

Basil Seggos, Commissioner
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-1010

Date:

Re: DEC Application ID#0-9999-00075/00001 (Cargill Mine Shaft #4)

Dear Mr. Seggos:

As a resident of Central New York concerned about Cayuga Lake and the environment, I write to urge DEC to:

- REQUIRE a DEIS (Draft Environmental Impact Statement) for the on-going salt mining operation under Cayuga Lake and for both parts of Cargill's Shaft 4 project: a 2,500-ft deep shaft and a one-mile tunnel to connect the shaft to the mine and DELAY any permit for Shaft #4 until an adequate EIS process has been completed.
- DENY any pending renewal of Cargill's existing mining under the lake and consider issuing a new permit for a new salt mine under land that would be completely separate from any of Cargill's existing mine voids under Cayuga Lake and under the Town of Lansing.
- DENY any permit for Shaft #4 in its current location due to its proximity to a tunnel leading to the mine under the lake.
- During the transition phase during which Cargill would be permitted to develop a mine under land, allow some mining in Cargill's existing mine, but ENFORCE the 2015 DEC request that Cargill not mine within 1000 feet of the Frontenac Point Anomaly or within 1000 feet of any disturbed salt/thinning bedrock zones.

Recent review of public domain seismic studies by evaporite geologist John K. Warren and geophysicist Angus Ferguson indicates that there is less carbonate beam protection over Cargill's current mining panels at the middle of Cayuga Lake than existed over the two mining panels that failed at Retsof in 1994. This level of risk taking, if confirmed, is absolutely unacceptable. We are heartened that senior leadership in the Assembly shares our concerns.

Thank you very much for seriously considering my request.

Sincerely,

Printed name:

Signature:

Address:

e-mail: