

**Chairman:** William G. Farber, Morehouse  
**Deputy Chairman:** Richard A. Wilt, Arietta

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P.O. BOX 205, 102 COUNTY VIEW DR.  
LAKE PLEASANT, NEW YORK 12108  
Phone (518) 548-6651 Fax (518) 548-7608

December 20, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application

Dear Mr. Lore:

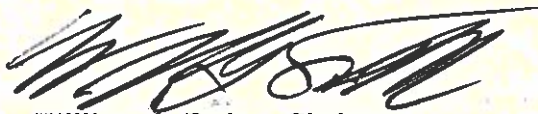
I am writing as Chairman of the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors in strong support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued, vital, and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the Company to continue in this capacity for many years to come. Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape. This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs for 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it. Barton Mines

have been not only an important community anchor but also an important employer for our whole region. I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our Park and the communities in the Park. Let me reiterate Hamilton County's strong support for this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Farber', written in a cursive style.

William G. Farber, Chairman  
Hamilton County Board of Supervisors



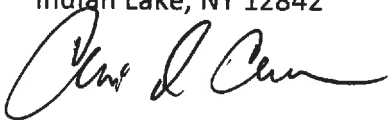
Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
JAN 21 2022  
JAN 21 2022

Dear Mr. Lore-

I write you today regarding the mine permit application for Barton Mines, I have waited to write this until I had a chance to read some of the responses to the application in the local papers. Since I have been employed with Barton for over 25 year's I thought I could give an insight on some of the comments made and give a perspective to the operation and what it is like to work for the company. I think the plan Barton has submitted will be an example of how a business can have great environmental stewardship while remaining a profitable member of the community. The local communities need companies like Barton for employment with good paying jobs and benefits that a person can raise a family on as well as their generous support of the local agencies. If the Barton operation were to shut down it would be devastating to several local towns, and many would be forced to move elsewhere since there is very little for other employers of this type in the area. Barton operations has done many things, allowed me to raise a family with the benefits needed for their health and wellbeing. Allowed me to advance by giving me opportunity to learn, I started cleaning the floor of the concentrate mill, operations, millwright, heavy equipment operator & driller and I am now one of their Buyers. They allow emergency service personnel the opportunity to seek out and participate with the local agency and I spent several years with the local fire department as an interior fire fighter and was one of the people who cut the fire break to extinguish the fire on the side of Chimney Mountain in the Siamese wilderness. This isn't just a company or operation it is a part of the community and should be considered as such when taking in all accounts of the operation and how it works. I read where a person commented on the noise of the operation, I have been on the residual mineral pile checking water levels and could hear traffic from Route 28. While driving pit truck I had to stop my vehicle and set the parking brake while I waited for a fawn which was nursing from its mother in the middle of the pit road, I think when people hear the word mine it brings forth an unflattering image. This is not that mine, it is not that kind of operation. This is a family company in which I have many sisters and brothers I care about, many of us are conservationists and serve the communities in volunteer roles that give support to those visiting the area. I hope you can see how this is a company worth keeping around and is one that will work great within the boundaries of the park.

Thank you,  
Christopher D. Aldous  
6326 NYS Route 30  
Indian Lake, NY 12842



*Laurie Prescott Arnheiter*  
292 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853  
**11/10/2021**

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

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Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

***Laurie Prescott Arnheiter***  
***Member Community Development Corp.***  
***Present Town of Johnsburg Town Councilwoman***  
***4<sup>th</sup> Generation Business Owner North Creek***



Eugene Arsenault  
Town of Johnsburg Council Member  
3496 State Route 8  
Johnsburg, NY 12843

December 10, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application

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Sincerely,

Eugene Arsenault  
Town of Johnsburg Council Member

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsburg Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)



**From:** [jsd3@frontiernet.net](mailto:jsd3@frontiernet.net)  
**To:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Martino, Terry \(APA\); Zalewski, Joseph M. \(DEC\); SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov; stec@nysenate.gov; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines current mining operations and proposed plans for expansion  
**Date:** Friday, October 22, 2021 6:36:57 AM

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Mr. Lore:

My wife and I reside in the home my in-laws built on Garnet Hill in North River in 1972, when we first began making trips to what we still consider to be a sublime part of the Adirondack Park. The reason I am writing is that we have noticed that the operations of Barton Mine on Ruby Mountain--which once were almost unnoticeable--have in recent years diminished the quality of life of residents and, we fear, negatively affected the health of the Wilderness Area. Therefore, as Barton Mine seeks to renew its permit with the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) and expand its operations, we wish to state our specific concerns and to make recommendations that may, in the long run, benefit all parties involved.

First, we are now aware of noise from the mine almost any time of day or night. It's kind of a background din that feels unsettling. We think that independent noise impact studies ought to be conducted, the results of which ought to be used by Barton Mine in mitigation procedures spelled out in the updated permit.

Second, the glow of lights from the mine is visible by residents--and even campers on 13th Lake, we hear--at night, obscuring the stars in what used to be a dazzling jeweled sky. We've long been familiar with air, water, and noise pollution; this is light pollution. We're not sure how this issue might be remedied, other than by the use of more focused lights of lower intensity and reduced nighttime hours of operation, but an independent study might arrive at workable solutions.

Third, we've noticed that dust now accumulates on outdoor surfaces in a way it never used to. Apart from how it mars the exterior of homes and vehicles, we worry about how the air residents breathe is negatively affecting their health. This is another instance in which an independent study to assess the impact of airborne particulate matter is called for. The issuance of a renewed permit by APA should be contingent upon adequate mitigation measures.

Fourth, although we have not actually detected a change in water color, as some fellow residents have, we are concerned about effluent matter from the Mine draining into Thirteenth Brook. Even more worrisome is the possibility that Barton Mine's use of well water may currently or in the future foul the well water of residents in the area. Again, an independent study should be undertaken to assess the water quality below the Mine of resident wells and Thirteenth Brook. Even if the water quality is determined to be adequate, plans to keep it that way should be integral to the new permit.

These are our main concerns. We know that the proposed new permit has the potential to protect the health and serenity of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area and its residents. We also know that the impact of expanded Mine operations will have a cumulative effect in years to come and that "a stitch in time saves nine." Area residents have co-existed with Barton Mine for a long time, and we are among those who respect the Mine's place in our community. What we are asking, simply, is for the APA to make a thorough assessment of resident concerns and to direct the Mine to adequately address these issues as part of permit renewal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brooke and John Durland  
13 Birch Mountain Road  
North River, NY



STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

518.792.3856 | 1.877.792.3856  
behancommunications.com

November 5, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
Sent via email to: [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore:

I am writing to express my appreciation and admiration for the responsible long-term mining plan developed by Barton Mines for its Ruby Mountain operation. I respectfully encourage the Park Agency to give favorable consideration to Barton's application for a mining permit modification. The company is a reliable mainstay of the Adirondack community, and approval of its request is in the best interest of the region.

Barton is an Adirondack legacy business, having been established 14 years before the creation of the Adirondack Park. The Adirondack family that began the business still owns it. The company, now in its sixth generation, has an outstanding record of environmental stewardship and regulatory compliance, and has demonstrated a sincere commitment to operating as unobtrusively as possible in relation to its residential neighbors.

Barton is also an incredible economic asset, providing more than 100 good-paying local jobs, generating more than \$15 million in annual economic activity, philanthropically supporting dozens of community organizations, and paying sizable property tax bills that help ensure the availability of high-quality local services to area residents and visitors alike.

In setting forth the purpose of the Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan, the Adirondack Park Agency Act recognizes, "...the complementary needs of all the people of the state for the preservation of the park's resources and open space character and of the park's permanent, seasonal and transient populations for growth and service areas, employment, and a strong economic base ..."

Barton Mines' presence in the Town of Johnsburg checks all of those boxes.

What's more, in Industrial Use areas, like that in which the Barton mine is located, the APA Act "will encourage the continued operation of major existing industrial and mineral extraction uses important to the economy of the Adirondack region." Barton could not have said it better themselves.



I have known the Barton family for nearly 50 years. My firm has been proud to call Barton Mines a client for decades, including our service to them on this mine permit modification. The Adirondack Region needs more families and more businesses like Barton. I hope the Park Agency will see fit to enable Barton to continue its 143-year legacy of responsible environmental stewardship and economic support of Adirondack communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Behan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mark L. Behan, President

cc: Honorable Dan Stec, New York State Senator  
Honorable Matt Simpson, [New York State Assembly Member](#)  
Joseph Zalewski, Regional Director, NYS DEC Region 5  
Andrea Hogan, Supervisor, Town of Johnsburg  
Chuck Barton, COO, Barton Mines



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Latham, NY 12110  
USA

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F-518.783.8754  
[www.ajg.com](http://www.ajg.com)

November 12, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

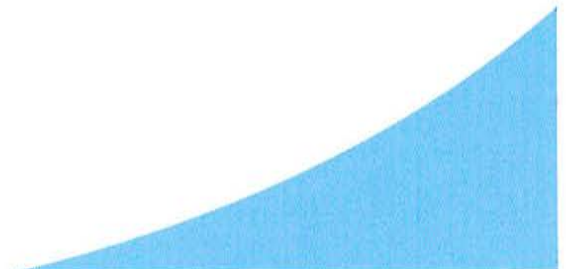
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Latham, NY 12110  
USA

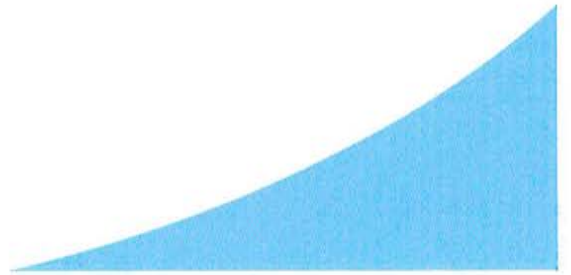
P -800-233-0115  
F-518.783.8754  
www.ajg.com

As a point of context, Gallagher formerly Cool Insuring Agency, a Warren County business with 100 plus employees, dating back to 1857, has functioned as Barton's insurance broker and risk advisor since the 1950's. I have personally been Barton's point person at Gallagher/Cool since 1985. I can unequivocally attest to Barton's thoughtful and ethical business practices that form the basis of their everyday culture influencing all decisions affecting their employee's, operating environment and customers.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

**John C. Bieniek**  
**Area Vice President**  
**Cool Insuring Agency**  
**Inc.**  
**A Gallagher Company**





Insurance | Risk Management | Consulting

784 Troy-Schenectady Road  
Latham, NY 12110  
USA

P -800-233-0115  
F-518.783.8754  
[www.ajg.com](http://www.ajg.com)

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsbury Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburny.com)

Matt Simpson NYS  
Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)





## ADIRONDACK REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

---

**100% Member Funded, 100% Member Focused**

December 6, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

RE: *Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application*

Dear Mr. Lore,

**I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.**

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come. The amount of time, care, and commitment that Barton Mines and their entire staff put into our community is second to none. Barton Mines is always there for our community and has shown the utmost in professionalism, thoughtfulness, and care for this modification request.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

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Sincerely,

Michael Bittel  
President/CEO





## **ADIRONDACK REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

### **100% Member Funded, 100% Member Focused**

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsbury Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)



Anna Bowers  
P.O. Box 184  
North Creek, NY

10 November 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

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Sincerely,

Anna Bowers



Charles H. Bracken Jr.  
Chairman and CEO  
Barton Mines Corporation  
Six Warren Street  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

December 8, 2021

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

DEC 22 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

My great-great-grandfather, Henry Hudson Barton, founded the garnet industrial abrasives industry when he began mining garnet on Gore Mountain in 1878. It has been my honor and privilege to be a part of this great legacy since 1988 when I joined the Barton Mines Corporation board of directors. In 1997 I became the non-executive Chairman of the Board and in 2001 I joined Barton full time as the Executive Chairman and CEO.

Throughout the 143 years that Barton has mined garnet in the Adirondacks, preservation of the environment and the community have been priorities. For example, during my tenure Barton renovated an 1865 building in Glens Falls to house its corporate offices, receiving LEED Platinum certification from the U.S. Green Building Council in 2009. Barton also partnered with a solar power company to build a 2.0-megawatt solar farm on our property that now provides approximately 30% of the energy needed to power Barton's mine and processing facility. Members of our leadership team proactively briefed our neighbors and other community members on our preliminary plans well in advance of the permit submittal and incorporated their feedback into our comprehensive application.

If approved, the mine permit modification will bring a wide array of benefits to all stakeholders. Most notably, the employees, local companies, and municipalities who will continue to be supported by wages, business, tax payments, and philanthropy from Barton. I encourage the APA to approve the application so that Barton can add to its rich history as a good corporate citizen and key financial supporter of the community for many generations to come.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Bracken, Jr.

Judith and Joe Brown

P.O. Box 54

North River, NY 12856

December 17, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

NYS Adirondack Park Agency

P.O. Box 99

Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application

Dear Mr. Lore,

We are writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton's Mines has been a good neighbor and an important part of our community. They are one of the major employers in the Town of Johnsburg. They are an active community member and have been for over 100 years. I would like to see their business prosper because our community depends on them.

Barton's Mines has been very receptive to the local concerns and has modified the way they do things to accommodate these concerns. Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. I believe the company respects the environment and the people in the community. It is a business and needs to think about the future.

The Brown's residence is one of their closest neighbors. We hear trucks back up sometimes and see lights. To me they are part of the Adirondacks where we live and they responsibly manage their mining operations. I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also the Town of Johnsburg and the Adirondack Park.

Sincerely,

Joe and Judith Brown

*Joe L. Brown*  
*Judith L. Brown*

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

DEC 22 2021



P.O. Box 448 Chestertown NY 12817

October 26, 2021

Dear Rob Lore

NYS Adirondack Park Agency PO Box 99 Ray Brook, NY 12977,

On behalf of Buckman's Family Fuel, we would like to show our support for the Barton Mines Company. They are a top-notch organization that operates by the book in every way. Safety, and environmental concerns are top priorities for Barton Mines, and they are a role model for the way companies should be run. I have even implemented some of their protocols into my own business.

Barton Mines has been around for 5 generations and is a staple to the surrounding economy. They provide a huge number of quality jobs in the area, and in turn, Barton employees spend money on goods and services at many of the local businesses. They are always donating back the community. Barton Mines also hires many of the local area's businesses to provide them with product, and services.

We recently attended a meeting in North Creek about some of the things they are looking to accomplish in the near future, and I can't see how anyone would not approve. The things they are looking to do are not any different from what they are doing now. In fact, the changes they are making seem to be less impactful to the surroundings and they are always concerned about how they impact the community.

Sincerely

*Paul L Buckman*

Paul L Buckman  
Buckman's Family Fuel Co. Inc.  
518-494-4999



Thomas A. Butler, President  
Empire Site Communication Management, Inc.  
245 Westchester Dr. S.  
Delmar, NY 12054

January 12, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

I have experienced, first hand, Barton Mine's role as a good neighbor for their operations in the Adirondack Park. They work closely with the Gore Mountain Ski area and have provided many services to the Ski facility when asked, from providing storage for their materials, to providing gravel, at no charge, for the facility's access roads. They are not obligated to do these things, but they do -- because they are a good and responsible neighbor.


Throughout their tenure as a mining concern, they have had respect for their adjacent neighbors and have gone out of their way to maintain good relations with them. I firmly believe that Barton Mines will continue their best practices to minimize their physical impact on the Adirondacks while maintaining good relations with their adjoining property owners.

Furthermore, whatever future aesthetic impacts they will have, I believe they will do their best to minimize them and to not adversely impact the natural beauty of the area. Since 1878, they have been vested in the Adirondacks. They provide over 75 well-paying jobs to a community that desperately needs these jobs and the positive economic impact that these jobs provide to the local economy.

Many generations of Barton's have managed this property and Barton Mines, and its current owners, entrusted with this generational responsibility, will continue to responsibly manage their mining operations and property. This is because they care and are a vital part of the community.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also the Adirondack Park.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas A. Butler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Thomas A. Butler, President  
Empire Site Communication Management, Inc.

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296, Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsburg Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Dan Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

Jan.30, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing to show my support of an extension for Barton International to amend and expand its operations to extract more garnet and extend the company's operational life. I have lived in North River all my life. Members of my nuclear family have worked for Barton's for 3 generations. My husband currently works for Barton's as a haul truck driver and operates heavy machinery, as well. Likewise, members of his nuclear family dating back three generations have worked for Barton's. I do not need to go into a long, detailed message of why our families have depended on the Barton family's industry; it's simple, they provide and have provided needed jobs for approximately 144 years. And, I don't need to tell you that without Barton's, 130 families today would probably have to move from their native home to seek employment. Here's what I can tell you that you may not know, from the view of the wife of a Barton employee. I hope the following observations will help you see why we need Barton Mines to be successful :

1. Most couples talk about work when they get home. In these conversations, many things impress me about Bartons. I like the fact that they are extremely safety conscious, putting the safety of their employees as a primary focus. Seriously. My husband talks about what a pain it is to tie off that harness, attend all the safety meetings and the weekly "tool box talks", not to mention the physical training for every piece of equipment on the lot and in the mills. There are two safety officers employed who work full time to oversee that Barton's employees are following protocol. I think this speaks greatly to the seriousness Barton has toward safety. My husband may find all these requirements a pain when his hauling is interrupted, but I am appreciative every day that Barton's is concerned that their employees are safe. One year, every employee received a beautiful celebratory jacket that had Safety 365 embroidered on the face of the jacket as incentive to keep the safety trend going! That is cool.
2. Safety gear, boot and clothes allowances. Bartons supply the men with extremely nice reflective jackets for daily use at the mines. They want their people to be SEEN! Each employee gets a boot allowance to be sure steel-toed boots are worn. I am also very appreciative that Barton's will pay for prescriptive, wrap-around sports style glasses to help my husband avoid wear and tear on his own glasses. Hey, all this may not seem like a big deal to some, but it is to me. This helps the family budget greatly, and I appreciate all they do for the employees to help keep them safe.

3. Quarterly communication “status and focus of the company” meetings. Bartons believes in fostering an employee- centered company by discussing the status of the company as far as growth or decline in production and/or sales. The administration always shares their vision and includes employees in trouble shooting for better outcomes. I think it is awesome to give employees a voice in the company and I am pretty envious when my husband comes home and tells me what was served at the luncheons! In the past, Barton’s has even had door prizes and contests which made meetings fun. I recall one such luncheon which took place at Garnet Hill Lodge, and my husband came home with a nice Canon camera!
4. Bartons cares about their employees’ families. Through the years, Bartons has organized and paid for family days at The Great Escape, picnics at the old Gore Mountain facility and Christmas parties complete with Santa Claus for the employees’ children at Echo Lake Lodge in Warrensburg. I am sure there are even more activities of which I am not aware. In addition to the activities, Bartons also purchases ski passes each year and the employees take turns using the pass cards so that they can ski with their children. I am very, very grateful for the times I was able to ski with my kids and not just hang out at the lodge and wait for them. I used the pass card as often as I could.
5. Bartons engages with the community. I am sure there are a lot of philanthropic donations Bartons gives annually. I don’t know about all that they give, but I know they give faithfully to Johnsburg Dollars For Scholars as I was the organization’s secretary for a number of years. Not only did Barton’s contribute to our biggest yearly fund-raiser, “Race The Train” in North Creek (in the years it ran) but they send a generous monetary donation every year to a deserving graduate from Johnsburg Central School.
6. Bartons work hard to support their families. Barton’s offers competitive pay, overtime opportunities, an awesome 401 K plan, and a good insurance plan. Native families can more than survive but thrive with this company. I am proud to be associated, indirectly, with Barton’s and have always enjoyed the stability my husband has had working for this company. I know other Barton spouses feel the same way as we have had conversations about what the company offers to its employees.

Mr. Lore, I am sure you have heard about the concerns and observations of second home owners in North River, particularly those who live in the Garnet Hill Association section of town. They have complaints about noise pollution, light pollution and dust. These homeowners live nearer to the mines than I do. I live about a mile and a quarter from the site and the second homeowners about half a mile. They are nearer, so probably hear and see more. However, the blasts and noise do not and have never bothered me. To me it was part of life living in North River. The traffic from the single haul truck and the very occasional service truck or equipment being sent to Barton’s is truly not an issue; *The town’s maintenance dump trucks are ever so*



*more present than any Barton's vehicle.* Yes, I hear the noises of the mill, yes, I see dust. But you don't hear it and see it constantly.

While I read about the concerns of the Garnet Hill Association, I would like to remind you that Barton International has always tried to mitigate these complaints. How do I know this? My husband is tasked to build hills and berms with top soil to hide the sight/sound of trucks and cut down on the noise of the pit trucks dumping in the crusher building. This work is to be finished off this summer. The employees are tasked to turn off the lights at the crusher each night. Additionally, my husband talks of addressing the tailings pile that so many second home owners do not like to look at. All of these things are being addressed to please residents. My point is that Barton International is doing the best it can to take care of their employees and accommodate the neighbors. I feel it is time to give Barton's a break. I think it is time for second home owners to realize North River exists because of the Hoopers and Bartons and that the origination of their own community was started by miners. It may be time for the second homeowners to fully realize the positive impact Barton's has had on its native families and decide whether having homes here is something they can live with or whether they should sell and find a second home in another part of the park. I do not say this with disrespect for those with second homes. I am saying this as a point of common sense. It is a plain choice. Bartons shaped us, Bartons is needed and Bartons could continue having a positive impact on everyone with some give and take.

Sincerely,  
Elizabeth Cleveland

January 26, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore,

I have lived in North River, NY for twenty-two years. I moved to the area to be near family and began working for Barton International in February of 2003. Previous to my employment at Barton's I was a commercial and industrial electrician. This job took me to many different states and cities making it challenging to parent my children. I also had employment logging, working on a dairy farm, working in a small engine garage servicing tractors, snowmobiles and ATVs. I can honestly say that Barton International has been the best job I have worked. Barton's has excellent benefits, competitive pay, and is close to my home (which makes it possible for me to be with my family). I can not emphasize enough how important this job is and has been for me and my family.

My family has roots at Barton International. My great grandfather was a teamster working for Hooper Mines(which later was affiliated with Barton Mines), my grandfather worked as a miner at the old Gore Mt. facility for 17 years and my father worked for Barton's for several years before moving our family to Lewis County. None of us would say that working in the mines is an easy job, but it is a job in which a person can take great interest and pride. I heard stories of mining passed down through the generations and I can tell you, I am glad to be working there today rather than the early years before better automation!

Barton International has greatly benefitted my family. The administration at Barton's has always been understanding and flexible in the work schedule for its employees when it comes to family needs and emergencies. Barton's was extremely supportive and caring when my wife and I struggled to meet the needs of my elderly parents particularly during the years of 2018 to 2020. My father had stage 4 lung cancer and my mother had stage 4 breast cancer. During those trying years, Barton's allowed me to answer the call when I had unexpected trips to the hospital or taking my parents to their radiation and chemotherapy treatments. I knew I could be present for my parents and NOT lose my job. I was never questioned about the time I needed, in fact, my superiors always asked how they could help. I will never forget this kindness.

If you ask other employees at Barton International, I am sure you would hear similar stories where Barton's has cared for them as an employee and an individual. While I am toward the end of my career at Barton's many of my friends who work at Barton's are starting their careers and have young families. They rely on this industry to stay in the area and it provides the pay, insurance and benefits that allow them to stay in the area with their parents and grandparents.

The loss of this industry would devastate these families and pull families apart. This business truly brings peace of mind and dignity to hundreds of people in the community. I implore you to support the continuation of this cornerstone industry for the sake of all who work here and for the extended community. Without them, an exodus will occur and families will be scattered. Please support the mine permit application.

Sincerely,

Terry Cleveland  
P.O. Box 43  
North River, NY 12856

October 29, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Lore,

I have been working at Barton for almost 15 years supporting both the North Creek and Corporate office. I am a proud employee and supporter of the North Creek region. I write this letter today to express my support of the Barton Mines' APA permit modification application.

During my tenure with Barton, I have supported all employees, retirees, and their families on a variety of matters relating to their employment at Barton as well as the community. We have connected with local schools offering tours of our operation highlighting employment opportunities available and identifying continued educational paths to support their interests and career goals.

Additionally, we have presented in the classrooms and at career fairs to provide resources to students on how to prepare for their path forward after high school. We have hired several members of the community following their graduation and offered them an alternative career path than traditional 4-year degrees which better suit their desire to be hands on while remaining local to their families and community they grew up in.

Our employees have a rich history with Barton as generations of families have completed their careers through retirement from Barton. Without Barton in the North Country, these families would be forced to relocate. The community and economic impact would be significant. Furthermore, our employees and their families enjoy the region and want to remain in their homes where generations of their families reside, and their children attend school.

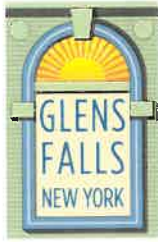
Barton Mines has helped me provide for my family and without the North Creek operations, I would be forced to look for another opportunity outside of the region. I ask you to respectfully consider the positive contributions Barton Mines has made to the local community and approve their mine permit application.

Sincerely,



Melissa Clifford  
Gansevoort, NY





January 28, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director For Regulatory Programs  
New York State Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[Robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:Robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
FEB 07 2022

RE: Barton Mines, Inc. Mine Permit Modification Application

Dear Mr. Lore;

I would like to express my and the City of Glens Falls' support for Barton Mines' recent mine permit modification application. As you are no doubt aware, Barton's headquarters has been in downtown Glens Falls since purchasing their historic building at the corner of Warren and Ridge Street in 2006. We greatly appreciate Barton's environmental leadership: both in renovating their office to LEED Platinum standards, the highest level of certification and one of only two LEED certified buildings in the City, and in the historic preservation of this landmark building. Barton Mines is also a vital contributor to our city, county and regional economy with a local payroll of over \$8 million a year while spending an additional \$7 million on local suppliers.

