

HAND DELIVERED

127 Mountain Avenue
Cairo, New York 12413
March 6, 2025

Town of Cairo Planning Board
PO Box 728
Cairo, NY 12413

Attn: Joseph Hasenkopf, Planning Board Chair
Edward Forrester, Member
Allen Veverka, Member
Beth Hansen, Member
Stacey Poulsen, Member
Raymond Pacifico, Alternate

Dear Chairman Hasenkopf and Members of the Planning Board:

I am writing in reference to the proposed major development to take place on the property of the former Blackhead Mountain Lodge Resort.

As the former patron and later next-door neighbor of the Resort and current resident and taxpayer in the Town of Cairo, I am urging the Planning Board to do its proper due diligence and issue a Positive Declaration under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) in order that a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) be conducted.

A project of this size in the rural area of Round Top cannot help but have enormous effects on the environment, both in the immediate area and downstream and “down the mountain.” Requiring a detailed analysis of potential environmental, health, and quality-of-life impacts of this project by making a Positive Declaration and having a full EIS conducted is the least the Planning Board can do for the citizens of the Town of Cairo, both up in Round Top and throughout the town.

Allowing an out-of-town developer – one with no true stake in the future of our town – to build on our mountain unencumbered by any environmental considerations has the potential to not only ruin our town physically, but to ruin the reputation of the Town of Cairo as a place where people want to live and play.

All of us – the residents of Round Top, the greater Town of Cairo, and the developer – *need* the information available only through a detailed EIS in order to make informed decisions as to the future of the Blackhead Mountain Lodge property. Without it, mistakes can and will be made which will affect Round Top and the entire Town of Cairo forever.

Sincerely,

Mary A. Casella