

Poor Quality Original

ORIGINAL

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NY 12412

2021

APR -8 P 1:51

APR 8

FEDERAL ENERGY  
REGULATORY COMMISSION

Ms. Kimberley D Bose  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street NE, Room 1A  
Washington, DC 20426

April 1, 2021

Re: Docket P—15056:00

Dear Ms. Bose and the Commission

Although I understand the desire to invest in more sustainable energy, I must protest the proposal put forward by Premium Energy regarding the Ashokan Reservoir in New York.

The Esopus Creek and the Ashokan Reservoir are part of a flowing water supply system to New York City and the proposal to pump a very large amount of water into the Western Basin of the reservoir would put a huge stress on that system, stirring up a lot of sediment, and generally having a negative effect on the NYC water supply.

The three sites proposed for the upper reservoir are located in the Catskills Forest Preserve, created in 1885 and legally declared to be forever kept as wild forest lands and not leased, sold or exchanged taken by any corporation, public or private. It is protected land. This project would cause irreparable harm to the environment, devastating bird and animal habitats, trashing the landscape, polluting the creeks, and generally negatively affecting tourism. In addition, it would require the displacement of people from their homes and properties.

The proposed high transmission lines would be an eyesore, require forest clearance, and add to noise pollution.

I note too that this proposal issues from a private company and private companies are notorious for not maintaining their dams, putting the whole area under potential threat as happened in Michigan in May 2020, when the Edenville and Sanford dams failed. Since 1980 there have been 10 dam failures per year. We have already seen the destruction wrought by Hurricane Irene in August 2011, and would not want to experience another such flooding disaster.

I am a resident of Boiceville in the Town of Olive and I would urge you to reject this preliminary permit, given the devastating negative impact it would have on the environment and the local communities.

Marilyn Wood