We fully support Warren County's findings that the plan is well thought out, is consistent with the APA's Industrial Lands Classification to preserve industrial use areas in the Park, while at the same time preserving the surrounding area for all the residents and users of the Adirondacks. Their plan is a sensitive one carefully minimizing area environmental impacts, in particular the impact on nearby residents and businesses.

Accordingly, we are greatly concerned about the long-term financial health of this vital local company, since it is our understanding that Barton's survival depends on the approval of this application. Among other issues, the loss of Barton would mean sending yet another industry abroad, making the United States dependent on foreign suppliers in yet another area.

We ask that the APA approve Barton's application to continue Barton's many contributions to our area.

Sincerely yours,

S. William Collins  
Mayor



Motion Industries  
12 Jupiter Lane  
Albany, NY 12205

November 4, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

*Rob Comins*

Branch Manager



**FrontStreet Mountain Development  
Ski Bowl Village at Gore Mountain  
P.O. Box 142  
Darien, CT 06820**

November 5, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines – 2021 APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore:

Please refer to the subject Permit Application by the Barton Mine company. As a neighbor, major developer in the Town of Johnsburg and holder of an APA Class A Permit, **FrontStreet Mountain Development** is writing to express our strong support for the Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the north country and in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century. They are a privately owned company that provides full-time jobs to over 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes. Barton seeks to comply with all regulatory requirements at a minimum, and to exceed those standards whenever possible for the benefit of its employees, neighbors, and the environment.

This permit modification will enable the Company to continue in this capacity for many years to come and is vital to the long-term success of the business and the Community of Johnsburg and Glens Falls. We believe that Bartons have worked diligently to develop an amended mining plan that minimizes any impact to its neighbors and the environment.

Barton has certainly exceeded the requirements in the development of this application:

- i. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded.
- ii. The new plan to place a portion of the residuals back into the mine, as part of the reclamation process, will help slow the growth of the pile.
- iii. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, to the credit of the community, the Adirondacks and the State of New York. Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

We hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible Application in the best interests of not only Barton; but also the community. Your timely action on and approval of this proposal is of great importance to all. Please advise if we can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,



David C. Crikelair, Manager  
FrontStreet Mountain Development  
*"Ski Bowl Village at Gore Mountain"*

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsburg Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)





**passonno paints**

500 Broadway, Watervliet (Albany), N.Y. 12189 (518) 273-3822  
FAX (518) 273-1566

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

**November 8, 2021**

NOV 15 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency P.O. Box 99 Ray Brook, NY 12977  
**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application. Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has been a good neighbor in North Creek area and in the development of this application. Barton has made good effort to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile and the effort should be applauded. The new plan will place a portion of their residuals back into the mine and will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

A community-minded approach is how Barton does their business. Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world. They are a private local company which provides full-time jobs to 75 local people. Barton supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878. Barton has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

**Richard B Cunningham, President Passonno Paints**

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
Andrea Hogan  
Matt Simpson  
Daniel Stec

NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
Town of Johnsburg Supervisor  
NYS Assemblyman  
NYS Senator







# Mid-Atlantic Coatings, Inc.

Marine Blasting and Painting

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

December 20, 2021

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JAN 03 2022

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton is an essential vendor and valued business partner to Mid-Atlantic Coatings, Inc. (MAC). The garnet abrasives MAC purchases from Barton comply with MIL-A-22262B(SH) as required in our contracts with the U.S. Department of Defense.

Our partnership has resulted in many successful projects, most notably the 2018-2019 midlife refueling and complex overhaul (RCOH) of the USS *George Washington* (CVN 73) at Huntington Ingalls Industries Newport News Shipbuilding division. Barton engineered a specialty grade of 30/60 CG garnet abrasive specifically to meet the surface preparation needs of the project and went on to produce 6,500 tons at their mine in the Adirondack Mountains of New York state. The supply of this product was essential in supporting MAC and the U.S. Navy in the successful refurbishment of the aircraft carrier. MAC and our partners earned the 2019 SSPC Military Coatings Project Award of Excellence for the exceptional coatings work on this military project.

Barton is currently supplying MAC with 30/60 CG for the RCOH of the USS *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74) in progress at Newport News Shipbuilding. Uninterrupted supply of this material is essential to meeting the project timeline.

I encourage you to support Barton's mine permit modification application because the garnet produced at their Adirondack mine is essential to MAC, the Department of Defense, and the security of our nation.

Sincerely,

Vincent D'Auge  
President  
Mid-Atlantic Coatings

Mid-Atlantic Coatings, Inc.  
P.O. Box 6857  
Chesapeake, VA 23323

Office: (757)485-0400  
Fax: (757)485-3579  
Web: [mid-atlanticcoatings.com](http://mid-atlanticcoatings.com)

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsbury Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)



November 19, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

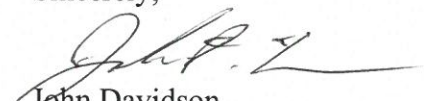
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This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

  
John Davidson  
Vice President, Jointa Galusha

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsburg Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

3000 State Route 8  
North Creek, NY 12853  
518-251-2896

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
NOV 01 2021

October 27, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

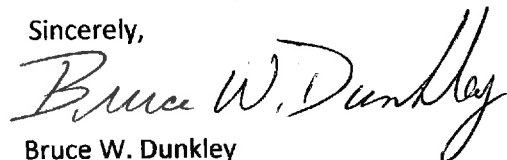
Dear Mr. Zalewski:

I write in support of Barton Mine's pending application seeking approval of their mining site expansion. After attending their public presentation on 10/26/2021, it is evident that this is a common sense, well planned and very professional expansion of their mining operation. Their detailed presentation package answers all issues that could possibly arise with their need to expand, there is virtually no negative impact on the environment, only improvement and, most importantly, the area will be served well with a continued base of employment for so many in the area.

I have been a resident at 3000 State Route 8 in North Creek for 70+ years, my father worked at Barton Mines for 36 years prior to his retirement in 1983. My brother worked several years for Ringler Transportation, a local company transporting garnet from the mine to customers throughout the Northeast. Many of my relatives, friends and neighbors have worked and continue to work for this well managed company. The Barton company and family have been and continue to be responsible members of our community.

Please expedite approval of the Barton request and I look forward to your continued support for entities like them, who demonstrate responsible ownership and continued enhancement of not only our area, but more importantly, our people.

Sincerely,

  
Bruce W. Dunkley





November 10, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsbury for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Dupee", is written over a horizontal line.

Michael Dupee  
Founding Partner



Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsbury Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

January 25, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

P.O. Box 99

Ray Brook, NY 12977

[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Mr. Lore,

I moved to North River to take a job at Barton roughly 3 years ago. If I had not taken this job and moved into the area, I would most likely have left New York entirely. In my experience Barton is very beneficial to the surrounding area and is a good environmental steward. Barton has provided for my family and provides for many families in an area where good long term reliable jobs are not easy to find. I have been coming to the Adirondacks for my entire life. I never thought I would get to live in the Adirondacks as my background is in heavy industry and there are limited opportunities for that type of job in the park. I would like to give my full support to the APA permit modification that Barton is seeking. I would kindly ask that you review Barton's application and approve the modification so that myself and many others can live in an area we love and continue to support our families in the future. Barton has a legacy of long-term employment. My predecessor retired from Barton after working here for his entire career. He started after high school and retired with 40+ years of service. He is not the only one in this situation. In my time here we have had multiple 40+ year retirements. This is a situation that should not change. Many people here are multi-generational employees with fathers and grandfathers that have worked and retired from the company. This speaks volumes about the company and their values. With my personal situation and skill set I would have to leave the park and would most likely leave New York entirely if Barton were to not have their permit modified. I am sure that you have many letters both in support and opposition of the permit modification. I appreciate you taking the time to read my letter and again would like to kindly ask that you consider approving Barton's APA permit.

Sincerely,

Charles Edic

P.O. Box 304 North River, NY, 12856



PLATTSBURGH, NY  
POTSDAM, NY

February 4, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
FEB 09 2022

RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing to express our support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

As a business who is very community-oriented, we respect and support other businesses who strive to have similar values. Barton has been a respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

I have reviewed Barton's proposal and truly believe that the changes that they are requesting will allow them to responsibly mine for many more years. It is evident that Barton cares about the environment and surrounding community with their efforts to minimize any impacts to the land and neighbors. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of their residual minerals pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape. This community-minded approach should be recognized.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application that will allow them to sustain business for years to come; providing jobs to at least 75 local individuals and allowing Barton to continue supporting our community.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alexandra Jeffords Fessette".

Alexandra Jeffords Fessette  
Vice President



4398 Route 22 • PO Box 40 • Plattsburgh, NY 12901 • Toll Free 800.217.8335 • Tel 518.561.4061 • Fax 518.561.5404 • [jeffordssteel.com](http://jeffordssteel.com) • [info@jeffordssteel.com](mailto:info@jeffordssteel.com)

To provide the highest quality product using technology, a stable workforce, and a strong commitment to the community.



PLATTSBURGH, NY  
POTSDAM, NY

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsbury Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)



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*To provide the highest quality product using technology, a stable workforce, and a strong commitment to the community.*

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

NOV 01 2021

Re: Barton Mine/Ruby Mountain Expansion

Dear Mr. Lore,

I value the "forever wild" Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area, especially Thirteenth Lake. I have serious concerns about current disruptive operations at the Barton Mine on Ruby Mountain in Johnsburg, NY and their plans to apply for an 80 year expansion of their permit with the Adirondack Park Agency.

The Adirondack Park Agency needs to fully assess this project and hold an adjudicatory hearing. Information Barton provides as part of the permitting process needs to be independently verified and independent studies need to be undertaken to fully assess potential impact to the Forest Preserve and local residents.

I have read the letter submitted to the APA by Peter Bauer of Protect the Adirondacks. I agree with the issues he has addressed, including:

- **Noise:** Noise from mining operations has increased significantly, a result of both pit-mining and onsite processing, including the spreading of tailings. Noise can be heard round the clock in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area.
- **Visibility:** The tailings pile has grown dramatically over the years so that it is now visible from Thirteenth Lake Road and from the Wilderness Area.
- **Fugitive Dust & Airborne Particulate:** The amount of dust on surfaces has increased. The impact of fugitive dust and airborne particulates on humans and animals needs to be independently studied.
- **Water Quality:** Thirteenth Brook has changed. It's clarity has been compromised by what may be effluent or debris from Barton Mines. Locals report a decrease in the brook trout fishery once prevalent. Any use of well water may impact the sustainability of the water supply for residents.
- **Lights:** Lights have grown in strength and intensity. Light can now be seen as a glow from the Forest Preserve and other areas, including residences, destroying the Adirondack "dark skies".
- **Truck traffic:** Impact of truck traffic along 13th Lake Road on road condition and noise levels needs to be assessed. Truck traffic needs to be limited in size, scope, and duration.
- **Hours of Operation:** Many of these concerns are compounded by longer working hours, especially the mill, or crusher, which operates around the clock. A review of current and future permitting needs to be explicit in limiting operations which disrupt the serenity of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area.

It is important that the APA protects the "forever wild" nature of the Adirondacks and considers the impact of these serious concerns on both the Wilderness Area and the local residents. Barton Mines should not be granted a new permit without thorough consideration for each of these issues and their impact. To that end, I request an official adjudicatory public hearing.

Sincerely,

Aaron Fraser



Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

NOV 01 2021

Re: Barton Mine/Ruby Mountain Expansion

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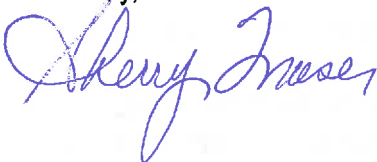
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It is important that the APA protects the "forever wild" nature of the Adirondacks and considers the impact of these serious concerns on both the Wilderness Area and the local residents. Barton Mines should not be granted a new permit without thorough consideration for each of these issues and their impact. To that end, I request an official adjudicatory public hearing.

Sincerely,





January 20, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JAN 24 2022

RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application

Mr. Lore:

The Five Towns Coalition is in full support of Barton Mines APA mine permit application for modification.

The Barton Family through their mining operations beginning in 1878 through their present-day operations have been a valued and respected family run business operation and a benefit to its Adirondack communities. From employment opportunities to their many philanthropic avenues the Barton Mines Corporation has benefitted the entire Adirondack Park and its residents and visitors.

They have once again shown this commitment to the park and its residents through its comprehensive design and well thought out redevelopment of its mining operations and reclamation plans. Their community -minded approach to include natural landscaping and planting of trees and other vegetation will improve the visual impacts and be a permanent solution that future generations will benefit from.

The Five Town Supervisors past and present fully support this application and urge the Adirondack Park Agency to approve this application without amendments and conditions.

Thank You

Brian E Wells – Supervisor, Town of Indian Lake  
Stephen McNally-Supervisor, Town of Minerva  
Robin DeLoria -Supervisor, Town of Newcomb  
Stephanie DeZalia-Supervisor, Town of North Hudson  
Clay Arsenault-Supervisor, Town of Long Lake  
Ron Moore- Past Supervisor, Town of North Hudson  
Clark Seaman-Past Supervisor, Town of Long Lake  
Wes Miga-Past Supervisor, Town of Newcomb

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton mine permit  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 16, 2022 4:26:10 PM

---

## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

---

**From:** Pettit, Stephen <[spettit@barton.com](mailto:spettit@barton.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 16, 2022 4:18 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <[Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov)>  
**Subject:** Barton mine permit

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

February 16, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore,

I have lived in Schroon lake, North Creek area for the past 13 years, and I have spent the past 6 working at Barton Mines. I can honestly say, that I support this expansion, since Barton has always been focused on their environmental impact, and their impact on the community. I have watched Barton, take on so many tasks, simply to be less of a nuisance for the neighboring community. I love my job, and I love the company I work for.

Sincerely,  
Stephen Pettit

60 Cedar Hill Dr  
Schroon Lake NY 12870

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mine permit request support letter  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 9, 2021 8:22:08 AM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Mine permit request support letter.msg](#)

---

Robert J. Lore  
Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

-----Original Message-----

From: Loren Swears <[lswears@slackchem.com](mailto:lswears@slackchem.com)>  
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 3:06 PM  
To: Lore, Robert (APA) <[Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov)>  
Cc: Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)>; [supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com);  
[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov); [stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)  
Subject: Barton Mine permit request support letter

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Loren A. Swears  
Technical Sales  
Slack Chemical Co. Inc  
21 grande Blvd.  
Saratoga Springs, NY. 12866

10/8/21

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

As an employee of Slack Chemical Co. Inc, a long time resident of the area, and winter 46r I am writing in support of Barton Mines 'APA mine permit modification application.

The Adirondack Park has been a wonderful and important part of my life. The experiences I have had in the wilderness, on Lake Gorge, Lake Champlain, and at Gore Mt. Have made a profound impact on my life and the life of my family. The Foresight to make a state park of this magnitude is truly unique.

The management of the natural resources within the park should allow for a balance between the spectacle of nature and the conscientious use of needed materials. Barton Mines has struck this balance for years while not only providing good paying jobs for residents of the park but also supporting local businesses like Slack Chemical.

We at Slack Chemical provide environmental and remediation chemistry too many businesses and municipalities in the park. Barton Mines has been a valued and consistent partner as both of our business have grown.

Barton's proposal will continue to allow local allied companies such as Slack Chemical to provide good paying jogs to local upstate residents while protecting the park that we all enjoy.

Sincerely,

Loren A. Swears  
Slack Chemical Co. Inc



Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsburg Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

**From:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**To:** [Parker, Colleen C \(APA\)](#); [Petith, Stephanie L \(APA\)](#); [Stankus, Elizabeth \(APA\)](#); [Burth, John M \(APA\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mine Permit  
**Date:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 9:18:55 AM

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**From:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 9:18:53 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** APA Regulatory Programs Comments <RPCComments@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mine Permit

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**From:** Monroe, Quentin <qmonroe@barton.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 9:17 AM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** Barton Mine Permit

---

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November 4, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore,

I lived in North River for 25 years and have been working at Barton for 11 years. I am a proud member of the community and would like to express my support of the Barton Mines' APA permit modification application.

Barton has employed 3 generations of my family and many of my family's friends have been employed by Barton. This company has the best pay and benefits in this area. The employees at Barton are like family. We get lots of supplies from local business which helps the local community.

If Barton were to discontinue their operations in North River, my family and I would need to explore opportunities outside of the Adirondack Park, as there are not many employment opportunities like the one Barton offers within the Park.

Barton has helped me provide for my family. I ask you to respectfully consider the positive contributions Barton has made to the local community and approve their mine permit application.

Sincerely,

Quentin Monroe 599 white schoolhouse RD Chestertown NY 12817

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 26, 2022 10:58:47 AM

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**From:** Scott B <sabeav@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 26, 2022 10:11 AM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Mr. Lore,

I am in support of the Barton Mines APA Mine Permit.

I have been employed with Barton for the past 33 years and a very proud employee. I plan to continue to be employed with Barton until my retirement.

Employment with Barton through out my career has allowed me to stay and raise my 2 daughters and provide a college education and more for them. Allowing us to live in the Adirondacks during this time and is still providing employment for many others to do the same.

Without Barton in the area many people would have to move out of the area or have long commutes to survive and stay in the great Adirondacks.

Barton supports many other local businesses by purchasing or sponsoring them in every way they can over many many years.

Environmental track record for Barton is and has always been a high priority and will always be.

Barton is very beneficial in all aspects for our communities, employees and residents.  
Please consider this sensible proposal!

Sincerely,

Scott Beavers  
Barton Purchasing/Buyer

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application  
**Date:** Monday, December 27, 2021 9:51:18 AM

---

## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

---

**From:** Anand, Ash (CORP) <Ash@lotusus.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 22, 2021 2:33 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; simpsonm@nyassembly.gov; stec@nysenate.gov; Rapple, Randy <rrrapple@barton.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application

**ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.**

Dear Mr. Lore,

Myself Ash Anand, representing the Lotus Group of Companies has this email going to you and the Respected Leaders to express my support and admiration for what Barton Mines has done over the years, and what they can do for our local business community, if the APA approves the modification application. During good and bad times, an Enterprise like Barton Mines has always proven to be a Leader and act as an example to the rest of the Community in terms of Economic Development, we should also acknowledge their efforts for this region's growth in every aspect, whether Economic, Social or being a true Community minded operation with a strong Leadership team!

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its “Made in the Adirondacks” products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

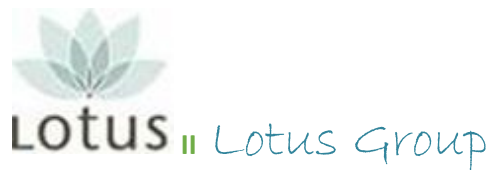
I hope the APA will agree that Barton’s proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community. In conclusion, I would very respectfully request you to bless this project because it is the kind of redevelopment that is good for the local Region, but also makes our State & Country proud.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully -

**Ash Anand**

President & CEO



Mobile: 518.570.5522 || [www.lotusus.com](http://www.lotusus.com) || Phone: [1.855.LOTUS.US](tel:1855.LOTUS.US) || 101 River Street, Warrensburg, NY, 12885



**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 1, 2021 1:10:00 PM

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**From:** ajkc2fli@frontiernet.net <ajkc2fli@frontiernet.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 1, 2021 1:04 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; simpsonm@nyassembly.gov; stec@nysenate.gov; Chuck Barton <crbarton@barton.com>; ajkc2fli@frontiernet.net  
**Subject:** RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

**Arnold Stevens**  
**Town Council Member, Town Of Johnsburg**  
**17 The Lane**  
**PO Box 47**  
**Wevertown, NY 12886**

**December 1, 2021**

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

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This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

**Arnold Stevens**  
***Town Council Member, Town Of Johnsbury***

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5

P.O. Box 296

Ray Brook, NY 12977

Andrea Hogan  
[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Town of Johnsbury Supervisor

219 Main Street

North Creek, NY 12853

Matt Simpson  
[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

NYS Assemblyman

140 Glen Street, Suite 101

Glens Falls, NY 12801

Daniel Stec  
[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

NYS Senator

5 Warren Street, Suite 3

Glens Falls, NY 12801

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application  
**Date:** Monday, January 10, 2022 3:05:13 PM

---

---

**From:** Rebecca Rapple <rebecca.rapple@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 10, 2022 3:01 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** stec@nysenate.gov; simpsonm@nyassembly.gov; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application. As a steadfast environmental supporter — one who loves the Adirondack wilderness — I do not take this position lightly.

The Adirondacks are an incredibly interesting and unique experiment in wilderness management. It has [inspired parks around the world](#), as, increasingly, we all must work to the balance between wilderness and human livelihoods. I believe that, especially for people who do not reside in the park permanently, it can be easy to lose sight of the latter.

Barton has been a pillar in the greater North Creek community for more than a century and is an economic backbone for the area, providing more than 75 stable and quality jobs and significant financial contributions to community nonprofits. While mining is inherently degrading to the environment — I know, I grew up in the backyard of the mine — I strongly believe that the balance of human livelihood for full time, multi-generational families, inside of the park is an extremely important component of the park's success.

Barton has consistently gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the way that they treat their actual neighbors, as well as the minimization of visual blights caused by mining — which are hardly out of line with the state ski area, also in the Gore area. Specifically, in this application they have pledged significant efforts to minimize the visual impacts by placing residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process and by proactively planting trees and vegetation to help the mine blend into the natural landscape.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Please keep the local, year round, multi-generation community in mind as you make your decision.

Rebecca Rapple

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 8, 2022 10:12:38 AM

---

-----Original Message-----

From: Mariann Rapple <mhrapple@gmail.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 10:08 AM  
To: Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
Cc: stec@nysenate.gov; simpsonm@nyassembly.gov; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>  
Subject: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing to express my support for the mine permit modification submitted by Barton Mines. I am currently a year round resident of the Adirondack Park and have lived in or next to the park for my entire adult life. We chose to make the park our home. I can assure you that my family understands the critical balance of life within its boundaries.

Barton Mines has been an integral part of the history of the Adirondacks. Formed decades before the park, Barton acted as a steward for both the wilderness and those who chose to live there. Owned and operated by a family who took their stewardship very seriously, Barton has always been an exemplary model of the positive impact a business operation can have within the park boundaries.

They have been a pillar in the greater North Creek region for more than a century! Multi generations have worked for the company, which speaks volumes for the company. Not only are they a financial supporter of numerous not for profits in the region, but their employees serve as volunteers as well. They provided their employees and their families a great standard of living not only during their time of employment, but throughout their retirement as well. Those families make a huge financial impact year round in that region.

I have had the good fortune to be part of the "Barton Family". Forty years ago, I married a young geologist who moved us to the Adirondacks where he was offered a job at the mine site. I have seen firsthand how they treated their employees, their neighbors, their community and most importantly, their land. This family bleeds green! They have always gone above and beyond the regulations for the environment, working to return the mined land into green hillsides, building a solar farm to reduce their carbon footprint, and repurposing an 1800's office building into a LEEDs Platinum certified office! They didn't do these things because they were forced to. They certainly didn't do these things because it made economic sense. They did them because it was the right thing to do.

The Adirondacks are a unique balance of human livelihoods and wilderness. It's a very symbiotic relationship of year round residents, visitors to the park and environmental stewardship. All three must work together to ensure the park is here for generations to come. I can say with certainty that I am proud to be a part of the "Barton Family". I have no doubt that my husband and the incredible group of people that he works with will continue to be the responsible stewards of the Barton property as they have for generations.

I respectfully request that the APA keep the local families and community in mind and approve the proposal put forth by Barton Mines. Thank you for your consideration.

Mariann Rapple





**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application  
**Date:** Monday, November 29, 2021 8:48:28 AM

---

## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

---

**From:** Bruce Lant <blant@northway.aaa.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 24, 2021 11:45 AM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; simpsonm@nyassembly.gov; stec@nysenate.gov  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application

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Dear Mr. Lore:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application. Barton mines has been a respected business in the Town for as long as I've been alive, much longer than that of course... but this proposal will enable them to continue to be a viable business and supporter of the Park and all that it represents for many years to come.

It appears to me that Barton has exceeded what is means to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be praised. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape, a landscape that I have enjoyed visiting, hiking and hunting since I was 9 years old as a member of the Spike Horn hunting club on 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Rd.

Their local presence as an employer and stuart of the Adirondacks is invaluable to, not only the Johnsburg community, but to many surrounding communities. As I understand they continue to employ over 70 full time employees, help to provide to their families and dedicated themselves to

safe and healthy work environment. They continued to provide jobs during the Covid Pandemic while many businesses faltered, failed and flat out left the state of NY.

They have done an impeccable job of growing, adapting to the ever changing world we are in. They have been responsibly mining and I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal to continue mining is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

**Bruce Lant, CPIA**

*Managing Director of Insurance*

**Club Insurance Services, LLC**

**AAA Northway**

Administrative Office, Second Floor

345 Bay Rd.

Queensbury, NY 12804

P: (518) 824-3805 | C: (518) 410-6425

[AAA.com](http://AAA.com)

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**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 17, 2021 8:25:53 AM

---

## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

---

**From:** Johnson, Neil <njohnson@barton.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2021 8:14 AM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application

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Dear Mr. Lore,

I support Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application.

I first visited the Adirondack Park as a young child in the summer of 1971.

50 years ago, I knew then I wanted to live in the Park. I moved to Indian Lake in 2000 and found employment that lasted only 5 years.

Fortunately, I was able to secure a position with Barton Mines and have been a proud employee going on my 15th year of service.

I plan to stay with Barton until my retirement and continue to live in the Park.

Employment with Barton Mines has allowed me to stay here, raise my family and provide a college education for my daughter.

Without Barton I would have to look for work outside the Park. Very few substantial and financially rewarding employment opportunities exist in this area.

