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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

HOUSE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

Subcommittee on General Farm
Commodities and Risk Management

Subcommittee on Livestock,
Rural Development, and Credit

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE

Subcommittee on Tactical Air and
Land Forces

Subcommittee on Intelligence,
Emerging Threats, and Capabilities

Subcommittee on Military Personnel

May 29, 2013

The Honorable Molly T. McBride
NY State Administrative Law Judge
Department of Environmental Conservation
Albany, NY

Dear Judge McBride,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today regarding the proposed Belleayre Resort at Catskill Park. Unfortunately I am unable to be here personally, but I am very interested in this project and its impact on an important part of the 19th Congressional District. Today's Public Hearings are a necessary and important step to allow for input from the many residents who live in this region.

For the record, I would like to state my strong support in favor of this project moving forward. The Belleayre Resort at Catskill Park involves a projected investment of \$364 million in a part of my District that has suffered significantly from several causes, including a depressed national economy, onerous and increasing land use restrictions, and the disastrous flooding brought on by recent major storms.

Most importantly, the project expects to employ hundreds of workers during its construction and create over 540 permanent full time jobs and 230 part-time/seasonal jobs to operate the resort. These jobs will create an annual on-site payroll of almost \$25 million. The estimated total annual economic effect of this project on the regional economy of some \$168 million would be of great benefit to my constituents in this region.

This project has been thoroughly studied and reviewed over many years. Given the significant, positive economic impacts this project would have, the comprehensive review process already undertaken, and the support from many residents, local government entities, environmental groups, and the local business community, I would urge the Department of Environmental Conservation to complete its environmental review of the project so the region can begin to realize the economic benefits promised by the resort. Thank you for your time and consideration on this important matter.

Very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Gibson'.

Chris Gibson
Member of Congress