**The Wittenberg Center for Alternative Resources Inc**

**17 Jonet Lane, Bearsville NY 12409**

****

 November 19, 2014

Dear Town of Ulster Supervisor Quigley,

We are writing concerning the proposed Niagra Bottling Plant SEQR review process. We are asking for a positive declaration on the following grounds. We strongly believe that both Cooper Lake and the location of the proposed Niagara plant are potential Level One archeological sites.

As you may know, the Indigenous Teaching Rock from Cooper Lake was originally moved to Kingston, NY with a plaque and then sent to a museum in Syracuse, NY. This fact alone indicates that the site was recognized and documented as an historical Esopus ceremonial site.

As Supervisor Quigley knows, the Ulster Ridge is full of Level One archeological sites, and we have information that the land near the IBM site close to the Esopus was an important Annishinabe agricultural and food processing site.

As part of the cultural and prehistoric preservation at these sites, it is also important to maintain the Hudson River fisheries that were part of traditional life in this area. Any dumping of waste water from the bottling manufacturing process is a clear violation of the Clean Water Act and the Hudson River Estuary Management Plan which protects endangered fish species and the flats which are their breeding grounds.

We believe that the law is clear that this information triggers a positive SEQR declaration and further study. If Niagara has applied for or is receiving federal or state grants or tax deferments, State CR42 and/or Federal CR106 must be taken into consideration before this project can proceed and must trigger a positive SEQR declaration.

Additionally, as a cancer survivor I have seen numerous reports by cancer specialists on the carcinogenic effects of plastic bottles on human health. I believe our own Dr. Sheldon Feldman has access to material pertaining to this issue, and living in a cancer cluster area, I believe this must also be addressed so we do not inadvertently create additional hazards for our families.

Thank you for your consideration of these important environmental, cultural, and historic issues.

We request that you acknowledge receipt of this correspondence by return email and distribute it to the entire Board.

 Thank you.

 Sincerely,

 Rev. Betsy Stang,

 Executive Director,

 The Wittenberg Center for Alternative Resources

 bebird@aol.com

 Rev. Jim Davis,

 Environmental Director,

 The Wittenberg Center for Alternative Resources

 jimcdavis@aol.com