The financial impact on my family, other families and our communities has been remarkable.

The North Country communities of Johnsburg, Indian Lake, Chestertown, Warrensburg, Minerva, North Creek, North River, Pottersville, Olmstedville, Brant Lake, Bakers Mills, Schroon Lake and Wevertown all benefit from Barton's operation. Barton continues to sponsor community events, sporting events, school events and Little League teams, just to name a few.

Barton Mines has an exceptional environmental track record. Environmental stewardship is a high priority.

The Barton mine modification plan is well researched, responsible, and beneficial to our communities, employees, and neighbors.

Please consider this sensible and well-thought-out proposal.

Sincerely,

Neil Johnson

**Neil Johnson**

**Purchasing Manager**

Barton International

P 518.251.2296 ext.322

C 518-744-7526

[njohnson@barton.com](mailto:njohnson@barton.com)

[www.barton.com](http://www.barton.com)

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**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines' APA permit modification application  
**Date:** Monday, November 29, 2021 8:32:28 AM

---

## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

---

**From:** Kevin Fish <KFish70@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 26, 2021 4:06 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; simpsonm@nyassembly.gov; stec@nysenate.gov  
**Subject:** Barton Mines' APA permit modification application

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Mr. Lore,

I have made The Indian Lake area my home for almost fifty years and have worked for Barton for 25 years. I would like to offer my clear support of the Barton Mines' APA permit modification application.

My family has proudly lived and worked in the Adirondacks for more than 150 years and Barton has provided me with the opportunity to live local and enjoy the area I love most. Barton is a company with a family atmosphere that is dedicated to the safety of its employees and care for the environment.

Barton is an important part of the local community and makes it possible for many families to stay in the area when many businesses seem to be leaving the park. It is refreshing to see a business investing in long term planning that will provide employment well into the future.

Please consider the positive impact for the employee's families as well as businesses in the surrounding towns and approve their mine permit application.

Sincerely,

Kevin Fish



**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines APA Permit modification application  
**Date:** Monday, November 15, 2021 7:41:46 AM  
**Attachments:** [Document\\_2021-11-10\\_185057.pdf](#)

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## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

---

**From:** Sharon Taylor <[sharon@thefernlodge.com](mailto:sharon@thefernlodge.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 10, 2021 6:58 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <[Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov)>  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA Permit modification application

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#thefernlodgeadk  
The Fern Lodge  
[sharon@thefernlodge.com](mailto:sharon@thefernlodge.com)  
46 Fiddlehead Bay Road  
Chestertown, NY 12817

Sharon Taylor, Innkeeper  
(518) 494-7238  
<http://www.thefernlodge.com>  
[email-sharon@thefernlodge.com](mailto:email-sharon@thefernlodge.com)

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"the ultimate in luxury lakeside lodging"

Greg and Sharon Taylor  
Mountain Top Lodge, Creekside Cabin and The Fern Lodge  
25 Lost Mine Road  
North Creek, NY 12853  
(518)796-1558

November 11, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

We are writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application. We own several pieces of property and rent houses in the North Creek area, we are former owners of the Alpine Lodge in North Creek, avid skiers, former ski school instructors at Gore Mountain and long-time business owners in North Creek. Greg was also an employee in his youth at Barton Mines!

Barton is and has been a pillar that has built the North Creek Community and continues to be a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg since the early 1878. This proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes. Barton involves itself in the community, they plan their meals and lodging for meetings, and visiting vendors within the community and are a main-stay of the communities of North Creek, Johnsburg, and North River. Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,  
  
Greg Taylor Sharon Taylor

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines APA permit modification  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2021 9:03:54 AM

---

## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

---

**From:** Kyle Hitchcock <kyleandcorinnadogtownusa@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Sunday, November 21, 2021 6:34 PM

**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>

**Cc:** stec@nysenate.gov

**Subject:** Barton Mines APA permit modification

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing to you in regards to the mining permit for Barton Mines. I have worked for Barton Mines for fifteen years. I'm a third generation employee. The company has helped support my family for many years. Barton has been a significant part of the community for generations. They have always supported local charities and events. Even if I was not an employee I would still support this permit modification. Barton has provided jobs to local and not so local people for many years. This permit modification is crucial to the longevity of the company. I understand peoples concern for the environment. Barton does it's part every day including a large bank of solar panels contributing to clean energy. I would like to retire from Barton several years from now as my father and grandfather did. Thank you for your time.

Kyle Hitchcock, Senior Mine Operator for Barton Mines

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines' APA permit  
**Date:** Friday, January 28, 2022 8:30:17 AM

---

## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

---

**From:** Elizabeth Cleveland <adkfarm4@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 26, 2022 7:25 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** Barton Mines' APA permit

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[Untitled document](#)

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines' APA Permit  
**Date:** Friday, December 31, 2021 8:45:44 AM

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## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

---

**From:** Lisa Cruz <lacruz181@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 30, 2021 4:36 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; simpsonm@nyassembly.gov; stec@nysenate.gov  
**Subject:** Barton Mines' APA Permit

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December 30th, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director of Regulatory Programs  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Sir,

I am an employee of 8 years with Barton Mines. I have been in industrial sales and service for over 25 years. Sixteen of those years were with an environmental products company. I am proud of my career and service to the many industrial companies that make up the backbone of America. Barton is a company of integrity and I am happy to be employed by the Barton family and look forward to more years of employment with Barton.

I am a local resident and I understand the concern over expanding the mine permit. I do however support the Barton Mines' APA permit modification application. The main uses of the garnet abrasive mined at our plant in Indian Lake support a great many types of businesses that in the end

support America. Our garnet abrasive is used widely by the military for many applications including refurbishing our Naval fleet, there are many personally owned businesses run by families all across the United States, much like the Barton family, that provide parts to our farming community such as John Deere and the Aerospace and Automotive industries.

While no industry is safe from producing waste, or having an environmental impact, the Barton family has taken great pains to be considerate of the local community and is planning for the future in the most unobtrusive way possible.

I hope that as the plans for the future are reviewed regarding the permit modification application, that consideration is taken for the ripple effect that the garnet abrasive product has on the many industries in the United States and that Barton will continue to have the ability to support those industries.

Respectfully,

Lisa Cruz  
21 Stewart Road  
Queensbury, NY 12804



**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines application for modifying its Ruby Mountain mine permit  
**Date:** Monday, November 15, 2021 7:36:24 AM

---

## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

---

**From:** William Flint <williamhflint@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 12, 2021 3:38 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** Barton Mines application for modifying its Ruby Mountain mine permit

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Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

My name is Bill Flint. I have been retired from Barton Mines, North River, NY (within the town of Johnsburg) for 4 years. Before retiring from Barton, I was employed by the company for 13 years, as Vice President of Sales. I was also an Officer of the company.

I am writing to you regarding Barton Mines application for modifying their Ruby Mountain mining permit. Barton has been servicing its employees, customers, and the communities they operate in for more than 140 years. Throughout my career of 45 years, I have worked for some great companies, but none of them were as great as Barton. The retention rate for the company is very high, and that does not happen by accident. The employees are happy to work for Barton Mines for many reasons, but I would like to highlight three that I feel are at the top of the list. First, Barton pays its employees a competitive salary, with very good benefits. Secondly, the company values all of its employees, and third, Barton has supported their employees, customers, and communities for over 140 years, which everyone who is associated with Barton is very proud of.

I do not think you can find another company in our country that is more honest, and has more integrity than Barton. New York State, and the Glens Falls and North River communities should be proud to have Barton Mines as a part of their business portfolios. My wish for Barton Mines is that it is able to support its employees, customers, and communities for many more generations to come.

If you would like more information about Barton Mines, please feel free to contact me at (949) 636-0468.

Sincerely Yours,  
Bill Flint



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**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines letter of Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 15, 2021 3:29:41 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

---

## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

---

**From:** Wells, Andy <awells@barton.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 15, 2021 3:19 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; simpsonm@nyassembly.gov; stec@nysenate.gov  
**Subject:** Barton Mines letter of Support

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December 15, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore, I am an employee of Barton Mines and have been employed with Barton for 7 ½ years and during this time, I have learned to understand and appreciate how much effort our company puts into stewardship and community engagement. More importantly, Barton has become a second family to me and has been an amazing employer to me and others in the region..

I'm not native to New York, but I have learned a great deal of Barton's connection the north country and communities and people within the region. I have always been proud to tell

people that I work for Barton and tell the story of our legacy in the Adirondacks and how our company approaches the responsibility of; both being an employer to hundreds of people and their families, but also the significant role as an environmental steward to the land that we depend on for our vitality and longevity.

If Barton were to discontinue their operations in North River, it would significantly impact the livelihood of myself and my family and hundreds of others, to be sure.

Barton has helped me provide for my family and I ask you to respectfully consider the positive contributions Barton has made to the local community and approve their mine permit application.

Sincerely,

Andrew Wells  
2310 N. 21<sup>st</sup> St  
Boise, ID 83702  
(253)988-5934

--

Andy Wells  
Regional Sales Manager-Northwest  
Barton International  
M. 253.988.5934

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**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines Mine Permit Application; Letter of Support  
**Date:** Thursday, December 2, 2021 8:20:39 AM

---

## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

---

**From:** Jacobs, Andrea <ajacobs@greenwichcsd.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 1, 2021 7:53 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; simpsonm@nyassembly.gov; stec@nysenate.gov  
**Subject:** Barton Mines Mine Permit Application; Letter of Support

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**Andrea Jacobs**  
**Annik for Autism, Chair**  
**Lake George Arts Project, Secretary**  
**111 Rock City Rd.**  
**Hudson Falls, NY 12839**

**December 1, 2021**

Mr. Robert Lore  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

### RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application

Dear Mr. Lore:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application. Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue doing so for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

On a community note, Barton also supports many non-profit organizations in the region near and far. They have made a great impact on two charitable organizations with which I am affiliated. They have generously sponsored ***Soup 'r Bands*** to help raise funds for programs to assist in the social development of children and adults on the Autism spectrum. In addition to helping to promote Autism awareness, they have also helped to fund the **Lake George Arts Project**. The **LGAP** is a non-profit organization that helps to keep arts and music alive in the Adirondacks for residents and tourists alike. We are extremely thankful for Barton's commitment to community programs as such. Without their help, we would not have had the success in helping others in the region.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

**Andrea Jacobs**  
**Chair, Annik for Autism**  
**Secretary, Lake George Arts Project**

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977



Andrea Hogan  
[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)  
Town of Johnsburg Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

Matt Simpson  
[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

Dan Stec  
[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

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**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines permit application  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 29, 2021 8:47:44 AM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Mines Permit Letter of Support 12 28 2021.docx](#)

---

## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

---

**From:** Joyce <jwortiz@nycap.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 28, 2021 11:53 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** Barton Mines permit application

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Please see the attached letter in support of Barton Mines' permit application.

Thank you,  
Joyce Wolf

*Joyce Wolf*  
*10 Bog Meadow Run, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866*

December 28, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing to express my support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

I have been a full-time employee at Barton since April 2007. As marketing manager, I have seen how our products make a difference across a wide range of businesses from sole proprietors to Fortune 500 companies. Our garnet abrasives have been used in aerospace, energy, and defense as well as all areas of manufacturing from farming equipment to medical devices.

Barton is a good employer that values its workers. A variety of wellness initiatives and safety education programs are provided to encourage positive health and a safe work environment. This training has taught me good habits that I follow at both work and home. The company offers a generous benefits package that helps me manage health care costs while simultaneously saving for my retirement.

I respect the integrity with which the company operates and its dedication to environmental stewardship. I began my tenure with Barton during the renovation of the corporate headquarters in downtown Glens Falls. It was exciting to witness the transformation of a historic structure into the LEED Platinum certified green building it is today. The clean energy solar farm the company hosts at the site of the original Barton mine is another example of environmental responsibility and further evidence of the company's commitment to sustainable development.

Barton has held an important place in and the lives of employees, the community, and our nation for more than 140 years. Please approve Barton's mine permit application so this great company can continue its legacy.

Sincerely,

Joyce Wolf  
Marketing Manager, Barton International

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsburg Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines Permit Application Support  
**Date:** Thursday, December 16, 2021 9:02:17 AM

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**From:** Lemery, Ryan <rlemery@barton.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 16, 2021 9:01 AM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; simpsonm@nyassembly.gov; stec@nysenate.gov  
**Subject:** Barton Mines Permit Application Support

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Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Lore,

I have lived in Queensbury, NY all of my life and have been working at Barton for 13 years. I would like to express my support of the Barton Mines' APA permit modification application.

My first day at Barton was just two weeks days after my first daughter was born. This family-owned company has continuously demonstrated its family first mentality while always treating their employees with the utmost respect. I have been proud to call Barton a home from day one and hope for many more years moving forward.

Barton always strives to do the right thing for its employees, environment, and community with its long-term vision intact. This way of operating has established Barton's reputation as a well-respected part of the community, both in the Adirondacks and in Glens Falls.

Throughout my time working with Barton, I have worked in a few different capacities. Most recently, I've had the pleasure of representing Barton as the Regional Sales Manager for the Northeast. From Buffalo to Maine, Barton's name is well known and respected.

If Barton were to discontinue their operations in North River, not only would the best, cleanest, and safest garnet abrasive be removed from the market, but the impact on the surrounding area would also be severe as Barton is such an important contributor to the community, both economically and

socially.

Barton has helped me provide for my family and community. I ask you to respectfully consider the positive contributions Barton has made to the local community and approve their mine permit application.

Sincerely,

Ryan Lemery

**Ryan Lemery**  
**Regional Sales Manager**

**BARTON**

Mobile: 518.260.4344

Office: 518.615.2023

Fax: 516.490.1129

Email: [rlemery@barton.com](mailto:rlemery@barton.com)

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**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines Permit Application Support  
**Date:** Thursday, February 3, 2022 2:12:20 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

---

## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

---

**From:** Kaul, Raj <RKaul@barton.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 3, 2022 2:08 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; simpsonm@nyassembly.gov; stec@nysenate.gov  
**Subject:** Barton Mines Permit Application Support

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Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Lore,

I live in Massachusetts and have been a part of the Barton organization for the past 6 years now. I emigrated to the United States from India over 21 years ago. I would like to express my support of the Barton Mines' APA permit modification application.

In these years, I have always felt that the family-owned Barton company has always demonstrated its family first mentality while always treating their employees with the utmost respect. I have been proud to call Barton a home from day one and hope for many more years moving forward. As a person of color, such open acceptance is very important to me and my family.

Barton has always strived to do the right thing for its employees, for the environment, and the

community. This has established Barton's reputation as a well-respected part of the community, both in Glens Falls and in New York.

At Barton, I have worked as a Sales Manager in the Northeast and most recently as a Business Development Manager running a new minerals division. My business footprint extends to most places in North America. The trust and respect Barton has earned in these years is simply phenomenal.

If Barton were to discontinue their operations in North River, not only would the world's best and cleanest garnet abrasive and other minerals be removed from the market, but the impact on the surrounding area would also be severe as Barton is such an important contributor to the local community, both economically and socially.

Barton has helped me provide for my family and community. I ask you to respectfully consider the positive contributions Barton has made to the local community and approve their mine permit application.

Sincerely,

**Raj Kaul**

**BARTON**

Office: 800.741.7756

Mobile: 508.826.8595

Email: [rkaul@barton.com](mailto:rkaul@barton.com)

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**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines Permit Extension  
**Date:** Monday, January 24, 2022 8:23:30 AM

---

## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

---

**From:** Larry Blackhurst <laurenceblackhurst@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 23, 2022 11:51 AM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** terry.martino@apa.ny.gov; Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>; SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov; stec@nysenate.gov; friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com; Sherry Fraser <frasersherry959@gmail.com>; Beth Maher <Bethmaher@hotmail.com>; laurenceblackhurst@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Barton Mines Permit Extension

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Robert Lore ([robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)) NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Cc:  
Terry Martino, Executive Director, NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
([terry.martino@apa.ny.gov](mailto:terry.martino@apa.ny.gov)) Joseph Zalewski, Regional Director NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 5, ([joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov))  
Matthew Simpson, NY State Assemblyman, ([SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov](mailto:SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov))  
Daniel G. Stec, NY State Senator, ([stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov))  
Andrea Hogan, Supervisor, Town of Johnsburg, ([supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com))  
Friends of Siamese Ponds Wilderness, ([friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com)) Robert Lore ([robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov))

Sherry Fraser, president of the Garnet Hill Property Owners

Association, ([frasersherry959@gmail.com](mailto:frasersherry959@gmail.com))

Beth Maher, [Bethmaher@hotmail.com](mailto:Bethmaher@hotmail.com)

To the Attention of Robert Lore,

In 1979, I purchased a lot of land on Harvey Road in the Garnet Hill Property Owners Association. Two years later I built a house on that property and 5 years later moved permanently to that house. I can recall occasionally, am not sure when, in the 80's hearing blasts from the mine. But the blasts were infrequent compared with what I am hearing now. Then in 1992, I purchased another lot, this time on Birch Mountain Road and built a house on that lot where I live now. This property is in a direct line of sight and sound to the mine. I was not aware at that time of the increased intrusion the Ruby Mountain project of Barton Mines would have on my life. The blasts have increased, possibly as much as two to three times as much since the early 90s. My house's foundation shakes when the blast rumble occurs! Over time I started to be able to see the tailing's pile at the mine. It is very visible now from my property, as the color of the tailing stands in contrast against the rock and vegetation around it and Ruby Mountain that over-looks the mine. At that same time I started noticing day in and day out, noise from the mine operation. Besides daily, this occurs at night now. And finally I have noticed the lights at night from the mine operation.

Early this winter, I contacted Jeff Kinblom, 518-744-7299,

an engineer with Barton Mines. Jeff drove up to my property where we observed the lights at night and the constant noise coming from the mine and agreed that that was what it was. Since then, the light and noise levels have remained the same unfortunately.

What can be done about the blast rumble, machinery noise, and visual effect on my property and life? Will my property's value diminish as the mine seeks to increase production? Will there be dust events from the increasing height of the tailing's pile that will settle onto my property? Can technology be used to reduce the noise levels from the machinery? I believe there are techniques and technology to reduce this day-to-day noise. Will my deep drilled water well be affected by the deep rumble of the blasts?

If this were a new proposed mining operation where none had existed before, would these issues of visual, sound, and dust be allowed to happen and for 80 plus years with no further oversight? Are these expectations acceptable to the property owners in the vicinity? And what about the compatibility of an open mining operation next to the Siamese Pond Wilderness area, a natural area New York State promotes for tourism? I have heard from fishermen in the area that once the mine operation started, the trout fishing in 13th Brook essentially disappeared.

My position on the Barton Mining existence and their asking for a permit expansion is to seek better control or a reduction even in the sights, sounds, and physical effects, not an

expansion.

Thank you for listening to my concerns.

Larry Blackhurst

[Laurenceblackhurst@gmail.com](mailto:Laurenceblackhurst@gmail.com)

Larry Blackhurst

P.O.Box 332, 49 Birch Mtn. Rd., N. River, NY 12856

Pearsall Realty, Licensed salesperson

home 518-251-2032

cell 518-338-7063

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines permit  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2021 8:56:52 AM

---

Robert J. Lore  
Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

-----Original Message-----

From: mike warrington <[crazy\\_max\\_68@yahoo.com](mailto:crazy_max_68@yahoo.com)>  
Sent: Friday, November 19, 2021 4:00 PM  
To: Lore, Robert (APA) <[Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov)>  
Subject: Barton Mines permit

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Dear Mr. Lore,

I have lived in the town of Johnsbury most of my life and have been working at Barton's almost 5 years. I think Barton's is a valuable asset for sustaining the local economy. I would like to express my support of the Barton Mines APA permit modification application.

Sincerely,  
Michael Warrington

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines permit  
**Date:** Monday, November 22, 2021 8:57:50 AM

---

## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

---

**From:** Kyle Hayes <kahayes97@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 20, 2021 2:14 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** Barton Mines permit

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Dear Mr.Lore

My name is Kyle Hayes and I have lived in Indian Lake for the last 3 years,I have also been an employee at Barton for the last 5 years and would like to show my support for the Barton mines APA permit modification application.

I believe that Barton is a significant contributor to my community and the communities around it, not only is it one of the highest paying jobs in the area, but it gives back through charitable organizations, as well as provides clean renewable energy to the neighboring village of North Creek. Barton provides me a stable, year round, good paying job to help support my family and there aren't many places in the area to do this. If Barton were to discontinue operations I would have to move elsewhere, as there aren't many employment opportunities like this, Barton has helped me in more ways than I can list, and I ask that you consider all the positive things Barton has done for the community and approve their mine permit application.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Kyle Hayes  
974 Big Brook Road  
Indian Lake, NY  
12842

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines proposed expansion project  
**Date:** Monday, January 24, 2022 10:50:12 AM

---

---

**From:** Amy Parker <aparker527@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 10:41 AM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com; Joanne Strongin <JStrongin@optonline.net>  
**Subject:** Barton Mines proposed expansion project

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Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing as a visitor to North River who is deeply concerned about the recent expansion of the Ruby Mountain mining operation. I have been visiting family at Garnet Hill for more than 20 years, and I have never been aware of the mine operation the way I am now.

Frankly, I'm pretty concerned, given the quiet nature of the area and it's beautiful, restful environment.

I know that for decades, Johnsburg businesses and residents have cohabited within the wilderness that makes the Adirondack area so special. Barton Mines' increasing development into the Siamese Ponds Wilderness violates this and has the potential for dire consequences to the surrounding community.

Even as a visitor, I can see that increased mining activity has led to drastic changes to North Creek's quality of life and threatened the character of the neighboring Siamese Ponds Wilderness:

- Loud blasts coming from the mine at all hours of the day
- Resident's porches coated with fugitive dust and particulates, blown from the mine's tailings pile

- Increased traffic
- Mining runoff into nearby streams causing the water to turn white and the brook trout population to decline

I urge you to re-assess this project. Barton Mines' activity cannot come at the expense of the nearby community or the integrity of the neighboring Siamese Ponds Wilderness.

As a loyal visitor to this beautiful area, I am grateful for your attention to these concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Savin Parker

920 Madison St., Evanston IL 60202

Sent from my iPad

Amy S. Parker

<https://evanstonquiltcompany.com/>



**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines  
**Date:** Friday, January 28, 2022 8:30:59 AM

---

Robert J. Lore  
Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

-----Original Message-----

From: Colby Gage <[colbygage@yahoo.com](mailto:colbygage@yahoo.com)>  
Sent: Wednesday, January 26, 2022 6:23 PM  
To: Lore, Robert (APA) <[Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov)>  
Cc: Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)>; [supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com);  
[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov); [stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)  
Subject: Barton Mines

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Mr.Lore,

My name is Colby. I have lived in the town of Johnsburg my whole life, I am currently 28 years old. Ive worked for Barton Mines for 7 years. I've had a vast growth with in the company operating in many roles. I feel this maybe my life time occupation. Therefore I am writing you in support of the mine permit expansion. I have many family members and friends around town and even as far as Glens Falls,NY that have worked many years at Barton Mines. This brings jobs and money into our small town it's a large benefit for our economy growth in our small town. It's a fantastic facility to work for. They are family friendly, willing to make adjustments to fit your needs, willing to train to help yourself succeed with in the company. If Bartons would have to close it would leave roughly 150 employees that invest in our surrounding towns to seek new occupations. This would have a large impact with in the town itself.

I'd really like to shed light on what Bartons has done for the community. Bartons has invested in a solar farm which helps the surrounding community. Also they have built pavilions for Johnsburg Central School for outdoor learning classes. They support the local hockey team. Bartons as I said is a family friendly environment and id like to seem the company succeed further into the future.

Thank you,  
Colby Gage

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines' APA permit  
**Date:** Thursday, December 16, 2021 1:38:06 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

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**From:** Joyce, Brian <bjoyce@barton.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 16, 2021 1:37 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; simpsonm@nyassembly.gov; stec@nysenate.gov  
**Subject:** Barton Mines' APA permit

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December 16, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am a remote employee for Barton and have been working at Barton for 8 years. I am a proud member of the company and have always been impressed with how close, concerned and involved Barton is with the local community. I realize I am not a local resident, but I would like to express my support of the Barton Mines' APA permit modification application.

I am very proud and thankful working for Barton and enjoy my job and the industries Barton serves. I am based out of the Midwest and many of my customers are small family-owned business. So, the support Barton's garnet and products supplies is beneficial to many other communities in the US. I also have many government and military accounts that Barton's garnet is critical to their operation.

If Barton were to discontinue their operations in North River, my family and I would need to explore opportunities outside of this industry.

Barton has helped me provide for my family. I ask you to respectfully consider the positive contributions Barton has made to the local community and approve their mine permit application.

Sincerely and kind Regards,

Brian J Joyce  
169 S Greeley St  
Palatine, IL 60067

Brian Joyce  
Regional Sales Manager



Office: 630-363-8586

Mobile: 630-363-8586

Email: [bjoyce@barton.com](mailto:bjoyce@barton.com)

Web: [www.barton.com](http://www.barton.com)

Store: [store.barton.com](http://store.barton.com)

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton's  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 9:57:35 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Amber Mulligan <ifearnothing030515@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 9:56 AM  
To: Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>; joesph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; simpsonm@nyassembly.gov; stec@nystate.gov  
Subject: Barton's

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Dear Mr. Lore,

I have lived in the town of Johnsburg for most of my life and have worked for Barton's just over 16 years. I am an active member in my community as a Volunteer Firefighter and would like to show my support for the Barton Mines permit amendment/modification. I recently just built a house in Garnet Lake and it would severely impact me, my wife, and three kids if Barton's was to shut down because the permit was not approved. I work in the Pit/Quarry so my work is different most days anything from fabrication and welding to driving pit trucks to running the crushers and operating equipment. Working for Barton's has provided me a good life style with the opportunity for advancements. So if Barton's was to no longer operate in North River I would have to look at selling my new house and look for employment and housing outside the the Adirondack Park because there is no job opportunities with the same pay as I currently have available within the Park.

