manufacturing process. How much water will this facility use and where will it come from? How will it impact the surrounding communities?

- Water Contamination: The developer's storm water pollution prevention plan fails to fully address storm water and other potential impacts to Pickerel Pond.
- Noise: Construction will include significant amounts of blasting, rock crushing, and other noisy activities that will affect recreation and wildlife in the Bluestone Wild Forest and in the OSI Property.
- Hours of Operation: Impacts related to proposed round-the-clock work were not considered by the Planning Board in the Negative Declaration.
- Traffic: The developer only analyzed the effects of traffic on Route 28. There is no information regarding the effect of truck pollution and noise on the Bluestone Wild Forest or on the OSI Property.
- Climate change: The cement industry is one of the largest producers of carbon dioxide (CO₂), creating up to 5% of worldwide man-made emissions of this gas, of which 50% is from the chemical process and 40% from burning fuel.

The developer, 850 Route 28 LLC, has not fully accounted for numerous potential adverse environmental impacts from the construction and operation of the plant. It proposes to clear 21 acres of trees, blast 405,000 cubic yards of rock, and construct a plant totaling 240,000 square feet. Construction will take at least five years of work lasting from 6 AM to 7 PM, and nearly 12,500 trucks will be required to remove 162,000 cubic yards of material. After construction, the facility could be run 24 hours a day, seven days a week and would cause more than a hundred new vehicles to use Route 28 daily (including 42 trucks).

A comprehensive review of the proposed project is needed to fully understand the potential adverse environmental impacts to the Bluestone Wild Forest and surrounding communities.

Please rescind your Negative Declaration determination and require the developer to examine all potential adverse environmental impacts, as is clearly required under the State Environmental Quality Act. I strongly

urge the Planning Board to take no further action on this application with respect to site plan/special use permit until all impacts have been assessed and suitable mitigation techniques and alternatives have been investigated.

We are living in a time of overwhelming environmental damage done by human activity that threatens all of life on this beautiful Earth. I understand that economics are a consideration but we have to find ways to improve our economic reality without compromising our children's future any further. Economics won't matter if we have no clean air to breathe, water to drink or food to eat. We are running out of time to deal with these very real threats to our existence. Please, think very carefully before you approve a project that has the potential to do great environmental harm.

Thank you for considering my views.
Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

