



# TOWN OF ULYSSES

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STATE OF NEW YORK}  
COUNTY OF TOMPKINS} SS:  
TOWN OF ULYSSES:

## **REQUESTING THE PREPARATION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE PROPOSED CARGILL MINE SHAFT #4 CONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

### **RESOLUTION 2017-101: REQUESTING THE PREPARATION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE PROPOSED CARGILL MINE SHAFT #4 CONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

**WHEREAS**, The Town Board of Ulysses recognizes the economic, social, recreational, and ecological importance of Cayuga Lake and its watershed to the State and to the local community; and

**WHEREAS**, it has come to the attention of the Town Board that an application has been submitted by Cargill, Inc. to the New York Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for permission to construct a new mine shaft adjacent to Cayuga Lake (ID#0-9999-00075/00001 -- Cargill Mine Shaft #4); and

**WHEREAS**, the mine is partially located within the Town of Ulysses and therefore the Town is an interested party in the environmental review of this project; and

**WHEREAS**, credible concerns have been expressed with substantial supporting scientific documentation provided to the NYSDEC demonstrating the potential for significant impacts to Cayuga Lake and/or the local environment from this proposal, including but not limited to:

- a) impairment of the viewshed from Town of Ulysses lakeshore locations including Taughannock State Park,
- b) increase in local greenhouse gas emissions,
- c) subsurface water storage, in a portion of the mine located in the Town of Ulysses, that could lead to the collapse of portions of the mine and to surface subsidence, and
- d) subsurface intersection of the mine shaft with an aquifer which could cause mine flooding and the subsequent salinization of Cayuga Lake in a manner analogous to the 1994 Retsof Mine disaster in Livingston County; and

**WHEREAS**, NYSDEC, prior to any public announcement of the environmental review of the proposed project, nevertheless issued a “negative declaration” denying that there is any potential for significant environmental impacts from this construction project; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses respectfully requests that the NYSDEC:

1. rescind its negative declaration of June 30, 2016 for Cargill, Inc.'s Mine Shaft #4 construction project,
2. require a full and transparent disclosure of all information (including seismic studies) critical to an analysis of the above potential risks to the environment and the future health of Cayuga Lake, and
3. require submission of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed project prior to the issuance of a permit, thereby encouraging a full public discussion of these important concerns; and it is further

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the Town Clerk to Governor Andrew Cuomo, NYSDEC Commissioner Basil Seggos, Senators Patricia Helming and Thomas O'Mara, Senate Leader John Flanagan, Senate Minority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Assemblywoman Barbara Lifton, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, Assembly Minority leader Brian Kolb, Village of Trumansburg Martin Petrovic, and Tompkins County Legislature Chair Michael Lane and the Town Clerk will notify or cc the Town Supervisor and provide a certified copy when complete.

Vote: 4-0

Date Adopted: 6/13/17

**CLERK'S CERTIFICATION:**

*I, the undersigned Deputy Clerk of the Town of Ulysses, County of Tompkins, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the above resolution is an exact copy of the same adopted by the Ulysses Town Board at a meeting on the 13th day of June, 2017.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Town of Ulysses, New York, on this 14th day of June, 2017.*

{ SEAL }



*Sarah Koski, Ulysses Deputy Town Clerk*