Barton has helped provided for me and my family for 16+ years. I politely ask that you consider the positives and contributions that Barton has made to and for the local community. Please approve their mine permit application so that my family can continue to live and thrive in this local community.

Respectfully yours,

Kyle Mulligan  
2485 Garnet Lake Road North  
Johnsburg NY, 12843

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton's Permit  
**Date:** Monday, January 31, 2022 6:25:22 AM

---

## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

---

**From:** Elizabeth Cleveland <adkfarm4@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 30, 2022 2:30 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** Barton's Permit

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[Untitled document](#)

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Friends of Siamese Ponds Comments on Barton Mines Application submitted October 15, 2021  
**Date:** Friday, December 10, 2021 8:30:41 AM  
**Attachments:** [FOSP Comments on Barton Mine Application 12\\_10\\_21.docx](#)  
[IMG\\_6598.MP4](#)

---

## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

---

**From:** Alan Belenz <BELENSZ8@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 10, 2021 7:46 AM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>; dec.sm.DEP.R5 <DEP.R5@dec.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** kate.smith@dec.ny.gov; John Passacantando <j.passacantando@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Friends of Siamese Ponds Comments on Barton Mines Application submitted October 15, 2021

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Mr. Lore and Ms. Magee,

On behalf of Friends of Siamese Ponds please find attached comments on the Barton Mines Company DEC Mine Permit Modification-APA Major Project Application, received by APA on October 15, 2021. These comments focus on obtaining additional information that may assist APA and NYSDEC officials and other interested parties to better understand potential impacts of the proposed mine expansion.

Also attached is a video referenced in Comment #10.

Please feel free to contact us at [FriendsOfSiamesePonds@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsOfSiamesePonds@gmail.com) or 518-867-6911 if you have any questions or concerns.

Alan Belenz & John Passacatando  
On Behalf of the Friends of Siamese Ponds



*Friends of Siamese Ponds*  
*North River, NY*

December 10, 2021

Robert Lore  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Beth Magee  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

CC: Chuck Barton, Barton Mines Company

FOSP COMMENTS ON OCTOBER 15, 2021 BARTON MINE PERMIT APPLICATION

Dear Mr. Lore and Ms. Magee,

On behalf of the Friends of Siamese Ponds (FOSP) please find our preliminary comments on the Barton Mines Company DEC Mine Permit Modification-APA Major Project Application, received by APA on October 15, 2021 (Permit Application). These comments focus on additional information needed to help government officials and interested parties better understand potential impacts of the proposed mine expansion on the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area, local residents and the regional economy. Comments are arranged by topic area for your convenience.

1. Noise Pollution. As background, over the past several years, daytime and nighttime noise from Barton's North River operations has become objectionable, interfering with the wilderness character of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area and the use and enjoyment of adjacent residential and commercial properties. In response to residents' concerns, discussions with Barton officials began in August 2019 and

continue to date. According to Barton officials, alterations over time to mine topography may be creating an “amphitheater effect,” allowing increasing levels of noise to propagate outward into the North River valley and adjacent wilderness area. Attempting to reduce sound levels, Barton has implemented some remedial actions, such as closing doors on the processing mill and installation of a noise-insulating jacket on a rock hammer. Recently, Barton has held several meetings with the public and interested parties to further discuss noise and other community concerns, pledging to address these concerns to the extent practicable.

2. Noise Pollution. Appendix P, Sound Study, Section 3.5, concludes the Barton August 2, 1979 Sound Study “simulated worst-case sound conditions.” As the mine was not operational at the time of the study, nor did it even exist, the applicant’s basis for this conclusion should be further explained. The applicant should explain the basis for their conclusion. For the mine expansion project, the applicant projects considerable increases in sound levels. Similarly, it is unclear if these projections represent future worst-case conditions.

3. Noise Pollution. Appendix P, Sound Study. It is unclear if generally accepted protocols were used for the measurement of sound levels, for example see ISO 3740 <https://www.iso.org/obp/ui/#iso:std:iso:3740:ed-3:v1:en>. For example, please confirm that all calculations of sound intensities excluded non-representative noises, as defined in standard noise measurement protocols (e.g., rustling leaves, chirping birds, barking dogs, human activity, etc.). Also, it is unclear if the measurements taken represent current worst-case noise conditions. For example, were most, if not all, noise generating sources operating simultaneously when measurements were taken?

4. Noise Pollution. The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine addresses how to evaluate of “noise metrics for rural/naturally quiet areas, (<https://www.nap.edu/read/12928/chapter/5#24>). They state:



*Neither day-night average sound level nor percent highly annoyed is an appropriate metric for measuring noise in naturally quiet areas. Because of the logarithmic nature of the decibel, short-duration sounds of high amplitude compared with background noise can significantly increase the day-night level, even though the sound remains at the background level most of the time. As for percent highly annoyed, this is hardly the best measure of satisfaction for areas where quiet and solitude are valued. In addition, it can be difficult to measure very low sound pressure levels. A-weighted levels of 40 dB are at the upper end of the range, and lower levels can be at or even below the levels measurable with conventional sound-level meters.*

*Nevertheless, some quantification of noise impact is clearly needed in these areas as a basis for establishing public policy, which usually means regulatory action. The classic definition of noise is “unwanted sound,” so the source of sound must be identified, either as part of the natural soundscape or not. Thus, simple metrics like sound pressure level are clearly not appropriate. For example, an airplane overflight may have a much lower sound pressure level and shorter duration than sound from a rushing stream, but the former is considered noise and the latter is considered sound. The method of assessment of the noise environment should also take into account the likely long-term impact on animals that use, for example, very low level sounds (perhaps inaudible or unnoticed by people) to locate prey or predators.*

State Agencies should consider requiring the applicant to perform additional measurement and analysis as recommended in the NAS study.

5. Noise pollution. The applicant should provide confidence (or uncertainty) levels associated with Sound Study projections of future noise levels resulting from the mine expansion. Additionally, information on the acoustical training and expertise of the study authors, and demonstration of success in accurately estimating future sound levels for similar projects, is needed. General information, such as case studies or technical articles published in the literature, demonstrating the ability of acoustical engineers to project future sound levels from similar types of projects would also be helpful.

6. Noise Pollution. The applicant should propose mitigation options in the event noise levels at some point during the 75-year expansion are greater than anticipated, and the criteria upon which deployment of mitigation would be required.
7. Noise Pollution. Applicant should explain what factors unique to this acoustically complex, mountain-top mining operation may influence projections of future sound levels. For example, noise will depend not only on the stationary or moving sources but also on variable and complex topographies, which may result in unique patterns of reflection, refraction, or absorption of sound waves. Residents and local businesses, and users of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area have noticed how topographical features adjacent to receptor locations, and meteorological factors, such as wind direction, humidity and especially the unique vertical temperature gradients found in mountain locations, influence the intensity of sound from the mine.
8. Noise Pollution. Industrial noise above natural ambient levels may be impacting wildlife in the Wilderness Area and surrounding lands. As described in Chapter Four of [Environmental Impact of Mining and Mineral Processing](#), “Noise pollution has a negative impact on wildlife species by reducing habitat quality, increasing stress levels, and masking other sounds. Chronic noise exposure is especially disruptive for species that rely on sound for communication or hunting (Bayne et al., 2008). Animals that use noise for hunting, such as bats and owls, and prey species that rely on noise to detect predators may have decreased patterns of foraging, reducing growth and survivability (Barber et al., 2010; Kight and Swaddle, 2011). Additionally, bird species that rely on vocal communication and other various species, such as nocturnal animals, have been shown to avoid areas with noise pollution (Barber et al., 2010; Bayne et al., 2008). Reductions in bird populations and foraging activities can, in turn, negatively impact seed dispersion, affecting ecosystem services and diversity (Francis et al., 2012). Because much of the noise pollution in natural habitats is caused by vehicle traffic, generators, and development in general, noise pollution

often exacerbates the problems associated with habitat destruction and fragmentation (Barber et al., 2010).” (Note that the Permit Application states the mine location is habitat for the Northern Long Eared Bat.) An analysis of potential ecosystem impacts from mine operations should be conducted.

9. Noise Pollution. Barton officials expressed surprise when residents and Wilderness users first raised the issue of increasing noise levels. To facilitate improved early, open, and effective communication between mine operations and the local community on future mine issues, the applicant should propose a community communications plan.

10. Residuals Piles Dust Migration. On windy, dry days large dust plumes blow off the residuals piles, often migrating downwind into the valley below (see picture on next page and video attached to the email transmitting these comments). This current situation needs to be mitigated. DEC should evaluate if measurement of air particulates (Total Particulate Matter, PM2.5 and PM10) is warranted.



11. Residuals Piles Dust Migration. At the November 16, 2021 Barton public meeting at the Tannery Pond Center, company officials discussed the potential use of a biodegradable cover material to reduce dust migration. Apparently, this material can be sprayed on the tailings piles to reduce dust migration yet has no associated environmental impacts. This alternative does not appear to have been included in the

Barton permit application. This material should be evaluated as an alternative mitigation option for dust migration.

12. Viewshed Impacts. Many of the photos presented in the Viewshed Analysis (Appendix O) are either hazy or backlit, making analysis of potential impacts more difficult. For example, compare the views below of the Appendix O backlit photo of the mine from 13th Lake Road versus a recent sunlit photo from the same location. Better quality photos should be provided.



**Photo 13A.** View from Thirteenth Lake road looking west towards the Ruby Mountain Mine site (55mm lens)





13. Viewshed Impacts. The Viewshed Analysis should evaluate the impact of the tall, semi-permanent conveyors and earth-moving equipment located on the tops of the tailings piles, not just the tailings piles themselves.
14. Viewshed Impacts. The NYSDEC and APA criteria for the selection of locations to evaluate viewshed impacts include properties on or “eligible” for inclusion in the National or State Register of Historic Places. The applicant’s viewshed analysis should include views from the Log House at Garnet Hill Lodge and the remnants of Hooper Mine. The Hooper Mine, a popular destination, may have the most direct visual and audible impacts from mine operations in the Forest Preserve. Mine views from Gore Mountain Ski area were included in the Viewshed Analysis, even though Gore is outside the five-mile radius used in the Analysis to limit the view locations, yet views from the recent additions of land on Moxham Mountain, and its popular hiking trail to the summit were not included. Visual renderings from this location should also be presented.
15. Viewshed Impacts. The Viewshed Study concludes there are no “new” locations where the proposed mine expansion would impact the viewshed, stating “The visual assessment study has found that the proposed project would not cause an increase in the number of public use areas that have visibility of mining activities associated with the proposed project.” Yet in the last phase of the proposed mine plan, a view of the mine from the east shore of 13th Lake (not currently visible from the lake and which will not be visible under the current APA permit) becomes visible (Photo Station #4). This should be corrected.
16. Viewshed Impacts. Page 38 of the application compares the existing and proposed tailings piles to a “*natural landscape*” such as talus pile “found at the toe of numerous steeped sloped areas of the Park.” Whereas the tailings pilea will be at the top of mountain, not at the toe, and composed of tailings, not talus, this comparison is

questionable. Please request visual examples comparing tailings piles to natural landscapes to support their conclusion. Similarly, the application states the closed mine “will be viewed as a hill/mountain that is covered in trees, much like the mountains surrounding the current Site.” The final topography as described in the plan may be incongruous with the surrounding landscape and appear more like a closed landfill rather than a natural feature. For the final closure design, the applicant should present options for creating various landforms that may be more consistent with the surrounding landscape and its wilderness character.

17. Final Closure Design. Page 45 of the application states “During the final phase of mining, fine-grained residual minerals will be deposited in the northern most portion of the mine (area that enters the CEA). Once the mined-out area is filled with fines it will be reclaimed with topsoil and vegetation.” However, it is our understanding that the fine-grained residuals are inherently unstable and cannot be covered with topsoil. Please request clarification on this point.

18. Surface Water Impacts. Browns Pond Brook, Thirteenth Brook and their tributaries are NYSDEC designated as C(TS), habitat for native brook trout spawning. Best that we can determine, the last time these streams were surveyed by DEC biologists was in 1979 pursuant to the initial permit application for the Barton North River mine. Recent reports from fishermen indicate a decline in the brook trout fishery in Thirteenth Brook. Observations of recent water conditions indicate frequent low flows and warm water temperatures that likely stress the fishery. Water temperatures will likely increase, and the nature of stream flow change with climate change. As part of the application process, we request a new survey of stream conditions be conducted. If the study confirms a deterioration of brook trout habitat and populations, the possible impact of current and future permitted Barton water withdrawals and discharges into Browns Pond Brook and Thirteenth Brook should be evaluated.



19. Wetland Impacts. Throughout the terms such as “wetlands,” “permitted wetlands,” and “mapped wetlands,” are sometimes used inconsistently, making it difficult to understand the scope of possible wetland impacts. For example, Page 41 of the application states “Barton has designed a plan that will avoid any impacts to any mapped surface water or wetland feature. Moreover, in accordance with the Warren County Soil and Water District stream setback guidelines, a 100-foot buffer in which vegetation will remain preserved has been incorporated into the Modification.” Page 5 in Appendix J states, “A wetland delineation was completed for selected areas within the Site in North Creek, New York using the “Routine Method” outlined by the ACOE. A total of approximately 1.0 acres of wetland were delineated. Approximately 0.5 acres of wetlands were identified within the proposed Affected Area limits where proposed Site activities may impact wetlands.” In the November 2019 Wetland and Stream Delineation Report, Wetland #5 is assumed to be non-regulated (Note: this wetland may contain the NYS Threatened Species *Rhodora*) and “would be entirely excavated as part of the quarry expansion” (see page 5 of the Full Environmental Assessment Form). For the Finger Valley Wetland, which in 1988 APA reserved the right to restrict or prohibit use to store RM, it is unclear if it will be impacted due to alterations of the site’s stormwater retention pond system (See Figure 2, page 2247). Requesting the applicant to prepare a concise narrative with maps clearly describing current conditions and potential wetland disruptions would be helpful to better understand the totality of impacts.

20. Climate Change Impacts. Past climate data alone can no longer be used as a proxy for future conditions. Projections on how climate change will likely affect New York State are available (<https://nysclimateimpacts.org/>). With respect to climate change impacts to Barton operations, observed and projected future increase in extreme precipitation events in New York State (for example, see [https://ag.ny.gov/sites/default/files/extreme\\_precipitation\\_report9214b.pdf](https://ag.ny.gov/sites/default/files/extreme_precipitation_report9214b.pdf)) need to be evaluated. Fortunately, state-of-the-art guidance on incorporating climate change into

project design is available online at [CRRRA Flood Risk Management Guidance](#), [NY Projected IDF Curves and the recently issued draft DEC Commissioner's Order CP-49](#). For mine infrastructure vulnerable to changing hydrologic conditions (e.g., stormwater retention basins, culverts, residual piles) Barton should incorporate this best available information into project design.

21. Mitigation of Greenhouse Gas Emissions. The New York Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) requires State agencies to evaluate how permit or other decisions may interfere with meeting NYS greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction requirements and, if so, require mitigation of emissions. Given the potential for significant GHG emissions over the proposed 75-year life-of-mine plan, the agencies should require quantification of current emissions, and estimation of future GHG emissions, along with an evaluation of emission mitigation options. [NYSDEC Commissioner's Order CP-49](#) provides guidance for quantifying GHG emissions. Depending upon the results, mitigation should be required as appropriate.

Thank you for considering FOSP's comments as you move forward with the completeness review of the Barton Mine application. Please feel free to contact us at [FriendsOfSiamesePonds@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsOfSiamesePonds@gmail.com) or 518-867-6911 if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Alan Belenz

John Passacatando

On Behalf of the Friends of Siamese Ponds

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Mine Modification Permit  
**Date:** Friday, October 29, 2021 2:39:57 PM

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## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

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**From:** McNally, Tom <rubylab@barton.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 29, 2021 2:27 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** Mine Modification Permit

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Mr. Lore:

I am a lab tech at Barton, North Creek.

I have been employed with Barton twice, the last tenure for almost 25 years.

I live in Minerva NY, my family home town. My uncle and several cousins have been employed with Barton over the years.

I have worked at the old Gore Plant, the Hudson River Plant and at the Ruby Mt. operation.

Barton is an important employer in the area as I am sure you have heard several times and offers significant benefits to the employees.

Having worked at Ruby I am fully aware of the need to expand the operation to accommodate the future mining necessity to maintain the company in this area as an employer.

As the former lab tech at Ruby I can attest to our stewardship of the environment and make every effort to have a minimal impact on the environment.

The loss of Barton in the area would have serious consequences to the economy of several towns,

much the same as the demise of National Lead in the Newcomb area had in the Minerva, Newcomb, Olmstedville and North Creek area .

I hope your agency will see fit to approve our permit modification plan to allow Barton to continue to provided a means of livelihood to the citizens of the area.

Thanks for your serious attention to this matter.

Yours,

Thomas D McNally  
7 Town Shed Rd  
Minerva NY 12851  
518-251-3424

10/29/2021

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to Barton Mines Expansion  
**Date:** Monday, January 24, 2022 8:24:21 AM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Mines 1-24-22.pdf](#)

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## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

---

**From:** Steven Jurow <[sjurow@HNTB.com](mailto:sjurow@HNTB.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 5:54 AM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <[Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov)>  
**Cc:** Martino, Terry (APA) <[Terry.Martino@apa.ny.gov](mailto:Terry.Martino@apa.ny.gov)>; Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)>; [stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov); [supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com); [friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com); [SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov](mailto:SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov); Frances Rucker <[francesrucker@gmail.com](mailto:francesrucker@gmail.com)>; Garnet Hill POA <[garnethillpoa@gmail.com](mailto:garnethillpoa@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Opposition to Barton Mines Expansion

**ATTENTION:** This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Mr. Lore, please see the attached letter opposing the proposed Barton Mines expansion. A signed original will be transmitted by regular mail.

Thank you.

~

**Steve Jurow**  
**116 4-H Road**  
**North River, NY 12856**  
**518-251-4699**

*This e-mail and any files transmitted with it are confidential and are intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you are NOT the intended recipient and receive this communication, please delete this message and any attachments. Thank you.*

January 21, 2022

Robert Lore (robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook. NY 12977

Cc: Terry Martino, Executive Director, NYS Adirondack Park Agency ([terry.martino@apa.ny.gov](mailto:terry.martino@apa.ny.gov)); Joseph Zalewski, Regional Director NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 5, ([joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)); Matthew Simpson, NY State Assemblyman, ([SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov](mailto:SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov)); Daniel G. Stec, NY State Senator, ([stec@nyenate.gov](mailto:stec@nyenate.gov)); Andrea Hogan, Supervisor, Town of Johnsburg, ([supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)); Friends of Siamese Ponds Wilderness, ([friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com))

**RE: Barton Mine North River Operations Mines Current Conditions and Proposed Expansion Project**

Dear Mr. Lore,

Barton Mine has submitted an application to the APA for expansion of the mine in North River. I would like to comment personally in opposition to this expansion, based on the sanctity of the Siamese Pond Wilderness Area, the proximity of sensitive noise receptors to significant projected increases in ambient and peak noises that will result, the implications of this noise increase for public health among the nearby residents most directly affected, and the fact that further expansion of industrial activities is not in keeping with the "forever wild" requirements of the nearby Wilderness Area.

The Mine has offered detailed but flawed studies of anticipated noise impacts of the proposed expansion, including the removal of a wall structure that will significantly increase Mine noise over a much greater area of impact than were the wall to remain. Most obviously, by adopting a day-night all-day average noise evaluation criterion ( $L_{dn}$ ), the Mine masks the significant and locationally inappropriate short-term noises that will result from both increased heavy truck traffic along 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road and up the Mine access road and blasting and material removal for ore excavation and processing over a larger area. These shorter-duration but much more penetrating noises (some involving high levels of low-frequency ground-borne vibration) will significantly alter and degrade the character of the 13<sup>th</sup> Lake recreational area and will intrude significantly upon the ambient noise condition of North River residents and Garnet Hill homeowners and vacationers.

The APA has the unenviable and difficult job of balancing the tension between development and preservation of the Adirondack Park, and I sympathize with the difficulty of your Agency's mission. As a North River homeowner adjacent to the Siamese Pond area and the adjacent forests east of 13<sup>th</sup> Lake, however, I find that the values embedded in the APA's mission are most powerfully those involving the protection of natural darkness and natural

quiet. Unfortunately, the constant forces of further development invariably involve irreversible losses of both. As regulatory agencies permit small initiatives here and there each of which just marginally degrade these critical natural conditions, the overall quality of the Park gradually declines on a much larger scale. While each contribution may be de minimus or quantitatively small, the overall effect is to further encroach on the area's natural wildness in ways that cannot be recovered.

That the Barton Mine exists where it does already challenges these conditions in its existing format. But the need to balance the jobs created and economic value of the Mine is recognized by all of us *to an extent* as a not unreasonable accommodation of development needs in close proximity to a Wilderness Area. That the Mine has been permitted (or "grandfathered," if that is the more appropriate term) to continue its industrial operations within the surrounding wilderness environment can be reluctantly accepted given the history and the need for accommodation. Expansion of the mine, however, is not justified in any terms; the skein of garnet the Mine excavates reaches far further across these mountains than the current mining limits. My concern with the proposed action (and in considering any further Mine expansion) is that each expansion of the Mine will eventually lead to another as mineral reserves are exhausted area by area.

Rather than permitting further expansion, the Mine should be limited to its current boundaries, the noise abating wall should be retained, and Mine operations should cease when the ore has been exhausted. I do not think it prudent to consider a future where the Mine will incrementally advance along the ridge chasing further mineral lodes as current lodes are exhausted.

Forever wild means forever wild. Major industrial operations have no proper application in close proximity to these cherished – and vanishingly rare – natural zones. And activities that undermine night darkness and boreal noise profiles should be limited to the barest minimum tolerable.

Please reject the Mine application for any further expansion of its operations, whether because the Mine's noise forecasts understate the real potential effects of the expansion, or because further expansion of the Mine in this location is not in keeping with the intent of the Park's formation and the Agency's preservation mission. At the very least, demand corrected noise evaluation by the project sponsor, so that the Agency can make a reasoned determination of the appropriateness of the proposed expansion based on accurate and transparent facts as to its likely effect on the surrounding natural environment.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:  
Steve Jurow  
116 4-H Road  
North River, NY 12856

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Barton Mines Expansion Project  
**Date:** Friday, February 4, 2022 4:04:58 PM

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**From:** Linda Fisher <lindafishe@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 4, 2022 3:58 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com; Richard Gutman <richardmgutman@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Proposed Barton Mines Expansion Project

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Mr. Lore:

I own a house on Brookview Terrace in North River, part of the Garnet Hill Association. When I bought the house two years ago, my primary reason for purchasing it was to enjoy the profound quiet and pristine beauty of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area. To my dismay, after we moved in we realized the place was not nearly as quiet or clean as anticipated. We are about three-quarters of a mile from the Barton Mines entrance on Thirteenth Lake Road. At certain times of day, the noise has been as loud as what we experience in our primary home near New York City. The blasts make us jump. Not only that, but dust has been a problem -- something I never expected when buying in the Adirondacks right next to a wilderness area -- as has light pollution at night. The rumbling of trucks on Thirteenth Lake Road and the unsightly tailings by the entrance also diminish our right to quiet enjoyment of our property.

I am willing to live with the existence of the mine at its current capacity, but expanding it more than a small amount would create a nightmare for nearby homeowners, as well as campers visiting the wilderness area and nearby wildlife. Surely this situation was not contemplated by the "forever wild" clause in the Constitution.



I urge you to reassess this project. Barton Mines' activity cannot come at the expense of the nearby community or the integrity of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness. A solution must be possible that emphasizes the interests of Park homeowners and visitors and their Constitutional rights while also considering the Mine's interests.  
Thank you

Linda E. Fisher

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Barton Mines Expansion Project  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 2, 2022 3:10:59 PM

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**From:** tom.meusel@gmail.com <tom.meusel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 2, 2022 3:05 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com; Martino, Terry (APA) <Terry.Martino@apa.ny.gov>; Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>; SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov; stec@nysenate.gov; supervisor@johnsburgny.com  
**Subject:** Proposed Barton Mines Expansion Project

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Dear Mr. Lore,

My family and I started visiting North River and Garnet Hill more than 30 years ago and immediately fell in love with the area for its natural beauty, peacefulness and quiet serenity that it offered to us on our visits. In 2006 we became homeowners and residents to spend more time enjoying all that the area has to offer. Unfortunately, over the past several years we have become deeply concerned about what seems to be unfettered growth and expansion of the Ruby Mountain mining operation, creating highly noticeable noise, light and dust pollution as well as traffic noise of large trucks up and down 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road.

At first, we thought it was just an occasional nuisance that we'd hear the mine operating, but then it became constant during the week, into evenings and weekends such that we no longer can sit outside our home without hearing the constant hum and blasts of the mine.

Now with the proposed expansion of the mine we cannot imagine the negative impact this will have on the area, including wildlife and the ecosystem of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness in which they thrive. I was struck by this on a recent visit to Gore Mtn in Sept. I rode the Gondola to the top of Gore and looked to the northwest and saw what looked like a strip-mine from coal country. It was shocking to discover how vast and visible the Barton mine operation had become.

