

TOWN OF BOVINA
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Bovina Center, New York 13740
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Supervisor

Tina B. Molé

Members of Council

Charles McIntosh

Evelyn Stewart

Mark Rossley

Gerald Wright

Highway Superintendent

Edward Weber

Town Clerk

Catherine Hewitt

Town Justice

John H. Way, Jr.

Tax Collector

Catherine Hewitt

May 20, 2013

Daniel T. Whitehead
Regional Permit Administrator
NYSDEC
21 South Putt Corner Road
New Paltz, NY 12561-1620

Dear Mr. Whitehead:

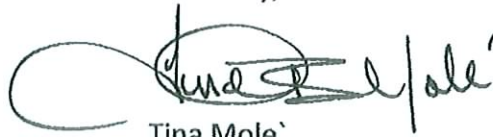
As Supervisor of the Town of Bovina I am writing this letter in support of the Belleayre Resort at Catskill Park.

The Town of Bovina is a small town located adjacent to the Town of Middletown in Delaware County. Much of the economic challenges that are present in the Towns of Middletown and Shandaken can be seen throughout the area and our town is not immune from this malaise. Ironically, Bovina was host to seven farm-based boarding houses with the total capacity of about 200 guests; a practice that was so prevalent throughout the Catskill in the 1950's and 60's but no longer exists today. Aside from agri-tourism, this town relied heavily on agriculture, dairy farming in particular, to provide the much needed financial engine, however those days are also in the past.

There are many reasons for our poor economy but one only has to examine labor statistics to see the economy eroding here in the Southern Tier and the NYC watershed at an alarming rate. According to New York State Labor Department Statistics, in Delaware County, we have lost 1.8% of our jobs in the last 12 months. As a Supervisor of a neighboring town, I realize that this project is not a panacea for Bovina; however a robust tourism economy in Middletown and Shandaken could mean jobs for our youth, some spill-over of tourist dollars for our businesses, and perhaps a reduction in our tax burden to our residents.

It has always been my opinion that a thorough environmental review should be completed on all projects of this nature. I was pleased that after the review that took place in 2003, issues were addresses and as a result an Agreement in Principal where both the environmental community and the developer signed off, the project was reduced in scope, and the environment protected. It is unclear to this supervisor as to the need for an administrative law judge to continue hearings after the agreement has been signed. That being said, I can only implore that the lead agency's review process does not become protracted and the project principals decide the cost of review becomes too onerous and unprofitable. We need this project!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tina Mole". The signature is stylized with a large loop on the left and a vertical line on the right.

Tina Mole`
Supervisor