The fact that there is a mine within the Adirondack Park seems to be counter to the purpose of the park. Some of the impact I've personally witnessed include:

- Dust and dirt from the mining operation as well as from the mine's massive tailings pile on my home and outdoor furniture
- Constant truck noise and road damage from increased traffic on 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Rd from the massive trucks hauling stone from the mine
- Regular humming noise and blasts from the mining operation on weekdays, after dark and on weekends
- Lighting from the mine now dilutes the sky at night washing out views of the beauty of the evening stars on some nights
- Mining runoff into nearby streams causing the water to turn white and the brook trout population to decline
- Ever increasing tailings piles that are visible from 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road, hiking trails in the surrounding area and nearby Gore Mtn

I recognize the mine has been operating for many years, but in the early days it seemed to be in

harmony with the surrounding the area. That is no longer the case, and it should not be allowed to expand its operations. In fact, I believe it needs to be reined in to reduce the current negative impact it's have on the surrounding "forever wild" area.

I appreciate you taking the time to read my letter and I hope you and the APA will re-assess this project and not allow any further expansion of the mine that will continue to come at the expense of the nearby community and integrity of the neighboring Siamese Ponds Wilderness.

Respectfully,

Tom Meusel  
North River, NY

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Barton Mines Expansion Project  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 16, 2022 7:13:46 AM

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## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

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**From:** Amy Garrahan <amygarrahan@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 15, 2022 10:19 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Proposed Barton Mines Expansion Project

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Mr. Lore,

As an American History teacher, I emphasize to my students how special NY is. This includes how the Adirondacks were first used to build the great industrial cities down state, then uniquely protected in perpetuity. Downstate New York 8th graders learn from me how very special the Park is, and its protections in the NY State Constitution.

Thus, it is with some irony, that I find myself writing to you about concerns of an industrial machine forcing itself upon the Adirondack Park. I thought these stories were left where they belonged, in the Gilded Age. Couched as a small family business, Barton mines is not

transparent or forthright in their operations, threatening the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area and North River.

Six years ago when my husband and I bought our home in North River, we occasionally heard the mine from our porch, during the day. Since then, we are increasingly disturbed and concerned about the increase in noise emanating from the Barton mining operation. We were so concerned that we met with Chuck Barton and his team to express our concerns about the volume and intensity of noise from the mine that could now be heard around the clock. Yes, even in the middle of the night. Reviewing their current permit, it seems that the Barton Co. made assurances that the noise would be kept low, referencing that noise readings would never be as high as they were during construction. Noise and operating hours were limited to “mining vehicles”. It is the concentrate mill, not a vehicle, that Barton operates through the night. So, while it may not be specifically excluded in the permit, Barton is not honoring the intent of the permit which was to run a business in concert with nature, not in opposition to it.

The noise has become so bothersome that even with all windows closed, we can hear the mill running from our bed, all night. I’m not writing for you to protect a silent night, cozy in my home.

That is just evidence for you to understand the magnitude of the problem. Those same sounds telephone down the shores of Thirteenth Lake, to the rustic campsites, across hiking trails and through the nests, burrows and dens of our most treasured residents. I also write on behalf of those residents unable to write to you.

This is but one example of how increased mining activity has led to drastic changes to North Creek’s quality of life and threatened the

character of the neighboring Siamese Ponds Wilderness. Barton has also contributed: lights piercing the dark, expanding views of a mine instead of peaks, ever rising tailings piles competing with mountains, blasts rattling windows and startling animals, fugitive dust in the air, runoff claiming the habitat of native fish.

We valued the serene, natural beauty of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area —a gem of the Adirondack Park. Please, reassess this project. Barton Mines' activity cannot come at the expense of the nearby community or the integrity of the neighboring Siamese Ponds Wilderness.

I am very grateful for your in your protecting the integrity of the natural beauty of our Park.

Warmest regards,

Amy Treistman

96 Ruby Mountain View Drive

North River, NY 12856

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Strong concerns over the production expansion at Barton Mines, North River , NY as well as day to day experiences of the mine's impact on my property  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 11:36:03 AM

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**From:** Larry Blackhurst <laurenceblackhurst@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 11:05 AM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** Martino, Terry (APA) <Terry.Martino@apa.ny.gov>; Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>; SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov; stec@nysenate.gov; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com; Sherry Fraser <frasersherry959@gmail.com>; Beth Maher <Bethmaher@hotmail.com>  
**Subject:** Strong concerns over the production expansion at Barton Mines, North River , NY as well as day to day experiences of the mine's impact on my property

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Robert Lore ([robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)) NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
Ray Brook. NY 12977

Cc:  
Terry Martino, Executive Director, NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
([terry.martino@apa.ny.gov](mailto:terry.martino@apa.ny.gov)) Joseph Zalewski, Regional Director NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 5, ([joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov))  
Matthew Simpson, NY State Assemblyman, ([SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov](mailto:SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov))  
Daniel G. Stec, NY State Senator, ([stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov))  
Andrea Hogan, Supervisor, Town of Johnsburg, ([supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com))

Friends of Siamese Ponds Wilderness,  
([friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com)) Robert Lore  
([robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov))

Sherry Fraser, president of the Garnet Hill Property Owners Association, ([frasersherry959@gmail.com](mailto:frasersherry959@gmail.com))

Beth Maher, [Bethmaher@hotmail.com](mailto:Bethmaher@hotmail.com), GHPOA  
board member

Good Morning Robert Lore,

This past weekend, there were two days in a row that the noise from the Barton Mine processing mills at the Ruby Mountain Project site on 13th Lake Road was loud enough that I could hear the low frequency drone inside my house! And of course it was louder outside. And this was occurring during the night, too. As I type this letter, Wednesday, March 23, the sound is much lower than this past weekend. I estimate my house to be about one and a half miles from the mine, and I can see the tailing piles daily and the lights from their buildings at night from my property. It is unacceptable that noise from the mine can be heard most any 24 hour period. I estimate there are approximately 125 houses within two miles of the mine. Most must be able to hear the noise, too. Why is the noise lower some days and louder on other days?

Also, in the past week, a blast was heard from the mine. The subterranean pulse could be felt strongly in my house and then about 1 to 2 seconds later the audible concussion through the air was heard. I hope these blasts are not having a negative impact on my well or foundation.

I would like to invite you to visit my property and experience the day to day mill noise and the occasional blasts. When can you visit here? And if the mine plans on increasing their production, these disruptions will only get more frequent. I am involved in real estate sales, primarily in Garnet Hill properties, and have had buyers express concern about the mine, and they do not even know about the plan to increase production.



Please consider my concerns when reviewing the application for the Barton Mine production increase and mining extension. The reduction in noise and light pollution is needed now, even without an extension and expansion of the mining application.

Thank you,

[Laurenceblackhurst@gmail.com](mailto:Laurenceblackhurst@gmail.com)

Larry Blackhurst

P.O.Box 332, 49 Birch Mtn. Rd., N. River, NY 12856

Pearsall Realty, Licensed salesperson

home 518-251-2032

cell 518-338-7063 --

[Laurenceblackhurst@gmail.com](mailto:Laurenceblackhurst@gmail.com)

Larry Blackhurst

P.O.Box 332, 49 Birch Mtn. Rd., N. River, NY 12856

Pearsall Realty, Licensed salesperson

home 518-251-2032

cell 518-338-7063

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Support Barton Mines Modification Application  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 4, 2022 1:34:32 PM

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**From:** whoadk@frontiernet.net <whoadk@frontiernet.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 4, 2022 1:29 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** joseph.zawlewski@dec.ny.gov; Senator Tedisco <tedisco@nysenate.gov>; stec@nysenate.gov; smullen@nyassembly.gov; william.g.farber@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Support Barton Mines Modification Application

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Mr. Lore:

This letter is to urge Adirondack Park Agency approval of the Barton Mines Company's mining modification application currently before the agency.

I am the former (retired) Hamilton County Director of Economic Development & Tourism. I was also Executive Director of The Hamilton County Industrial Development Agency. In those capacities I both observed and worked with Barton Mines for over a decade. Barton has been a vital, valued and altruistic corporate citizen of the Adirondack region for nearly 150 years. They currently employ on a full-time basis over 75 Adirondack residents and ship their "Made in the Adirondacks" products worldwide. Hamilton County and Warren County benefit not only economically from Barton Mines but also from its longstanding civic-minded legacy.

The Barton application asks to expand on lands classified as resource management/industrial adjacent to their current operations. The reclamation and restoration plans in the application will minimize both visual and physical impacts. The expanded operation will go virtually unnoticed by surrounding communities. The Barton Mines Company has been reliably and responsibly mining in the immediate area for over a century and there is little reason to expect that to change.

The Barton Mines Company needs the proposed expanded capacity to continue their Adirondack operations. Johnsburg and Indian Lake, the two towns affected by the application, have little full-time employment of the quality provided by Barton Mines. We can ill afford forcing such a valued employer and corporate citizen to curtail their local operations.

I sincerely hope the Adirondack Park Agency will see fit to approve the Barton Mines Company application and keep the Barton Garnet shining brightly as the official gemstone of New York State.

William H. Osborne

137 Tamarack

Road

Pleasant, NY 12108

Lake

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Support for Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application  
**Date:** Thursday, December 16, 2021 9:41:26 AM

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**From:** Willard Reynolds <wreynolds@bstco.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 16, 2021 9:40 AM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; stec@nysenate.gov; chairman@hamiltoncountyny.gov  
**Subject:** Support for Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application

**ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.**

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore:

I am writing in strong support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application. I am a longtime resident of and landowner in Lake Pleasant, Hamilton County, and a frequent user of the Adirondack Park including the Hudson River Gorge, and Gore and Oak Mountain. As a CPA, I have served many of the municipalities in and around the Park.

Barton has been a valued, vital, and respected business in the Town of Johnsbury for over a century, and their proposal will enable the Company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs for 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our Park and the communities in the Park.

Very truly yours,

*Willard G. Reynolds*

Willard G. Reynolds  
133 Pearson Lane  
PO Box 616  
Lake Pleasant, NY 12108

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**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Support for Barton Mines APA Permit Application  
**Date:** Monday, December 27, 2021 9:50:12 AM

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## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

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**From:** Jennifer Zimmerman <zimmerj541@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 22, 2021 1:19 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>; simpsonm@nyassembly.gov; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; stec@nysenate.gov; Chuck Barton <crbarton@barton.com>  
**Subject:** Support for Barton Mines APA Permit Application

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Please see the attached letter, copied in full below.

Thank you,  
Jennifer Zimmerman  
Come by Chance, LLC

 [Barton Mines 122221.docx](#)

PO Box 243  
247 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853  
December 22, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99

Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton Mines has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsbury for over a century, and its proposal will enable the company to continue to contribute to the economic, social and cultural growth of the Town and region.

Barton Mines has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor, both in its development of its application and in support of its community. Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and has been a responsible member of the community while contributing to the region's controlled growth and cultural development. Barton Mines has made efforts that are beyond reasonable to address community concerns about the technical business of mining, including addressing the visual impact and reclamation of residuals.

While no mining operation can have zero-impact on its community, I believe that Barton Mines' proposal strikes a well-considered and responsible balance between commerce, community and environment, and for that reason, I support it.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Zimmerman  
Come by Chance, LLC

Sent by email

cc: Joseph Zalewski  
[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5

Andrea Hogan  
[supervisor@johnsburny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburny.com)  
Town of Johnsbury Supervisor

Matt Simpson  
[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)  
NYS Assemblyman

Daniel Stec  
[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)  
NYS Senator

Chuck Barton

[crbarton@barton.com](mailto:crbarton@barton.com)

Barton Mines

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Support Letter - Barton Mines' APA permit modification application  
**Date:** Thursday, December 30, 2021 1:49:49 PM

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## Robert J. Lore

Deputy Director Regulatory Programs

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

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**From:** Schuster, Alex <aschuster@barton.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 30, 2021 11:55 AM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; simpsonm@nyassembly.gov; stec@nysenate.gov  
**Subject:** Support Letter - Barton Mines' APA permit modification application

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Mr. Lore,

I have worked for Barton Mines 30+ years and live in Maryland. I was Barton's first outside salesperson and introduced garnet abrasives nationwide as a safer, more efficient blasting abrasive. I have worked with the U.S. Army, Navy, Airforce at many production and repair locations around the country.

I would like to express my support of the Barton Mines' APA permit modification application.

I have a good sense of who and what Barton is – ethical, family-oriented and a good steward of the environment. And fair to employees and customers. I had a major heart attack last January. Barton did everything possible to help me get back on my feet again, which I did – with five months of rehabilitation.

In my early working career, I worked in a lumber mill in Oregon, where I was born. I also worked at the last textile mill in Baltimore, Maryland before coming to Barton. Barton as an organization and team is a cut above in my opinion.

At this time in my life, money is not my driving motivator. Being a part of an organization that I can

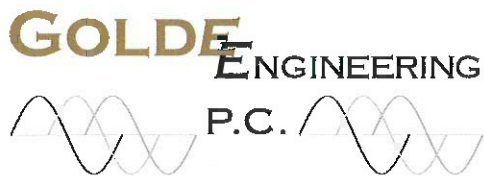


be proud of and that tries to do things correctly is key for me personally. Barton fits that bill. My family as well as the families of the Barton sales team (about 40 people), who live outside of New York, rely on Barton remaining viable.

Please support Barton's mine permit modification request for some many good reasons. Stay safe. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alex Schuster  
Regional Sales Manger  
8199 Forest Glen Drive  
Pasadena, MD 21122  
410-255-9643



JOHN M. GOLDE, P.E. PRINCIPAL

January 13, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Re: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Although I have only been working with Barton Mines for the past dozen years it is obvious that the company has been a community-oriented operation for over 100 years. After seeing their dedication to and support of local causes, such as the Adirondack Community Outreach Center, I have joined their efforts and become a regular contributor. Barton Mines is the type of business that the Adirondack area needs.

I understand that the plan includes placing some of the residuals back into the mine as well as reclaiming portions of the by planting trees and other vegetation. I applaud these efforts to minimize the effects of the company's operations on the environment. This approach is consistent with the corporate mentality of environmental responsibility that I have observed since I have been working with them.

Barton Mines is a local company that has shown over the years that they are good neighbors and good citizens. Denying their application may satisfy a few people who don't want to look at a mining operation that was operating and permitted long before they were born or came to the area. On the other hand, denying the application would be devastating to the families that work at the facilities and depend on it for their existence.

I'm 66 years old – the decision of the APA will have no impact on me personally since I will be retired in a year or so. My concern is for the people who live and work in the Adirondacks on a full-time basis. As I stated above, Barton Mines is the type of operation that is willing to do what is needed to co-exist with and support the community and the environment. I encourage the Adirondack Park Agency to approve the Barton Mines application and work with the Company to benefit the entire region.

Respectfully Submitted,

John M. Golde, P.E.



JOHN M. GOLDE, P.E. PRINCIPAL

January 13, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
JAN 21 2022

Re: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

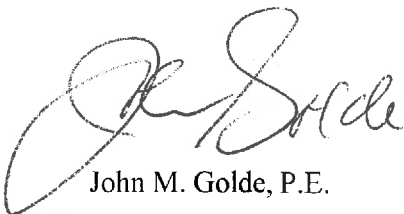
Although I have only been working with Barton Mines for the past dozen years it is obvious that the company has been a community-oriented operation for over 100 years. After seeing their dedication to and support of local causes, such as the Adirondack Community Outreach Center, I have joined their efforts and become a regular contributor. Barton Mines is the type of business that the Adirondack area needs.

I understand that the plan includes placing some of the residuals back into the mine as well as reclaiming portions of the by planting trees and other vegetation. I applaud these efforts to minimize the effects of the company's operations on the environment. This approach is consistent with the corporate mentality of environmental responsibility that I have observed since I have been working with them.

Barton Mines is a local company that has shown over the years that they are good neighbors and good citizens. Denying their application may satisfy a few people who don't want to look at a mining operation that was operating and permitted long before they were born or came to the area. On the other hand, denying the application would be devastating to the families that work at the facilities and depend on it for their existence.

I'm 66 years old – the decision of the APA will have no impact on me personally since I will be retired in a year or so. My concern is for the people who live and work in the Adirondacks on a full-time basis. As I stated above, Barton Mines is the type of operation that is willing to do what is needed to co-exist with and support the community and the environment. I encourage the Adirondack Park Agency to approve the Barton Mines application and work with the Company to benefit the entire region.

Respectfully Submitted,



John M. Golde, P.E.

*Law Office of Sterling T. Goodspeed*

P.O. Box 11, North Creek, NY 12853

(518) 251-2702 \* [scgstg@gmail.com](mailto:scgstg@gmail.com)

*Sterling T. Goodspeed, Esq.*

*Susan C. Goodspeed, Legal Assistant*

November 11, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

NYS Adirondack Park Agency

P.O. Box 99

Raybrook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

NOV 15 2021

Re: Barton Mines APA Permit Modification Application

Dear Mr. Lore:

You will be hard pressed to find someone more personally committed to the Gore Mountain Region than myself. I am a 1980 graduate of Johnsbury Central School and my father served as Town of Johnsbury Supervisor for 23 years, while my mother pursued a dynamic rural public health career. After college and law school, I returned home to practice. I opened a law office on Main Street in January of 1991 and continue to practice here today. In addition to that law practice, my wife and I have engaged in numerous business activities as well as community support activities. My wife Susan was owner/publisher of a community newspaper based in North Creek for several years. We have been huge and consistent supporters of Gore Mountain and in particular the interconnect between Gore and the North Creek Ski Bowl. We have operated several other businesses and are active in leadership roles in not for profit entities based in North Creek and across the Park. I was also honored to serve as town supervisor for two terms and county district attorney for two terms as well. Our roots are here. We have raised our family here. This place is our home.

A unique part of that home is the Barton Mines operation. The mining operation and the Barton family strike particularly close to home for me personally. While my father was in World

War II, his father worked at the mines. Upon their return, both my father and his brother worked at the mines and in the 1930s, my grandparents served as caretakers to one of the lodges at the Barton facility. Ours is one of countless families the existence of which is hard to imagine but for the historic community role the Barton's facility and family have played in our town.

In recent years, I have come to know many of the Barton family members in both personal and professional roles. They have taken an approach in their business plan which I believe serves as a model for company development within the Blue Line. While they serve a business purpose, they do so in a manner that is mindful of best environmental practices and consistently aware that building partnerships within our community is the pathway to economic success. To this day our small town and its future is anchored to the economic impact that the Barton facility has in our region.

Some years ago I spoke at the dedication of the North Creek Train Station where Teddy Roosevelt learned he had ascended to the presidency. During those remarks I commented that enhancement of the rail property provided a rare triangular opportunity in the Park, where economic growth, historic preservation and environmental stewardship charted a three sided path forward. Years later I came to identify the same triangular pattern by extending Gore Mountain operations to the historic town property at Little Gore. I see in the Barton's permit application proposal, the same triangle. Barton Mines has been part of our region since 1878. During that time they have employed people and helped generate the dollars that run our economy. They have ridden the wave of incredible changes in their industry and the products they produce. At the same time, the Barton's company and its individual leaders have been good neighbors in our community. Their Glens Falls office building has won several awards for its green innovation. So too, the present modification seeks to minimize visual impact, increase vegetation and place residuals back in the mine. All positive environmental measures.

To put it quite simply, it would be enough to say we need them. But beyond that their efforts towards sincere environmental practice and a 140 plus year richly textured history in the Park make their modification all the more appropriate.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,

Sterling T. Goodspeed

cc: Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[Joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Hon. Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen St., Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801  
[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Hon. Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsbury Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853  
[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Hon. Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren St., Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801  
[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)



---

**Mitchell W Green**  
**88 Gold Ledge Ave.**  
**Auburn NH, 03032**

**24 November 2021**

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application. While you will notice, my address is in New Hampshire we employ about 75 people in New York State. Barton Mines has been a long time customer of ours. We have experienced a relationship with them built on trust and integrity that has lasted years. As in all they do, they are forward looking and are always thinking what is best for the relationships they build. In short, a company that is community minded.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.



---

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mitchell W. Green'.

Mitchell W. Green Senior VP  
Maine Drilling and Blasting, Inc.

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsburg Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)



## Petith, Stephanie L (APA)

---

**From:** Paul G Hanson <Paul\_G\_Hanson@Progressive.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 8, 2021 12:37 PM  
**To:** Staab, Sarah A (APA)  
**Subject:** APA Project No. 2021-0245

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.**

Dear Ms. Staab,

I am writing to voice my objection to any amendment to the Barton Mine mineral extraction permit. I live at 95 Beach Rd. and have watched as the mining activities have become more and more visible driving up Thirteenth Lake Rd. Just a couple of years ago you could not see the now mountain of extracted material. I fear any amendment to the current permit would result in mining on the lots adjoining my property (as depicted on the recent notice letter I received) will result in an eyesore from my home. We built our home ten years ago and choose the Adirondacks for its obvious beauty, and regulations to keep it pristine. I am sure any augmented mining will destroy the beauty of the area and also cause noise pollution.

I understand from the notice letter, that another notice will be coming when more details about the project are known, and I just fear the large corporation will steam roll home owners. Please do send any further notices to my mailing address, which has changed from the one on file. I can best be reached at this email or  
3B Suncrest Dr  
Waterford, NY 12188

**Paul G. Hanson, Esq.**  
**Cell 518-222-7906**

**\*\* Please Note \*\* Beginning March 23, 2020, our physical office is closed, and all attorneys and support staff will be working remotely. Therefore, it will be difficult to access any US Mail and are requesting that you do not send us any pleadings, correspondence, discovery and any other documents via US Mail or any other physical delivery service (Fed Ex, UPS, etc.). Instead, please send all documents electronically to Paul\_G\_Hanson@Progressive.com.**

**If there are any problems with this method of delivery or you need an alternative physical address, please contact us at (716) 810-1320.**

“Law Offices of Jennifer S. Adams.”

MAILING ADDRESS - 1 EXECUTIVE BLVD. - STE. 280, YONKERS, NY 10701

**Direct Line: (716) 810-1320**

Fax: (716) 634-0431

***Salaried Employees of Progressive Casualty Insurance Company***

DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this communication including all attachments are intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above and may contain information that is privileged and/or confidential. If the reader of this

message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please delete the communication from your system and notify the originator. Thank you for your cooperation.

Scott Hearburg  
PO Box 270  
Ticonderoga NY 12883

12/3/2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

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Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,



Scott Hearburg  
**Owner/Operator**

**McDonald's of Warrensburg, McDonald's Of Ticonderoga**

Christopher L. Hickey  
PO Box 71  
Kattskill Bay, NY 12844

December 1, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

DEC 06 2021

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

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Sincerely,



Christopher L. Hickey

**Copy To:**

**Joseph Zalewski**  
**NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5**  
**P.O. Box 296**  
**Ray Brook, NY 12977**

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

**Andrea Hogan**  
**Town of Johnsburg Supervisor**  
**219 Main Street**  
**North Creek, NY 12853**

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

**Matt Simpson**  
**NYS Assemblyman**  
**140 Glen Street, Suite 101**  
**Glens Falls, NY 12801**

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

**Daniel Stec**  
**NYS Senator**  
**5 Warren Street, Suite 3**  
**Glens Falls, NY 12801**

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

## Petith, Stephanie L (APA)

---

**From:** Chad Jarvis <chadjarvis96@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 2:26 PM  
**To:** Staab, Sarah A (APA)  
**Subject:** Re: Barton Mines Project

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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I think it is very sad when you come up Thirteenth lake road and see a big pile of tailings/stone on top of the mountain. You can see dust traveling for miles and taste it in the air. When we fish thirteenth lake you can hear the mines running. I think it is probably very bad for the environment and many people that live in the area do not like the sounds of it. It takes the adirondack enjoyment away from us. I know when they used to use dynamite in the rocks it would scare us and rattle the pictures off the wall..

On Thu, Nov 4, 2021, 8:33 AM Staab, Sarah A (APA) <[Sarah.Staab@apa.ny.gov](mailto:Sarah.Staab@apa.ny.gov)> wrote:

Good Morning Chad Jarvis,

Thank you for your inquiry.

Barton Mines is requesting to expand their existing operation at Ruby Mountain and has submitted an application to the APA and DEC for review.

For details regarding their request, please submit a Freedom Of Information Law request to [foil@apa.ny.gov](mailto:foil@apa.ny.gov), reference APA Permit 2021-0245, and specify the documents you would like to see.

Thank you,

**Sarah Staab**

Environmental Program Specialist 1

**NYS Adirondack Park Agency**

PO Box 99

1133 NYS Route 86

Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [sarah.staab@apa.ny.gov](mailto:sarah.staab@apa.ny.gov)

[www.apa.ny.gov](http://www.apa.ny.gov)

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**From:** Chad Jarvis <[chadjarvis96@gmail.com](mailto:chadjarvis96@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 3, 2021 7:47 PM  
**To:** Staab, Sarah A (APA) <[Sarah.Staab@apa.ny.gov](mailto:Sarah.Staab@apa.ny.gov)>  
**Subject:** Barton Mines Project

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Hey Sarah, My name is Chad Jarvis. My father and I received a letter in the mail about the Barton Mines Project. We own a place on the corner of Thirteenth lake road and Beach road. Can you give me some more information on what that consist of?

Thank You

January 21, 2022

Robert Lore (robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook. NY 12977

Cc: Terry Martino, Executive Director, NYS Adirondack Park Agency ([terry.martino@apa.ny.gov](mailto:terry.martino@apa.ny.gov)); Joseph Zalewski, Regional Director NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 5, ([joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)); Matthew Simpson, NY State Assemblyman, ([SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov](mailto:SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov)); Daniel G. Stec, NY State Senator, ([stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)); Andrea Hogan, Supervisor, Town of Johnsburg, ([supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)); Friends of Siamese Ponds Wilderness, ([friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com))

**RE: Barton Mine North River Operations Mines Current Conditions and Proposed Expansion Project**

Dear Mr. Lore,

Barton Mine has submitted an application to the APA for expansion of the mine in North River. I would like to comment personally in opposition to this expansion, based on the sanctity of the Siamese Pond Wilderness Area, the proximity of sensitive noise receptors to significant projected increases in ambient and peak noises that will result, the implications of this noise increase for public health among the nearby residents most directly affected, and the fact that further expansion of industrial activities is not in keeping with the “forever wild” requirements of the nearby Wilderness Area.

The Mine has offered detailed but flawed studies of anticipated noise impacts of the proposed expansion, including the removal of a wall structure that will significantly increase Mine noise over a much greater area of impact than were the wall to remain. Most obviously, by adopting a day-night all-day average noise evaluation criterion ( $L_{dn}$ ), the Mine masks the significant and locationally inappropriate short-term noises that will result from both increased heavy truck traffic along 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road and up the Mine access road and blasting and material removal for ore excavation and processing over a larger area. These shorter-duration but much more penetrating noises (some involving high levels of low-frequency ground-borne vibration) will significantly alter and degrade the character of the 13<sup>th</sup> Lake recreational area and will intrude significantly upon the ambient noise condition of North River residents and Garnet Hill homeowners and vacationers.

The APA has the unenviable and difficult job of balancing the tension between development and preservation of the Adirondack Park, and I sympathize with the difficulty of your Agency’s mission. As a North River homeowner adjacent to the Siamese Pond area and the adjacent forests east of 13<sup>th</sup> Lake, however, I find that the values embedded in the APA’s mission are most powerfully those involving the protection of natural darkness and natural



quiet. Unfortunately, the constant forces of further development invariably involve irreversible losses of both. As regulatory agencies permit small initiatives here and there each of which just marginally degrade these critical natural conditions, the overall quality of the Park gradually declines on a much larger scale. While each contribution may be de minimus or quantitatively small, the overall effect is to further encroach on the area's natural wildness in ways that cannot be recovered.

That the Barton Mine exists where it does already challenges these conditions in its existing format. But the need to balance the jobs created and economic value of the Mine is recognized by all of us *to an extent* as a not unreasonable accommodation of development needs in close proximity to a Wilderness Area. That the Mine has been permitted (or "grandfathered," if that is the more appropriate term) to continue its industrial operations within the surrounding wilderness environment can be reluctantly accepted given the history and the need for accommodation. Expansion of the mine, however, is not justified in any terms; the skein of garnet the Mine excavates reaches far further across these mountains than the current mining limits. My concern with the proposed action (and in considering any further Mine expansion) is that each expansion of the Mine will eventually lead to another as mineral reserves are exhausted area by area.

Rather than permitting further expansion, the Mine should be limited to its current boundaries, the noise abating wall should be retained, and Mine operations should cease when the ore has been exhausted. I do not think it prudent to consider a future where the Mine will incrementally advance along the ridge chasing further mineral lodes as current lodes are exhausted.

Forever wild means forever wild. Major industrial operations have no proper application in close proximity to these cherished – and vanishingly rare – natural zones. And activities that undermine night darkness and boreal noise profiles should be limited to the barest minimum tolerable.

Please reject the Mine application for any further expansion of its operations, whether because the Mine's noise forecasts understate the real potential effects of the expansion, or because further expansion of the Mine in this location is not in keeping with the intent of the Park's formation and the Agency's preservation mission. At the very least, demand corrected noise evaluation by the project sponsor, so that the Agency can make a reasoned determination of the appropriateness of the proposed expansion based on accurate and transparent facts as to its likely effect on the surrounding natural environment.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:  
Steve Jurow  
116 4-H Road  
North River, NY 12856

**Joseph P. Kanode**  
**1910 Marlin Dr.**  
**Mandeville, LA 70448**  
[Jkan13@yahoo.com](mailto:Jkan13@yahoo.com)

**February 11, 2022**

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

I have worked for Barton for nearly a decade now and it is the most safety minded company I have worked for in my 25-year career. All aspects of safety to include environmental, personal, and workplace safety just to name a few, along with health and well-being are focus efforts to all departments and divisions at Barton. Safety is discussed at quarterly meetings to every Barton employee from the top of the management chain to the entry level.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

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Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

**Joseph P. Kanode**  
**Gulf regional sales manager**

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

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Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

January 26, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing to you today in support of the Barton International mine permit application that is currently before the Agency.

I am a Mining & Mineral Process Engineer by training and since joining the company in July 2006, I have held positions as Director-of-Operations and Director-of-Engineering. In these roles, I have been intimately involved with all aspects of the Barton mining & milling operations, as well as mine planning and environmental compliance.

Having worked in the field of industrial minerals for nearly 40-years, I have been exposed to numerous corporate cultures during my career. I can unequivocally say that Barton International has exemplified corporate and community citizenship, operational transparency, environmental stewardship, and sincere commitment to its employees. This is rare in the industrial landscape of today.

I moved my family to the North Creek area in 2007 and have counted myself fortunate to have been able to live and work in such a pristine environment and close-knit community as that found in the North Creek area. The Adirondack quality-of-life has proved exceptionally beneficial to raising a family developing relationships that will last a lifetime. I have had opportunities to participate in the community by serving as a Deacon in my local church, and on the board-of-directors for the Adirondack Community Outreach Center [ACOC] for over 10-years.

Barton has a rich history within the community and contributes significantly to the economic and social well-being of the area. If Barton were to discontinue their operations in North River, there are many families and businesses that would be negatively impacted. In my opinion, there are few employment opportunities within the Adirondack Park that can equal Barton International.

I ask that you respectfully consider the positive impact that Barton has and continues to make to the local community and approve the Barton mine permit application.

Sincerely,

**Jeffrey R. Kinblom**

Barton Mines Company - Director of Engineering





11/5/21

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

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This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton's community-minded approach also extends into the purchasing needs for their mining operations; having strong, long-term relationships with many other locally-owned companies. Askco Electric Supply Company, a small, family-owned business in Glens Falls, is one of these. We have been working with Barton Mines since 1997 and hope to continue that relationship well into the future.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

  
James A. Knapp  
President

November 9, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am a lifelong resident of the town of Johnsburg. I have worked for Barton International for over 15 years. What started as a temporary job while I attended college soon turned into a career that I am extremely proud of. As a proud, loyal member of the community I would like to express my support of the Barton Mines' APA permit modification application.

- I am the 4<sup>th</sup> generation of my family that Barton International has employed. I have a picture of my great grandfather working in the pit on Gore alongside the grandfather of our current haul truck driver.
- Because of Barton's I am lucky enough to work alongside my brother and several of my cousins.
- Barton is a family of its own. Employees take care of each other not only at work but outside of work on a regular basis.
- Without Barton I would be forced to work out of town or worst-case scenario move my family to a location where I could adequately provide for them.
- Johnsburg and Barton are my home. It is where my family, friends, and everything I love is located. I am privileged to drive from the wilderness to the wilderness to make a living.
- Barton means being able to afford to raise my children in one of the most beautiful locations. It means being able to teach them to appreciate a quiet life. It means showing them that it's possible to thrive respectfully in the Adirondacks, as generations before them have.
- There is little other opportunity in the area and few if any employers as positive and family oriented in the country.

Barton has allowed me to provide for my family, and for that I will forever be grateful. I ask you to respectfully consider the positive contributions Barton has made to the local community and approve their mine permit application.

Respectfully,  
Andrew J. Lewis  
PO Box 115  
Bakers Mills NY, 12811

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

OR

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsbury Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

OR

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

OR

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

OR

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)



November 18, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

DEC 06 2021

Dr. Mr. Lore

I have lived in the town of Johnsburg, NY for 54 years and I am a proud member of the community. I would like to express my support of the Barton Mines' permit modification application.

Barton Mines has been a very important part of our community for many years and provided a sound financial base for many of my family members. I currently have two of my adult children employed by this family based organization. I also have had several generation of family members employed by Barton Mines' and either retired or still employed by them. Their retirement, health benefits, and competitive wages have made it possible for my family to remain in this community. If it were not for them in the community many would have to find employment outside of this wilderness environment that we call home and want to preserve. I feel Barton's family run business holds true to these same values of preserving family and wilderness for generations to come.

Again I am in full support of their request for their permit modification application.

Respectfully,



Carol Lewis  
2453 Garnet Lake Road North  
Johnsburg, NY 12843

November 18, 2021

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

DEC 06 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dr. Mr. Lore

I have lived in the town of Johnsburg, NY for 32 years and was employed by Barton Mines once I was discharged from the military. They provided me a great transition position with good pay to support me and my family while I pursued my College Education.

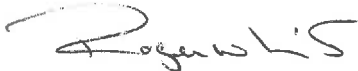
They were very supportive in encouraging me to pursue my education and they were very family oriented for which I am very grateful. I currently am a Registered Nurse second to my three college degrees.

I am a proud member of the community and would like to express my support of the Barton Mines' permit modification application.

Barton Mines has been a very important part of our community for many years and provided a sound financial base for many of my family members. I currently have two of my adult children employed by this community and family based organization.

Again I am in full support of their request for their permit modification application.

Respectfully,



Roger Lewis  
2453 Garnet Lake Road North  
Johnsburg, NY 12843

November 10, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore,

I write you this letter today to express my hope that you will approve the Barton Mine Permit Application. I have lived in the Town of Johnsburg my entire life. Growing up many of my classmates had parents that worked for Barton, many of them multigenerational. It has always been considered a respectable and reliable company in this community. Currently my husband is employed at Barton. Barton has allowed our family to stay in the town we love and create a home for our children. I will be forever grateful to Barton for what they have provided for my family. I have watched them repeatedly support our community. They are generous to our town and school. They jump at the opportunity to help whenever they can. Personally, they have gone above and beyond for my family during some of the hardest times in our lives. It would be devastating for so many if Barton was unable to continue operating. I selfishly ask you to consider their permit, for my family, my community, and future generations.

Sincerely,  
Roxana Lewis  
PO Box 115  
Bakers Mills, NY  
12811



January 28, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O.Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JAN 31 2022

Dear Mr. Lore,

I have lived in the Johnsbury area since 1969 when I started teaching Earth Science and Biology at Johnsbury Central School. After 33 years in that position, I retired in 2002 and I have remained active in the community since then. I have also been on the Town of Chester Planning board for 42 years and have served as Chairman for the past few years.

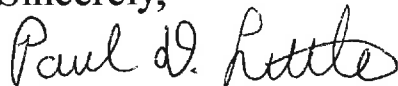
I have studied the unique history of Barton Mines from its location in the pit on the side of Gore Mountain to its present location on Ruby Mt. Many of the students I taught had parents that worked there, many for several generations. With the closing of National Lead mines at Tahawus and the ending of many forestry jobs, Barton Mines has become one of the few remaining decent-paying private employers in the area. If its future plans are severely limited, or the future of the mines is even ended, the economic consequences for the area would be devastating for so many families. As you at the APA know, good paying jobs, with good benefits, in the Adirondacks are limited.

As to the issue of protecting the environment of the ADKs, I have supported the APA since its inception in 1971. Certainly everyone knows that mining will change the natural environment with its deep pit and tailings pile. The deep pit will eventually fill with water and the tailings pile will revert to forested slopes. Both of these events have already happened at the Tahawus Mines in Newcomb. Fortunately, the tailings pile at Bartons is essentially inert as far as human health is concerned. The only effect it has is visibility, and even that will change some day in the future.

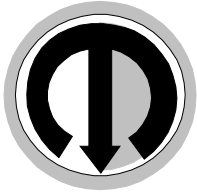
The APA Act tasks the agency with protecting the environment but also encourages the economic viability of the area. Not allowing Barton Mines' future plans of expansion would seriously harm that mandate.

As a person who has fished, hiked and x-c skied around 13th Lake in all seasons of the year, I have never heard any noise, other than a rare minor explosion, or seen any dust or annoying lights from the mine sight. I will continue to visit the area as long as I am able. The sight of the tailings pile, or even a minor explosion, means that multiple families are earning a living and the world is being supplied with a valuable abrasive that has many uses besides sandpaper.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul D. Little". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Paul D. Little



## Mahoney Notify-Plus Inc.

P.O. Box 767 Glens Falls NY 12801

518-793-7788 fax 518-793-0602

[www.mahoneynotify-plus.com](http://www.mahoneynotify-plus.com)

---

November 10, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Re: Barton Mines

Dear Mr. Lore:

I am writing this letter in support of Barton Mines proposed mining permit modification. I believe the modifications are in the best interest of the North Creek/North River and Warren County.

My company, Mahoney Notify-Plus Inc, located in Glens Falls is one of many local businesses that has been doing business with the Barton family for the last 143 years. I have been working with the family for my entire 50-year tenure as my father did before me. Barton Mines has been an incredible economic asset providing well-paying jobs and supporting many local community organizations. We have been part of their growth and have watched how proud they have been of their operation and their interaction with the local community.

I am an avid cyclist and skier, for the last 50 years I have used roads and mountain bike trails in the area of both the mines and mill location. I use both Gore Mountain and Garnet Hill Lodge ski trails. I have camped and fished Thirteenth Lake with my father when I was in grade school. Throughout the year I spend time in North Creek and North River during all four seasons.

I am very familiar with the Ruby Mountain facility having worked on the original construction; I also consider myself a strong supporter of our Adirondack Environment. I can honestly say if I didn't know the facilities were there, I would have no clue they existed.

Sincerely,

Kevin Mahoney  
President

January 8, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

I am an avid hiker and backpacker, and fully understand the value of nature and of wild areas. But I also know how critical it is to keep our Adirondack towns healthy, and to provide good jobs for the people who live here. Barton is the kind of community-minded employer we need. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

Christopher Mallon  
575 Liddle Harris Road  
Putnam Station, NY 12861



Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsburg Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

January 8, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JAN 10 2022

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

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I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,



Christopher Mallon  
575 Liddle Harris Road  
Putnam Station, NY 12861





**JOHNSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL**  
**165 MAIN STREET**  
**NORTH CREEK, NY 12853**  
**PHONE (518) 251-2921**  
**FAX (518) 251-2562**

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

NOV 15 2021

November 8, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
robert.lore@apa.ny.gov

RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application

Dear Mr. Lore,

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Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century. Their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

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This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products worldwide, they are a local private company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

They are deeply rooted within our school community and have supported our students' education in financial donations and actions. To this point, we have named our outdoor classroom "The Barton Mines Outdoor Classroom." Barton's has also hired and trained many of our alumni to help them achieve employment success.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878. It has been responsibly managing its mining operations to its credit as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton but also our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Markwica', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael J. Markwica  
Superintendent  
Johnsburg Central School

January 19, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore,

I have been working with the Barton Mines Ruby Mt. Quarry employees for more than 22 years and can tell you that when it comes to the safety and well being of their employees that the team at Barton goes above and beyond any other quarrier or excavation contractor I work with in Warren, Washington & Saratoga counties.

I can attest to their rigorous attention to the safety and operational training that is completed with every employee for every vehicle or machine that crosses through their gate. While safety training is required by MSHA and all companies check the boxes, Barton Mines takes it to a level that I just don't see very often if ever. They spare no expense for the men & women that work for them and cutting corners for any reason is unacceptable.

I certainly do realize that a mining permit modification is a separate matter from how an employer recognizes and applies safety procedures, but I believe that their attention to health & safety certainly speaks to how this company runs their business and how they will treat the property footprint their operation is on and also the land surrounding it.

Thank you for allowing me to voice my support to approve the Barton Mines APA permit application.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'DM', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David E. Mattison – Territory Manager  
United Construction & Forestry, LLC  
Clifton Park, NY

*James E McGee*  
1359 rt 28  
Warrensburg NY 12885

*November 17, 2021*

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

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I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

***James McGee***

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsburg Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)



**From:**

**11/30/2021**

**Thomas J Morhouse  
440 Black Point Rd.  
Ticonderoga, NY 12883**

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsbury for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

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I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,



**Tom Morhouse, Retired  
Previous Commissioner of Lake George Park Commission**

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsburg Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

December 14, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore,

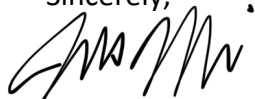
I have been a resident of Warren County for over 45 years and have been working at Barton for the last 15 plus. As a proud Barton employee and member of the community, I would like to express my support for the Barton Mines' APA permit modification application.

Growing up and living here in the north country, I've been able to take advantage of the many unique outdoor recreation opportunities the Adirondack region has to offer. I'm an avid hiker, skier, mountain biker, and kayaker – and I care very deeply about the environment. I also believe in the importance of supporting the local economy, so I buy local whenever possible. I recognize the fragile balance that exists between economic and environmental pressures in the region - and how both impact the quality of life of the residents.

As an employee in Barton's corporate office, I've been able to see first-hand the emphasis Barton places on 'doing the right thing' for the community. Back in 2008, I was among the small group of employees giving tours of our LEED Platinum-Certified corporate headquarters to local civic leaders and elected officials. Environmental stewardship has always been a top priority at Barton, and that is a point of pride for me. Equally important, I've always been proud of the level of community involvement by the company. From charitable donations to participation in fundraising and event sponsorships, Barton's track record of giving is extensive.

I ask you to respectfully consider the many positive contributions Barton has made to the local community and approve their mine permit application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Morris', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Joseph Morris**  
**11 Arbor Dr**  
**Glens Falls, NY 12801**

November 9, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore,

My name is Jeremy L. Mottram, and I have been living in the Adirondack region of upstate NY for over 16 years and have been employed with Barton Mines for 15 of those years. Since starting my employment here I have gone through many changes in the operation and just as many changes in the focus of our relationship with neighboring people and the community. This company has always had a place in the community and has been a supporter of kids, families, and the school district, from donating an outdoor classroom to supporting fundraisers and raffle events. Barton has always been mindful of the surrounding residents by instituting policies to reduce noise and control increased traffic from haul trucks and employee travel.

Barton Mines has always focused a lot of attention to the environment, from water discharge control and erosion preventative measures and maintaining safe access from the roads. There aren't many other companies that focus on these things like they do.

If I can say one thing, I Never even knew that an active mining facility even existed up here for all the years I have been alive since starting here. That tells me that they have been doing a lot to not be a distraction or nuisance to the surrounding area.

This company along with treating me well, and like family, has given me the ability to support my family and be a productive member of my community and state. I do love the Adirondacks.

Barton Mines prides itself on being family owned and operated, and I am a part of that family, and will be for as long as I am able to do the job. I can only see this company improving and growing to keep their family going.

Thank You  
Jeremy L. Mottram

Sincerely,  
Jeremy L. Mottram  
Bakers Mill, NY  
12811

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

OR

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsbury Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

OR

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Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

OR

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

November 16, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

NOV 22 2021

Re: Barton Mine Permit Mine Modification Application

Dear Mr. Lore:

We urge you to allow the permit request by Barton Mines to expand the current area within which they mine. This modification will allow them to continue to produce a "Made in America" product for the next 75 years here in the Town of Johnsburg by storing the residual minerals in a lateral way which will minimize visual impact to the community.

Barton Mines has been a major employer for the residents of the town of Johnsburg for over 100 years. The company has been a philanthropic partner for several organizations in town such as Tannery Pond Center, Our Town Theater Group, and the Johnsburg Youth Committee. Mr. Chuck Barton has worked with the local CDC in matters of economic development and with the local Upper Hudson Trails Alliance to establish routes from North Creek to North River.

In addition to providing community support, Barton has taken corporate responsibility to address environmental and climate change issues. They started by exploring the potential of wind power generation; today they have a major photovoltaic "farm" which generates 100% of the mining operation's energy. The mine leaders listen carefully to the residents within the hamlet of North River when they deal with issues that arise and reach out to the wider community as well. They lead the way in corporate responsibility.

We do hope the APA will approve the permit modification plan as we would like to see them remain in business for a long time here in the Town of Johnsburg. We imagine the world would like that as well, given that they supply the world with very special garnet.

Sincerely,



Kelly and Robert Nessel

Cc: Supervisor Andrea Hogan; Rep. Matt Simpson; Sen. Dan Stec; Joseph Zalewski NYS DEC  
Regional Director, Region 5

November 10, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am a lifelong resident of the town of Johnsburg. I am a proud member of my community and would like to express my support of the Barton Mines' APA permit modification application.

- Four generations of my family have been employed by Barton.
- Without Barton, several friends and family members would be forced to work out of town or move their family to another location to provide adequately for them.
- There is little other opportunity in the area that can give the level of financial stability that Barton does.

If Barton was no longer operating in Johnsburg NY, there would be several devastating effects to our community.

I ask you to respectfully consider the positive contributions Barton has made to the local community and approve their mine permit application.

Sincerely,  
Timothy Noel  
PO Box 42  
Bakers Mills, NY  
12811

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

OR

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsburg Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

OR

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

OR

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

OR

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)





Wilderness Property Management Inc.  
3999 State Rt. 8  
Wevertown, NY 12886

*November 12, 2021*

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

I have had the opportunity to work with Barton Mines professionally, as a community business leader and community member for over 30 years. In all instances they held true to their word, adhered to ethical and sound business practices and were great community supporters.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

Steve Ovitt  
Chief Operating Officer & Owner WPM Inc.



**November 1, 2021**

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

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I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,



**Jane C. Peter, Owner  
Basil & Wick's  
3195 State Rt 28  
North Creek, NY 12853  
518.251.3100  
basilandwicks.com**

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsburg Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

***Stephen Podnorski, 192 Redmond Road Gansevoort, NY 12831***

***2/7/22***

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsbury for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

Barton actively employs 126 people between their North River, Glens Falls, Chesapeake, VA, Reserve, LA, and other remote locations. These people, as well as several local community organizations, whom Barton supports, depend on the longevity of the North River NY mine.

I have worked at Barton International for 17 years, and Barton has been the best company that I have ever worked for. Barton makes it clear that the company's number one asset is their employees. Several of my coworkers have been employed with the company much longer than I have, and many of our retirees worked at Barton for 40 + years.

Barton HPX garnet abrasive, which is produced exclusively at our North River location, is known worldwide as the best garnet abrasive available. Countless aerospace companies, military facilities, shipyards, manufacturing facilities, and job shops depend on our HPX abrasive for their waterjet cutting and sand blasting needs.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

***Stephen Podnorszki***  
***Product Manager Waterjet Parts***

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsbury Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

October 25, 2021

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

OCT 27 2021

Dear Mr. Lore,

Since 1878 Barton Mines has provided income for hundreds of families. Hopefully this can continue with the approval of their APA permit modification application.

As they gave employment to my uncle-in-law, a salesman for many years, so too when I had a hard time finding work they generously provided work and retirement for myself and my family. It was the best job I ever had, and I was always impressed that Bartons kept us informed about the Company's latest developments.

Barton Mines is such a great blessing to the community, that I ask you to please approve their mine permit application. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Luc Poulin



**Kim Cangemi**  
**4 Sherwood Dr**  
**Queensbury, NY 12804**

**November 17, 2021**

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

I hold Barton Mines in high regards for not only being an outstanding and reputable business, but the Barton culture, ethics and strong emphasis on family has impressed me well beyond any experiences with other companies I have encountered.

I have lived in the Adirondacks for all my adult life and thoroughly appreciate the uniqueness of its character. That said, I can attest first-hand the important value that Barton has placed on co-existing within the Adirondack Park by respecting the environment and its surrounding community.

I trust your review will find Barton has put forth an extraordinary effort to ensure its responsible position as a good member of the community for future generations to come.

This Permit Application Approval is critical to not only Barton but our family of three kids as well. We love living here. Without Barton, our future as a resident in the Adirondacks will be unknown and quite honestly, that uncertainty is troubling to the potential impact upon my family.

I can only trust that the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

**Kimberly Powers**  
**Owner – Seismic Media & PR**



Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsburg Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

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NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

WHITEMAN  
OSTERMAN  
& HANNA LLP

Attorneys at Law  
[www.woh.com](http://www.woh.com)

One Commerce Plaza  
Albany, New York 12260  
518.487.7600 phone  
518.487.7777 fax

John J. Privitera  
Partner  
518.487.7699 phone  
[jprivitera@woh.com](mailto:jprivitera@woh.com)

January 28, 2022

**VIA Email and U.S. Mail**

DEPPermitting@dec.ny.gov  
Michael Schaefer  
Division of Environmental Permits  
NYSDEC  
625 Broadway, 4th floor  
Albany, NY 12233-1750

**Re: Application for Renewal of the Barton Mines, LLC SPDES**  
**[Permit #0034959] - DEC No. 5-5230-00002/00003**

Dear Mr. Schaefer:

The Department has an obligation to take a hard look at the environmental impacts of the substantial increases of the discharges from the Barton Mines that have been proposed and that would be covered by any renewal of the Barton Mines SPDES Permit. Planned substantial increases may be accompanied by temperature changes and increased constituents in the discharge in a sensitive environmental area that includes trout streams. Moreover, the Department's analysis of this permit renewal application cannot be segmented from the Barton Mines pending application before the Department to expand the life of the mine from which the discharge will occur. In addition, there is an overlapping application to expand the mine that is pending before the Adirondack Park Agency under project No. 2021-0245. Environmental analysis of the pending SPDES application must be conducted in conjunction with these open matters.

Last Fall, the Department issued a Notice of Incomplete Application to Barton Mines concerning the proposed mine expansion. Moreover, on October 15, 2021, the Adirondack Park Agency issued a detailed letter to Barton Mines, providing a Notice of Incomplete Application and detailed comments. Among the comments provided by the APA is a specific reference to the SPDES permit and the proposed changes that are part of Barton Mine's overall expansion plan. Therefore, Agency and Department documents already establish that there is an integral

January 28, 2022

Page 2

relationship between and among the mining permit applications and the pending SPDES permit application. Environmental analysis must be conducted on a comprehensive, unsegmented basis.

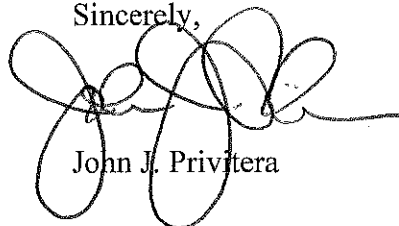
Specifically, Barton Mines proposes to expand the life of mine area by over 70 acres; expand the mineral extraction area by over 40 acres; expand the mine tailings dumping area into a Critical Environmental Area, as defined in the Adirondack Park Act and SEQRA; increase process water withdrawal and usage from 68gpm to 110gpm, a substantial increase that will necessarily change waste water volumes and the constituents thereof, and, to mine the bedrock more deeply along a fault and below the water table.

Given last year's washout of a culvert under Thirteenth Lake Road, downgradient of Barton Mines, the Department has an obligation to look closely at the impacts of the proposed increase in volume of discharge, and how that might be controlled against increased storm water events.

Of course, Barton's proposed increased water usage will also put the company within another regulatory environment, the Water Withdrawal Permit Program. We have yet to see an application for this activity, adding to the incompleteness of Barton's pending applications to expand.

For all of these reasons, we respectfully request that the Department fold the analysis of Barton SPDES permit, and any renewal thereof, into the overall analysis of the proposed mine expansion that is now pending before the Adirondack Park Agency and the Department.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John J. Privitera", with a stylized, looping flourish extending to the right.

John J. Privitera

Cc: Aaron Love – [aaron.love@dec.ny.gov](mailto:aaron.love@dec.ny.gov)  
Beth Magee - [beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)  
Robert Lore – [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)  
Friends of the Siamese Ponds

November 24, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Subject: Barton Mines Permit Modification

Dear Mr. Lore,

I have worked for Barton Mines for my entire career, 38 years and counting now. Like anyone, I have had chances to consider other employment opportunities but have made the decision, time and time again, to stay with Barton. I have done this for many reasons but at the top of the list is my genuine respect and appreciation for the integrity of the family, board and management team.

Barton is a well-managed, highly responsible company that puts people first. The company is a leading employer in our communities and has provided stable employment in the Adirondacks since 1878.

As noted above, integrity is a defining aspect of the company. I believe that the permit modification in front of your team is representative of this. The company produced a professional, complete application with the assistance of industry professionals to assure the most accurate and comprehensive application possible. The company then expended the time, energy and expense to develop a community outreach program. This program included meetings with dozens of groups in our area with a particular attention made to the residents of North River.

I thank you in advance for your support of Barton's permit modification.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'RR', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

R. Randolph Rapple  
2346 Black Point Road  
Ticonderoga, NY 12883

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

OR

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsbury Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

OR

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

OR

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

OR

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)



Willard G. Reynolds  
133 Pearson Lane  
PO Box 616  
Lake Pleasant, NY 12108

December 15, 2021

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
DEC 20 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore:

I am writing in strong support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

I am a longtime resident of and landowner in Lake Pleasant, Hamilton County, and a frequent user of the Adirondack Park including the Hudson River Gorge, and Gore and Oak Mountain. As a CPA, I have served many of the municipalities in and around the Park.

Barton has been a valued, vital, and respected business in the Town of Johnsbury for over a century, and their proposal will enable the Company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs for 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our Park and the communities in the Park.

Very truly yours,

*Willard G. Reynolds*

Willard G. Reynolds

Copy To:

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

W. Farber <[Chairman@HamiltonCountyNY.gov](mailto:Chairman@HamiltonCountyNY.gov)>

R. Rapple <[rrrapple@barton.com](mailto:rrrapple@barton.com)>





Evergreen Professional Park  
453 Dixon Road, Ste. 7, Bldg. 3  
Queensbury, NY 12804  
P 518-761-0417 F 518-761-0513

November 11, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

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I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shaun M. Rivers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Shaun M. Rivers, PE  
Principal

Copy To:



Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsbury Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

**Neil Rypkema**  
**51 Hidden Hills Drive**  
**Queensbury, NY 12804**

**November 30, 2021**

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

DEC 03, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

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Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,



**Neil Rypkema**



5 November 2021

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

NOV 10 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

The Economic Development Corporation Warren County, supporting hundreds of businesses and a multitude of area municipalities in building a sustainable regional economy, is pleased to reach out to you, our colleagues and neighbors at the Adirondack Park Agency in full support of Barton Mines' pending APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsbury for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

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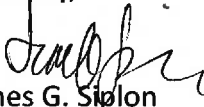
This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes. They are a true model of a business that positively impacts the local economy they work in and supports the needs of many across Warren County and the entire North Country region.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

Beyond all of the rationale already shared about Barton, I offer some perspective as the builder and former local leader of a business, JUST Water, that sought to develop a more sustainable model for packaged water and built a local company that now serves a global market while trying to make a positive impact that is truly sustainable. Chuck and his Barton team were huge resources for us when we began and provide a true example of how a company that is committed to its home and its people listens, mitigates and adapts and shows the way for other companies and organizations seeking to bridge our path to a future that responsibly harvests resources while making our local community better in the process.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

  
James G. Sipion  
President and CEO

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsbury Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

November 10, 2021

Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P. O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
NOV 15 2021

Robert,

I am writing you about Barton Mines application to modify their Ruby Mountain mines permit for their property in North River, NY (within the town of Johnsbury).

I retired from Barton a few years ago after working with them for 13 years as their Southeast Regional Sales Manager.

During all my years with Barton I saw how the whole Barton team honestly, fairly and honorably treated our employees, customers, independent warehouse facilities and transportation partners. They always did all they could to keep the highest safety and environmental standards possible.

I was and still am very proud to have worked for a company that did not sacrifice their principles or integrity and just did things the right way.

I hope you will help to approve their request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Neil J. Southwick". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Neil" being the most prominent.

Neil J Southwick  
2167 Rocky Ridge Ranch Road  
Birmingham, AL 35216

205 365 7947  
neilsouthwick@gmail.com

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

October 26, 2021

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

NOV 01 2021

Dear Mr. Lore:

I lived part-time for 26 years in North Creek, working for and retired from Barton Mines, (commuted weekly). I would like to express my support for the Barton Mines' APA permit modification application.

I worked a total of 26 years for Barton Mines who afforded me numerous opportunities of working in multiple positions throughout the North Creek Ruby and Hudson River Plant Operations. I thoroughly enjoyed the employee and family oriented work environment and the close management and Barton family interpersonal interactions with employees at all levels of the company.

Barton helped me provide well for my family. I ask that you respectfully consider the positive contributions Barton has made to the local community and the hundreds of local residents who earned a livelihood during the past 100+ years of operations, and approve their mine permit application.

Sincerely,



Richard (Rick) Strain  
224 Samantha Drive  
Fort Edward, NY 12828



November 10, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am a 73 and a lifelong resident of Bakers Mills a hamlet located within the town of Johnsbury. I am a proud member of the community and would like to express my support of the Barton Mines' APA permit modification application.

- Many members of my family over the years depended on employment at Barton.
- I have witnessed first hand what Barton does for our community. Over my 73 years many of my neighbors and friends have made careers at Barton. They have been able to provide their families with a stable income and benefits that they could not have gotten anywhere else.
- Without Barton several friends and family members would be forced to work out of town or worse move their family to another location. Among these people at risk of relocating would be my daughter and grandchildren.
- There is little other opportunity in the area that provides the benefits and job security that Barton does.

If Barton was no longer operating in Johnsbury NY, there would be several devastating effects to our community. It is my honest opinion that the Town of Johnsbury would suffer an economic blow that they could never recover from.

I ask you to respectfully consider the positive contributions Barton has made to the local community and approve their mine permit application.

Sincerely,  
Urban Thissell Sr.  
PO Box 44  
Bakers Mills, NY  
12811





Supervisor  
*Brian E. Wells*

Town Clerk/Tax Collector  
*Julie A. Clawson*

Principal Accountant  
*Suzanne Walrath*

Town of Indian Lake  
PO Box 730  
# 117 Pelon Rd.  
Indian Lake, NY 12842  
Phone: (518)648-5211 or (518)648-5885  
Fax: (518) 648-6227

The Town of Indian Lake is an equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

Town Board  
*John Rathbun*  
*Jake Mahoney*  
*D. Sean Curry*  
*Kristina Eldridge*

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

FEB 22 2022

RESOLUTION # 1 -2022

THE TOWN OF INDIAN LAKE DOES HEREBY SUPPORT BARTON MINES ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY MINE  
PERMIT MODIFICATION APPLICATION

Resolution #1 -- 2022 Offered by: *Supervisor Wells*  
Seconded by, *Councilman Curry*

WHEREAS, Barton Mines has been responsibly mining Garnet in the Adirondack region since 1878, AND

WHEREAS, Garnet was officially designated as the official Gemstone of New York State in 1969, AND

WHEREAS, the Barton family has been a valued and responsibly run business, from employment  
opportunities to their philanthropic contributions to the Adirondack region, AND

WHEREAS, an application has been made to the Adirondack Park Agency to modify their mining permit  
to allow Barton Mines to extend both their residual mineral storage capacity and their mine capacity  
approximately (75) years. NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Indian Lake fully support the Barton Mines mine permit  
modification application to the Adirondack Park Agency and furthermore supports this application  
without further amendments or conditions imposed.

State of New York  
County of Hamilton  
Town of Indian Lake

I, Julie A. Clawson, Town Clerk of the Town of Indian Lake do hereby certify that Resolution # 1 in  
the year 2022, was duly adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Indian Lake, Hamilton County, New  
York State at the Town Board meeting held in Indian Lake on February 14, 2022.

Resolution #1 will be on file in the Resolution Book as well as the Official Minutes in the Town  
Clerks office at the Town Hall, located on Pelon Road, Town of Indian Lake, County of Hamilton, and  
State of New York.

The following Board Members of the Indian Lake Town Board had due notice of the meeting and  
was present at said meeting: Supervisor Brian Wells, Councilman Jake Mahoney, Councilwoman  
Eldridge, Councilman Curry and Councilman John Rathbun.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the Town of Indian Lake on  
this 14<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year 2022.

Seal

*Julie A. Clawson*  
Julie A. Clawson - Town Clerk



ABELE TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT CO., INC. - 72 EVERETT ROAD, ALBANY, NY 12205 - PHONE: 518-438-4444 - FAX: 518-438-5751

November 3, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

  
Jeffrey Abele  
President

  
Dan Richards  
Sales

cc: Joseph Zalewski  
Andrea Hogan  
Matt Simpson  
Daniel Stec

November 5, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY, 12977  
[Robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:Robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

NOV 10 2021

Dear Mr. Lore,

I have lived in Indian Lake, NY for 4 months following the purchase of my first home relocating from Chestertown, NY. I have worked at Barton for 5 years, most recently as the Health, Safety, and Environmental Engineer. As a member of the local community impacted by the business of Barton Mines, I would like to express my full support of the Barton Mines' APA permit modification application.

I am the third generation Barton employee, my grandfather worked at Barton Mines for 42 years until he retired and currently both my mother and my youngest sister are employees of Barton Mines. Me and my family depend on the opportunities provided by Barton.

If Barton were to cease operations in North River, I would need to explore opportunities outside of the Adirondack Park or outside New York State, as there are not many employment opportunities like the one Barton offers within the Adirondack Park.

Barton has given me the opportunity to provide for my family. I ask you to respectfully consider the positive contributions Barton has made to the local community and approve their mine permit application.

Sincerely,



Thomas J. Urtz  
6387 NYS Route 30  
Indian Lake, NY, 12842

CC: Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY, 12977  
[Joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

**Andrea Hogan**  
**Town of Johnsburg Supervisor**  
**219 Main Street**  
**North Creek, NY, 12853**  
[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

**Matt Simpson**  
**NYS Assemblyman**  
**140 Glen Street, Suite 3**  
**Glens Falls, NY, 12801**  
[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

**Daniel Stec**  
**NYS Senator**  
**5 Warren Street, Suite 3**  
**Glens Falls, NY, 12801**  
[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)



Division of KTD Enterprises Inc.

P.O. Box 778, Schroon Lake, New York 12870

Phone: (518) 532-7968 (800) 888-0284 Fax: (518) 532-7443

January 13, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and, to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,  
*Timothy E. Vander Wiele*  
Timothy E. Vander Wiele  
Treasurer



**Division of KTD Enterprises Inc.**

P.O. Box 778, Schroon Lake, New York 12870

Phone: (518) 532-7968 (800) 888-0284 Fax: (518) 532-7443

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

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Town of Johnsburg Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
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[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

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Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

**Rudd Van Voorhis**  
**T.C. Murphy Lumber Co, Inc.**

11/11/2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsbury for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

**Rudd Van Voorhis**  
**President**





6157 Kingsbury Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63112

November 12, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

Re: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application

NOV 17 2021

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in strong support of Barton Mines' application for a mine permit modification.

More than 65 years ago, as a boy growing up in New York City, I was first introduced to the Adirondacks. My family began spending the month of August at Garnet Lake, and there was always a magical first moment when, arriving in the dark after a long drive, we would see the road sparkling with garnet fragments! (Later, my wife and I bought property there and have now built a home [353 Maxam Road, Johnsburg, NY 12843] where we spend five months of the year.)

So I've been aware of garnet mining and Barton Mines for a long time. Aware too of their long history in the area (since 1878) and of the remarkable record of creative innovation that has kept them in business for nearly 150 years, providing good jobs and careers for many in the area, and being a generous corporate neighbor and citizen to local communities.

I also know that they are deeply concerned with sustainability—I remember a wind farm experiment—and with minimizing the environmental impact of their operations. And they restore the natural landscape whenever possible: they too love the Adirondacks!

Altogether, they seem to me model corporate citizens of which every Adirondacker, both year-round and seasonal, can be proud. And I hope that the APA will agree with their proposed permit modifications—to the lasting benefit of the region.

Yours sincerely,



Robert Wiltenburg  
Dean Emeritus  
University College  
Washington University in St. Louis

*Joyce Wolf*  
*10 Bog Meadow Run, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866*

December 28, 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JAN 03 2022

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing to express my support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

I have been a full-time employee at Barton since April 2007. As marketing manager, I have seen how our products make a difference across a wide range of businesses from sole proprietors to Fortune 500 companies. Our garnet abrasives have been used in aerospace, energy, and defense as well as all areas of manufacturing from farming equipment to medical devices.

Barton is a good employer that values its workers. A variety of wellness initiatives and safety education programs are provided to encourage positive health and a safe work environment. This training has taught me good habits that I follow at both work and home. The company offers a generous benefits package that helps me manage health care costs while simultaneously saving for my retirement.

I respect the integrity with which the company operates and its dedication to environmental stewardship. I began my tenure with Barton during the renovation of the corporate headquarters in downtown Glens Falls. It was exciting to witness the transformation of a historic structure into the LEED Platinum certified green building it is today. The clean energy solar farm the company hosts at the site of the original Barton mine is another example of environmental responsibility and further evidence of the company's commitment to sustainable development.

Barton has held an important place in and the lives of employees, the community, and our nation for more than 140 years. Please approve Barton's mine permit application so this great company can continue its legacy.

Sincerely,

Joyce Wolf  
Marketing Manager, Barton International

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
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Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

January 27, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore,

I lived in Blue Mountain Lake for the first 23 years of my life and then moved to Brant Lake where I have lived for the past 25 years. I chose to stay in the area because this is my home and I love the area. However, it comes with its challenges such as finding good employment opportunities to support my family. Having been a lifelong resident in the Adirondack Park, I would like to express my support of the Barton Mines' APA permit modification application.

Throughout my life I have watched many of the small towns in the Adirondack Park, that were once vibrant and booming towns, simply die out due to the loss of good jobs. Many of our young people that would like to stay in the area cannot because of this. We need to fight to keep businesses in the Park that will support our local economy and the families that live in this area. This cannot be done by pushing yet another employer out of the area.

If Barton were to discontinue operations in North River, the men and women that would lose their jobs would have to go elsewhere for employment. Barton offers an excellent employment opportunity within the Park which supports many families. The loss of this company would be devastating to the area, as there are very few employment opportunities like the one Barton offers within the Park.

Barton has been a positive presence in the area for many years. I urge you to respectfully consider the positive contributions Barton has made to the local community and approve their mine permit application.

Sincerely,

**Krista Wood**  
**284 Dorset Rd**  
**Brant Lake, NY 12815**

Deana Wood  
15 E Holcomb Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

November 15, 2021

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

NOV 22 2021

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

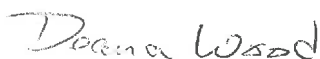
Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it. They have also provided jobs to area residents throughout those years.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

  
Deana Wood

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsbury Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

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NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

## SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER

[YOUR NAME] Fay Robinson  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 200 Hudson Street  
Box 183  
[DATE] Johnsbury, NY 12843-0183

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

### RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

*[PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CUSTOMIZE YOUR PERSONAL MESSAGE HERE.]*

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Rebecca Remington  
27Farris Drive  
Queensbury, NY 12804

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

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*[PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CUSTOMIZE YOUR PERSONAL MESSAGE HERE.]*

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Zach Remington  
27 Ferris Drive  
Queensbury, NY 12804

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

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*[PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CUSTOMIZE YOUR PERSONAL MESSAGE HERE.]*

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Kenneth Freebern  
P.O. Box 18

[DATE]

North River, NY 12856

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

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Thank you,

**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLe SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Katherine Chismark  
135 Hubbard Farm Rd  
Waterbury Center, Vt 05671

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
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Thank you,

**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Evlan Chismodi  
135 Hubbard Farm Rd  
Waterbury Center, Vt 05677

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
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Thank you,



## SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER

[YOUR NAME] Sherry Dawson  
[YOUR ADDRESS] P.O. Box 17  
Wevertown, NY 12884  
[DATE] May 31, 2022

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

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Thank you,

## SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER

[YOUR NAME] Stephen Dawson  
[YOUR ADDRESS] P.O. Box 17  
Warrenton, NY 12885  
[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

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Thank you,

## SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER

[YOUR NAME] Christopher Barker  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 15A Meade Rd  
Jahnsburg NY 12843  
[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
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Ray Brook, NY 12977  
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[YOUR NAME] Kelly Barker  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 15A Mead Rd  
Johnsburg, NY 12843  
[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
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Ray Brook, NY 12977  
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Thank you,



**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Ken Fish  
406 Bird Ford Rd  
North Creek NY 12853

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
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Ray Brook, NY 12977  
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Thank you,

## SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Joie Fish  
406 Bird Pond Rd  
North Creek, NY 12853

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

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Thank you,

**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME] Richard Glade  
[YOUR ADDRESS] PO Box 81  
Weverton, NE 12886  
[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
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**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Jennifer Glade  
P.O. Box 84  
Weverton, NY 12886

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
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Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

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**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Christopher Leedick  
P.O. Box 347  
Pottersville, NY 12860

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

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Thank you,

## SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER

[YOUR NAME] Carl Moberg  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 12 Whippoorwill Lane  
Brant Lake, NY 12815  
[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

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## SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Cynthia Moffitt  
12 Whipoorwill Lane  
Brant Lake, NY 12815

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
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Thank you,

## SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Leon J. Prouty  
P.O. Box 63  
Johnsburg, NY 12848

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

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Thank you,



**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Susan Prouty  
P.O. Box 63  
Johnsburg, NY 12843

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

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Thank you,

**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME] *Brian Freeborn*  
[YOUR ADDRESS] *P.O. Box 68*  
[DATE] *Waverlytown, NY 12886*

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

*Bartons also helps out  
local not for profit charities  
as well as local Fire Companies.  
Without there donations  
these entities may have  
to fold*

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

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Thank you,

**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME] Theresa Welch  
[YOUR ADDRESS] P.O. Box 68  
[DATE] Wevertown, NY 12886

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
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Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

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Thank you,



**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME] Vicki L. Quesnel  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 9180 Graphite Mtn. Rd.  
[DATE] Hague, NY 12836

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
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Thank you,

**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Scott Robbing  
61 Macglashon Lane  
Chestertown, NY 12817

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
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Thank you,

**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Kevin Russell  
279 Barney Hill Rd.  
Bakers Mills, NY 12817

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
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Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLe SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Kelly Robbing  
61 MacGlashan Lane  
Chester town, NY 12817

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

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Thank you,

**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

George R. Van Voorhis IV  
25 Pinewood Ave.  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

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Thank you,



**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Jessica West  
133 West Rd  
Olmstedville, NY 12857

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

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Thank you,

**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Jason West  
133 West Rd  
Cimstedville, NY 12857

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

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Thank you,

**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Casey Palmer  
223 Pease Hill Rd  
Brant Lake, NY 12815

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

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**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

John Palmer  
131 Palisades Rd  
Brent Lake, NY 12815

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

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Thank you,

**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Raymond L. Albe  
159 Palisades Rd

[DATE]

Brant Lake, NY 12813

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

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Thank you,

**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Andrea Little  
159 Palisades Rd  
Brant Lake, NY 12815

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

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**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Holly Palmer  
131 Palisades Rd  
Brant Lake, NY 12815

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

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Thank you,

**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Christopher Robinson  
200 Hudson St.  
Johnsburg, NY 12843

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

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Thank you,



May 22, 2023

Laura Asquino  
40 Antler Lane  
Wilton, CT 06897

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

MAY 30 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

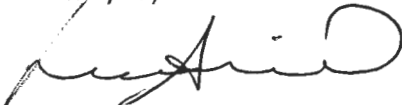
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Thank you,



Laura Asquino

**From:** [Amy, Richard](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton International support letter  
**Date:** Friday, June 2, 2023 12:50:49 PM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Permit Support Letter.docx](#)

---

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [ramy@barton.com](mailto:ramy@barton.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

**ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.**

All:

Please accept my letter of support for the Barton mine expansion project. See Attachment.

Best Regards,

Richard Amy  
S.W. Regional Manager  
Barton International  
**Mobile: 951 551 2685**  
Main Office: 800 741 7756  
[Ramy@Barton.com](mailto:Ramy@Barton.com)  
[www.barton.com](http://www.barton.com)



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Richard Amy  
27500 Bolandra Ct.  
Temecula, CA 92591

6/1/2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

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My employment at Barton has been a critical part of my family's success in Southern California. Barton has supported my family for over 16 years through my employment. The product which I sell in the West Coast is unique to the Adirondack mountains and an important part of the manufacturing sector out here.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

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Thank you,

Richard Amy

Southwest Regional Manager

**From:** [Kim Meusel](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\): APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [McKeever, Keith P \(APA\)](#)  
**Subject:** BARTON MINE APA/DEC MINE PERMIT MODIFICATION  
**Date:** Monday, June 5, 2023 8:05:13 AM

---

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante,

I am writing to let you know I DO NOT support Barton Mines's permit modification application.

I have been a part of the Johnsburg community for a very long time and have seen and heard the negative effects from the mine. In recent years Barton Mine daily operations have become a severe nuisance.

I am extremely concerned about the effect mining has on the wildlife and environment. This is supposed to be a protected area. The Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area is one of the largest wilderness areas in the park and it can not maintain its true wild character with a bigger, louder, more destructive Barton Mine.

Allowing a Barton Mine expansion and extension will be detrimental to the health of our streams, ponds, Thirteenth Lake and area wildlife. The increase of dust, clear cutting trees, digging, blasting, machinery and vehicles will be completely destructive to this protected environment.

Barton is not the only employer in the area. I am sympathetic to the small businesses who thrive when visitors come to the park. If Barton continues its daily and NIGHTLY operations as is, it will drive visitors away. If you allow Barton to get bigger, louder, and more visible many small businesses will be affected negatively.

I am part of this community. I have reported my observations of dust, increased visibility and constant noise from Barton Mine. If I can see, hear and feel negative effects from the mine, what is happening to the wildlife and our environment? Barton Mine should not be allowed to overshadow this community and the forest preserve.

I DO NOT trust Barton to manage its operations in a responsible manner and I DO NOT believe Barton is capable of minimizing community impacts as they haven't to date.

Barton Mine is no longer compatible with the FOREVER WILD Adirondack Park. Please help Barton to mitigate issues raised and begin reforestation.

Do not approve this permit.

Thank you  
Kim Meusel

**From:** [Kim Meusel](#)  
**To:** [McKeever, Keith P \(APA\)](#); [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** BARTON MINE APA/DEC MINE PERMIT  
**Date:** Monday, June 5, 2023 8:58:49 AM

---

Some people who received this message don't often get email from kmmeusel@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

As the board considers expanding and extending Barton Mine's permit please consider these 3 questions:

Which of you are planning to stay in your position for the next 80 or 50 years to see the effects of the Barton Mine permit through to its end?

Understandably, most will move on after a time and the issues raised and regulations put into place for Barton Mine will be pushed aside, archived and forgotten.

Does the APA truly have the systems, processes and technologies in place to adequately and regularly monitor Barton Mine operations for the next 80 years?

From my observation it has been an honor system with Barton monitoring itself and left to local citizens to let the APA and DEC know what is going on with Barton Mine and effects to the area.

Does permitting Barton Mine to expand and increase operations benefit all stakeholders of the Adirondack Park and keep with the Forever Wild? Does a bigger, louder, more visible mine benefit the residents, the wildlife, environment ( trout, long eared bat, wetland rhoderea) other businesses and tourism?

If you are unsure or answering no to any of these questions please don't grant this permit

**From:** [Matthew Schwab](#)  
**To:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#); [dec.sm.DEP.R5](#)  
**Cc:** [Rice, Barbara \(APA\)](#); [Zalewski, Joseph M \(DEC\)](#); [SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov](#); [stec@nysenate.gov](#); [supervisor@johnsburgny.com](#); [friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com](#); [Valerie Havas](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mine Application - Comment Letter  
**Date:** Saturday, September 10, 2022 3:03:20 PM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Mine Comments Schwab Havas 9 10 22.pdf](#)

---

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Mr. Lore and Ms. Magee - Attached please find a letter detailing our comments on the application by Barton Mine for continuation and expansion of their operations in North River, NY.

Thanks in advance for your consideration on this matter.

Matthew Schwab  
[mschwab205@gmail.com](mailto:mschwab205@gmail.com)

Valerie Havas  
vch

Matthew Schwab & Valerie Havas  
99 Old Farm Road  
P.O. Box 66  
North River, NY 12856

September 10, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore ([robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov))  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Ms. Beth Magee ([dep.r5@dec.ny.gov](mailto:dep.r5@dec.ny.gov))  
NYS DEC, Region 5  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

**RE: Barton Mine North River Operations Mines Current Conditions and Proposed Expansion Project**

Dear Mr. Lore and Ms. Magee,

We are writing to comment on the proposed 75-year permit with the Adirondack Park Agency for continued operation and expansion of the Barton Mine in the Hamlet of North River, Johnsburg, NY. The Barton Mine is located immediately adjacent to the Siamese Pond Wilderness, an expanse of over 114,000 acres of forest and lakes in Warren and Hamilton Counties. We are residents of North River and are writing to express our significant concerns regarding the proposed application to expand the Barton Mine.

The rich history of the Town of Johnsburg and the Siamese Ponds Wilderness is intertwined with the garnet industry, and mining operations played a big part in the early settlement of the area. Since area mining operations began in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, local commercial and residential uses have co-existed in very close proximity to mining operations. Barton has generally been a good neighbor, and for the most part, Barton's current operations on Ruby Mountain are compatible with adjoining land uses. However, that history of co-existence is threatened by recent changes to Barton's operations, as well as by the proposed mine expansion detailed in the application.

It is apparent that recent changes (in the last five years) to Barton's operations, in particular with regard to the elevation of mining activities, have resulted in increased noise and visual impacts that are clearly evident to local residents and visitors. Barton's proposed expansion (above current levels of operation) as described in their application would substantially increase the areal extent of the mine and the overall scope of mining and processing



operations, potentially increasing noise, visual, water quality and traffic impacts to unacceptable levels.

It is imperative that the APA and DEC thoroughly evaluate these potential impacts as part of the permit review process. Barton should be required to provide additional information detailing the scope of their operations over the last 15 years, along with verified studies of noise, visual and other environmental impacts. Understanding the current level operations and resulting impacts is necessary before any consideration for further expansion is permitted.

In particular, a bright line should be drawn to ensure that visual and noise impacts from expanded Barton operations do not result in any increased impacts to the wilderness character of Thirteenth Lake and the entire Siamese Ponds Wilderness. This area provides thousands of New Yorkers and other visitors an unparalleled wilderness experience in the southeastern corner of the Adirondack Park, and continued protection of the unique natural character of the wilderness is of the utmost importance.

Barton should be required to mitigate current and future impacts from the mine. In particular, we are concerned with the following specific impacts:

Noise levels and duration – The noise levels associated with mine operations, particularly as operations move further up the mountain with extended hours of operation, are not compatible with the “Forever Wild” provision in the NYS constitution. Noise impacts that are evident to local residents and recreational visitors to Thirteenth Lake should be mitigated to the maximum extent possible. Where noise impacts cannot be mitigated by best practices, limits on the location and duration of mining and processing operations should be built into any new permit issued.

Visibility – With recent expansion, the tailings piles are now visible from wilderness areas as well as from local roads and residences. As discussed above, expanded operations as detailed in Barton’s own application will increase these impacts if operations expand as proposed. Any new permit should constrain Barton operations to eliminate increased visual impacts.

Dust – Dust plumes from the tailings piles cause health and safety concerns as well as domestic nuisance. The dust impacts of current and future operations should be carefully assessed, so that potential impacts on wildlife and local residents are fully mitigated.

Light pollution – 24-hour lighting impacts local residents and visitors alike, and is incompatible with the area’s wilderness character. Lighting impacts should be carefully evaluated and mitigated to the maximum extent possible.

In conclusion, Barton’s current application to increase its mining and processing operations, as described in the application, would increase impacts on both local residents and visitors to this unique area. Barton should be required to mitigate current and future impacts from the mine to maintain compatibility with the region’s wilderness character. Agency review should

aggressively evaluate the impacts associated with current operations, as a baseline to evaluate any future expansion. It is our hope that a comprehensive analysis, with input from all stakeholders, will result in a sensible approach to minimizing the current and future effects of the Barton Mine.

Thanks in advance for your close attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Matthew Schwab  
[Mschwab205@gmail.com](mailto:Mschwab205@gmail.com)

Valerie Havas  
[vchavas@gmail.com](mailto:vchavas@gmail.com)

cc:

Barbara Rice, Executive Director, NYS APA ([terry.martino@apa.ny.gov](mailto:terry.martino@apa.ny.gov))  
Joseph Zalewski, Regional Director NYS DEC, Region 5, ([joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov))  
Matthew Simpson, NY State Assemblyman, ([SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov](mailto:SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov))  
Daniel G. Stec, NY State Senator, ([stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov))  
Andrea Hogan, Supervisor, Town of Johnsbury, ([supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com))  
Friends of Siamese Ponds Wilderness, ([friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com))

**From:** [Larry Blackhurst](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mine expansion project and the local real estate market  
**Date:** Sunday, February 12, 2023 5:54:36 PM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Mine Noise Renew 20221216.pdf](#)

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February 12, 2023

To the attention of David J. Plante,

This letter is about my recent experience selling real estate within visual and audible distance, approximately 5800 feet, from the Barton Ruby Mountain Project, North River, NY.

I am Larry Blackhurst, and my home is at 49 Birch Mtn. Road, in the Garnet Hill Property Owners Association community, North River, NY. We have lived permanently in Garnet Hill since 1985, having purchased the property in 1979. Since the 80s, besides being a home contractor, I have been a real estate sales agent, currently with Pearsall Realty. I can recall the Barton Mine Ruby Mountain project getting started in the early 80s. For approximately 35 years there existed a "quiet period" at the mining operation as mine noise was practically inaudible. Only occasionally would I pass a mine truck on 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road or hear an infrequent blast. But sometime around 2018 or 2019, I started to hear more mine noise, truck traffic increased, and the tailing's pile height became more pronounced. Then eventually I heard about Barton Mine's application for expansion. Fast forward to 2023 and my recent experience with selling a house in Garnet Hill. During a recent showing of a Garnet Hill house to several different clients, they asked questions about the mining operation. I told them what I knew and sent them an article from the *Adirondack Explorer*, November 2021. The result was the clients were no longer interested in buying property in Garnet Hill or nearby even until the Mine's application and the issues it is causing are acted on and resolved. Typically, two to three properties are sold each year in Garnet Hill and another two to three in North River. My concern is if the buyers stay away from future sales, then the values of these properties will decrease.

I am aware of concerns by the Garnet Hill homeowners and other nearby homeowners on Harvey Road, 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road, and Beach Road. These concerns include: noise volume has increased and noise occurs 24/7, dust plumes, and a growing mountain of tailings. For my clients and myself, the issue of noise is the # 1 issue. While I am not an engineer by degree, I was a supervisor in a large manufacturing plant where noise mitigation and hearing protection were very important. I hope that the permit would include adequate mitigation requirements to get back to the level we all experienced during the "quiet period". I am attaching the noise

study report done by NSG on 12/16/2022 that shows the need for a comprehensive noise mitigation study and plan.

As to the importance of Barton Mines, some of the homeowners that I know have expressed their views about the value of the longstanding importance of Barton Mines as a local employer. The hope is the mine expansion and permit application process will balance the social and economic importance of the mine and the nearby North River community.

With respect to the economic value of our community, the Garnet Hill Property Owners Association comprises approximately 117 developed properties that produce over \$500,000 annually in town and county, and school property taxes. These are in addition to the approximate 25 properties along parts of 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road, Harvey Road, and Beach Road which also produce a significant tax revenue.

As a real estate agent having lived here for many years and selling dozens of North River properties, I know also that these taxpayers support our town and county with spending at our stores, contractor services, and recreation facilities. I am not in a position to calculate that spending, but it is likely quite significant.

Thank you for allowing me to voice my concerns about the Barton Mines expansion and the far reaching visual, audible, and physical implications we are experiencing in the North River community.

Larry Blackhurst  
[Laurenceblackhurst@gmail.com](mailto:Laurenceblackhurst@gmail.com)  
P. O. Box 332  
49 Birch Mtn. Rd., N. River, NY 12856  
Pearsall Realty, Licensed salesperson  
cell 518-338-7063  
home 518-251-2032

cc Governor Hochul  
cc NYS Senator Dan Stec, [Stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:Stec@nysenate.gov)  
cc NYS Assemblyman Matt Simpson, [SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov](mailto:SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov)  
cc NYS DEC, [contact@dec.ny.gov](mailto:contact@dec.ny.gov)

Larry Blackhurst  
[Laurenceblackhurst@gmail.com](mailto:Laurenceblackhurst@gmail.com)  
P.O.Box 332, 49 Birch Mtn. Rd., N. River, NY 12856  
Pearsall Realty, Licensed salesperson  
cell 518-338-7063

home 518-251-2032

# MEMO

**TO:** Garnet Hill Property Owners Association

**FROM:** Eddie Duncan, INCE Bd. Cert.

**DATE:** December 16, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Review of Noise Assessments for Barton Mines

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RSG was retained by the Garnet Hill Property Owners Association ("GHPOA") to conduct a review of the noise studies conducted by Barton Mines, LLC ("Applicant") for its permit applications to the Adirondack Park Agency ("APA") and the New York State Department of Conservation ("NYSDEC") to expand its garnet mining operation in Warren County, New York. The GHPOA has conveyed to us that area residents have expressed concern over their perceived increase in noise from the mine over the past several years and are concerned that the noise studies from the proposed expansion do not adequately address the potential noise impacts from the project.

The primary documents considered in this review include:

- *Sound Study*, September 2021, H2H Geosciences Engineering. ("2021 Sound Study")
- *Notice of Incomplete Permit Application*, 16 November 2021, APA. ("2021 NIPA")
- *Proposed Phase Three of Sound Study Scope of Work*, 21 March 2022, H2H Geosciences Engineering. ("March 2022 Sound Study Scope")
- SOW Comment Letter, 1 April 2022, APA.
- DEC Sound Study Review, 13 April 2022, NYSDEC. ("DEC Sound Study Review")
- *Proposed Phase Three of Sound Study Scope of Work*, 13 May 2022, H2H Geosciences Engineering. ("May 2022 Sound Study Scope")
- SOW Comment Letter, 3 June 2022, APA.
- *Response Letter to APA's June 3, 2022 Comment Letter*, 17 June 2022, H2H Geosciences Engineering. ("H2H Response Letter")

This review provides an overview of typical components to a noise study, comments on the 2021 Sound Study and the May 2022 Sound Study Scope, and recommendations. Attached to this review is a primer on acoustical terminology for reference and a copy of my CV.

# **COMPONENTS OF A NOISE STUDY**

A noise study for permitting an industrial land use such as a mining operation typically contains six core components that should be reported on. These components include:

1. A project description;
2. Discussion of applicable community noise standards and guidelines;
3. Sound monitoring methodology and results;
4. Sound propagation modeling methodology and results;
5. Mitigation recommendations and considerations; and
6. Comparison with applicable standards and guidelines and conclusions.

## **Project Description**

A project description should include where the proposed project will be located and a general description of what the existing conditions are like. It should include what the proposed operation is and details about proposed buildings and changes in terrain. An complete inventory of existing and proposed sound sources should be discussed including how, why, when, and where they will operate. Noise sensitive receptors (residences, parks, etc.) should also be identified and described.

## **Applicable Noise Standards and Guidelines**

A noise study should identify the legal and industry noise standards and guidelines that are applicable to the proposed project. This may include local, state, and federal laws, if any, along with community noise guidelines such as the World Health Organization (“WHO”) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”). This section may also contain references to relevant noise control engineering standards such as those published by the American National Standards Institute (“ANSI”) and other organizations.

## **Sound Monitoring**

Different types of sound monitoring and measurements may be needed in the course of conducting a noise study. For environmental permitting in New York, studies typically include background sound level monitoring and measurement of sound emissions from existing and proposed equipment. For either of these types of measurements, the methodology should be detailed including:

- the type, make, and model of measurement equipment;
- measurement standards or guidelines that were followed;
- environmental conditions during the measurements;
- measurement location and site descriptions;



- calibration procedure; and
- how the data were analyzed.

It is also good practice to provide a photograph of the monitor setup and surroundings.

Background measurement data is typically reported by daytime and nighttime periods and/or shorter intervals such as hourly. Before reporting the results, background data is typically scrubbed to exclude periods of precipitation, periods of high winds, periods of temperatures outside the equipment specifications, and anomalous sound sources. ANSI standards, measurement equipment specifications, and sometimes state and local regulations prescribe what data should be excluded from analysis.

Measurement data of equipment sound emissions are typically reported as sound power levels (either overall or by octave band frequency). If sound power levels are not reported, then, at least, sound pressure level by distance should be reported. A description of the operational conditions should also be provided with the sound emission data such as fan speed, vehicle speed, percent capacity, type of material being processed, etc.

## Sound Propagation Modeling

Sound propagation modeling is a calculation of the sound pressure level caused by one or multiple sources at a specified receptor location that typically accounts for the surrounding environmental conditions. The most basic of calculations would be estimating sound levels at a specific distance if the sound pressure level of a source at a given distance is known. This is the procedure described as a First Level Noise Impact Evaluation by the NYSDEC.<sup>1</sup>

For more complex sites and operations, a three-dimensional computer model is typically used to model the projected sound levels throughout the project area and at specific sensitive receptors. This type of model follows an international standard for sound propagation outdoors, namely ISO 9613-2, "Acoustics – Attenuation of sound during propagation outdoors, Part 2: General Method of Calculation." The ISO standard states,

This part of ISO 9613 specifies an engineering method for calculating the attenuation of sound during propagation outdoors in order to predict the levels of environmental noise at a distance from a variety of sources. The method predicts the equivalent continuous A-weighted sound pressure level ... under meteorological conditions favorable to propagation from sources of known sound emissions. These conditions are for downwind propagation ... or, equivalently, propagation under a well-developed moderate ground-based temperature inversion, such as commonly occurs at night.

This type of procedure would be used to conduct what is described as a Second Level Noise Impact Evaluation by the NYSDEC.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Assessing and Mitigating Noise Impacts*, 6 October 2000, Revised: 2 February 2001, NYSDEC



Model results should be provided for locations that are specified in the applicable community noise standards and guidelines, which are most frequently sensitive receptors such as residences and at project property lines.

Lastly, it is good practice to provide the model input data and assumptions either in the body of the noise study or in an appendix, so that the study could be reproduced by others, if needed.

### ***Mitigation***

Mitigation measures included in the project design or recommended by the noise consultant should be identified and discussed in the study report. This should include when and where the mitigation will be used at the site and any specific details that are relevant (berm or barrier dimensions, for example). If the mitigation measures were not accounted for in the sound propagation model results, then their effectiveness should be quantified, if possible.

### **Comparison with Applicable Standards and Guidelines**

A noise study should conclude with a comparison of the monitor and model results with applicable standards and guidelines including identification of any mitigation that is necessary to meet the standards and guidelines.

## **REVIEW OF THE 2021 SOUND STUDY**

The 2021 Sound Study is divided into two phases. The first phase considers potential sound impacts from the operation that occurs at the mine site. The second phase considers potential sound impacts from trucks along the truck route (13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road). This section addresses both of these phases separately, and also include a general review of the study as a whole.

### **Review of General Monitoring Methodology**

It appears all measurements in the study were conducted with a Quest SoundPro (SE/DL) Class 2 sound level meters for all measurements. While a Class 2 sound level meter can be used for measuring environmental sound, Class 1 is preferred.<sup>2</sup> Class 1 sound level meters are more accurate than Class 2. Table 1 below provides the difference in tolerance limits between the two classes at a few octave band samples.

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<sup>2</sup> ANSI S12.9-2013/Part 3, "Quantities and Procedures for Description and Measurement of Environmental Sound – Part 3: Short-term Measurements with an Observer Present."



**TABLE 1: TOLERANCE LIMITS AT EXAMPLE OCTAVE BAND FREQUENCIES CLASS 1 VS CLASS 2<sup>3</sup>**

General Frequency Range Description	Frequency	Class 1 Tolerance Limits	Class 2 Tolerance Limits
Low	31.5 Hz	± 2.0 dB	± 3.5 dB
Mid	1 kHz	± 1.1 dB	± 1.4 dB
High	8 kHz	+2.1 dB, -3.1 dB	± 5.6 dB

The report states that the sound level meters were field calibrated, and the laboratory calibration certificates were provided and were up to date.

There are a few issues with the methodology and reporting of the methodology that should be noted however:

- The report does not state whether microphones were properly fitted with windscreens as they should have been for an outdoor measurement.<sup>2</sup> If windscreens were not used, this would increase wind-caused pseudo sound over the microphone which would artificially elevate sound levels and affect the basis for comparing projected sound levels to background sound levels.
- No photographs of the monitors in the field are provided, so use of wind screens or proper micrositeing of the monitors cannot be reviewed. Any future sound studies for the project should include photographs of each monitor.
- While wind speed, temperature, and other environmental conditions during the monitoring are generally described in the report, it does not describe how or where this information was collected. At a minimum, an anemometer should have been collocated with each sound level meter at microphone height to ensure that data collected when wind speeds exceed 11 miles per hour can be excluded from the analysis.<sup>2</sup>
- If any measurement standards or guidelines were used (ANSI, ISO, etc.), none were identified in the report.

## Phase One Review

Phase one generally follows a procedure described as a First Level Noise Impact Evaluation by the NYSDEC.<sup>1</sup> For this type of analysis, sound emission data is taken either from a manufacturer specification or from actual measurements of existing equipment, and the sound pressure level at specific receptors are calculated using the inverse square rule which accounts for distance only. That is, other propagation factors such as reflections, ground absorption, atmospheric absorption, attenuation due to

<sup>3</sup> IEC 61672-1, "Electroacoustics – Sound level meters – Part 1: Specifications," 2002-05

terrain, temperature inversions<sup>4</sup>, and downwind conditions are not taken into account. The calculated sound pressure levels are then compared to the measured background sound levels. There are, however, several issues with how the 2021 Sound Study carries out this procedure which are discussed below.

### ***Background Sound Levels and Mill Operation Sound Emissions***

Background sound levels were not measured. Instead, the report states that background conditions are represented by times when only the existing mill at the site is operating since. The Applicant's argument for including sound levels from the mill in background sound levels is a claim that the mill is already permitted to operate 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Sound levels while only the mill was in operation were measured for just 1.5 hours on July 27, 2020 at two locations (M-1 and M-2). There are a few issues with the "ambient" measurements, primarily that background sound levels were not actually measured, the measurement period was not long enough, and the measurement locations are not at representative locations. Additional details on these three items are provided below:

- Background sound levels were not actually measured. While the mill may be permitted to operate 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. It does not appear to actually operate all of the time, such as August 28, 2020 when the 2021 Sound Study says the mill was not in operation. At times, when the mill is not operating, background sound levels would be lower than those measured when the mill was operating, increasing the likelihood of a potential noise impact. In addition, the quarry as currently permitted only has a functional life of 8 to 12 years.<sup>5</sup> If the quarry were to cease operations in 8 to 12 years without the current permit modification, and the mill may not be needed anymore, then background conditions would be without the presence of the mill operation.
- Sound levels at M-1 and M-2 were only measured for a period of 1.5 hours. A longer monitoring period should be used to define background, particularly if the background condition being measured includes the operation of the mill. Measuring background over a longer period of time will capture potential changes in sound emissions from the mill due to changes in processes and equipment functions at the mill and variations in sound propagation due to changing environmental conditions including temperature inversions and changing wind directions. For example, the report states that winds were out of the north-northwest on July 27, which would have put M-2 downwind of the mill, potentially increasing the background levels measured when the mill was in operation.

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<sup>4</sup> Temperature inversions cause sound to bend downwards instead of up into the atmosphere typically increasing sound levels at further distances from sources.

<sup>5</sup> *Mine Permit Amendment & Modification, Barton Mines Company, LLC, Ruby Mountain Garnet Mine*, September 2021, H2H Geosciences Engineering.



- Measurement locations M-1 and M-2 are not properly sited to measure background sound levels at relevant receptors. Background sound levels should be measured at relevant receptors such as the project property line (including the property line with the wilderness area to the north), and near residential receptors to the south. Both M-1 and M-2 are well within the boundaries of the project area, closer to operational noise sources than the property boundaries, wilderness area, or residences. M-2 also appears to have been near a stream which is not an appropriate location to measure background or operational sound.

The issues described above render the data collected at M-1 and M-2 of little value for establishing background sound levels in the area which are critical to evaluate impacts per NYSDEC policy.

In addition to M-1 and M-2, sound pressure levels were monitored on each side of the mill at a distance of 50 feet from the building to quantify sound emissions from the mill. The sound levels ranged from 52.7 dBA on the east side of the building to 62.4 dBA on the north side of the building. No additional context was provided in the report that might describe why there was a 10 dB difference between two sides of the building. Also, given that the building is several stories tall and there is equipment and vents on the roof, a distance of greater than 50 feet would need to be measured to adequately account for sound emissions from the rooftop noise sources. It is likely that the 50-foot measurement locations were shielded by the building such that there was no line-of-sight to the rooftop noise sources.

### ***Equipment Sound Level Measurements***

Measurement of sound emissions from existing equipment at the site are discussed in Section 3.2.3. It provides a bulleted list of six pieces of equipment that were operating at the site on July 27, 2020, and provides sound level measurement results for five pieces of equipment in Table 1, but the sound sources listed in Table 1 do not match up with the bulleted list of sources above it. Issues with the equipment sound level measurements specifically include:

- No sound level results are provided for the Link-Belt 460 Lx excavator outfitted with hydraulic hammer, the Link-Belt 460 Lx excavator outfitted with hydraulic hammer and fitted with a sound damping blanket, the Kobelco SK 350LC excavator outfitted with hydraulic hammer, nor the Volvo A450F haul truck.
- Sound level results are provided for a Sandvik rock drill, but the rock drill is excluded from the bulleted list of sound sources.
- Sound emissions from many sources were not measured. This includes:
  - Primary rock crusher;
  - Material being loaded into the rock crusher;
  - Rock hammers;

- Breakout noise<sup>6</sup> from the mill;
- Exhaust stack noise from the mill;
- Haul trucks driving at the site;
- Trucks on the access road;
- Excavators and loaders moving material around a the site (at the base of the quarry face or moving material into piles, for example);
- Conveyors;
- Backup alarms;
- Equipment used for clearing new areas of extraction; and
- Equipment used for reclamation.

The list above may not be exhaustive but is based on our current understanding of the operation.

The equipment sound levels that are reported are at a distance of 100 to 200 feet from the source, which is appropriate, provided that the sources that were being measured at those distances are the primary source of sound at the measurement location. Also, the overall sound levels for each source reported in Table 1 are within the range of levels to be expected from that type of equipment.

Section 3.3 of the 2021 sound study summarizes results of measurements that were taken on August 28, 2020 of the quarry in full operation when the mill was not operating. The report states that winds were between 5 and 15 miles per hour with gusts as high as 20 miles per hour. As discussed in ANSI S12.9 Part 3, sound level measurements should not be made when winds exceed 11 miles per hour. Even with windscreens on microphones, it is difficult to accurately measure sound levels when winds exceed 11 miles per hour. As such, all measurements from that day should be disregarded and have no bearing on the sound assessment unless the time periods when winds were above 11 miles per hour can be excluded from the data set. This is also an apparent issue identified in the report itself with “wind rustle” being noted as the primary source of sound that day.

### ***Projected Sound Levels***

Section 3.4 of the 2021 Sound Study provides projected operational sound levels at just seven discrete locations along the property boundary which is several thousand feet in length. Some of the calculations take into account the attenuation provided by a 50-foot-tall quarry high wall the effect of which is listed as a 7 dB reduction. Based on the information in the report, it is unclear how the 7 dB reduction provided by the high wall was calculated or measured, but based on the measurements that were reported the

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<sup>6</sup> Breakout noise includes sound that travels from inside a building to outside a building through a structure and vents.



attenuation that was calculated between one side of the high wall and the other, may have accounted for more factors than the screening of the highwall itself, including attenuation due to foliage/vegetation, ground factors, and atmospheric absorption. The report states that “mitigative effects of vegetation have not been considered,” but those effects may be inherently accounted for in the measurement methodology. It is unclear based on the information provided in the report.

Under NYSDEC policy, First Level Noise Impact Evaluations should include the maximum amount of sound created by multiple activities occurring at the same time. The calculations at the seven discrete locations in the sound study only include a couple sources for each location. For example, Section A-A' only provide projected sound levels at for an excavator loading a haul truck behind the 50-foot quarry high wall, a rock drill behind the quarry high wall, and a drill at the top of the quarry high wall. The calculations do not sum the levels from each of these sources assuming they may operate simultaneously, nor do they include other sources that may operate at the site at the same time including:

- The primary rock crusher;
- Material being loaded into the rock crusher;
- Rock hammers;
- Breakout noise<sup>6</sup> from the mill;
- Exhaust stack noise from the mill;
- Haul trucks driving at the site;
- Customer trucks on the access road;
- Excavators and loaders moving material around a the site (at the base of the quarry face or moving material into piles, for example);
- Conveyors;
- Backup alarms;
- Equipment used for clearing new areas of extraction; and
- Equipment used for reclamation.

While all of this equipment may not operate simultaneously, the sound study should include a variety of scenarios of representative operations that include all of the potential sources that could operate simultaneously over the life of the project.

Section 3.6 of the report states that the highest projected sound level at the property boundary is along Section A-A' which is 54.3 dBA under the current condition and 55 dBA under the proposed expansion. As shown in Table 2, the total sound level is under reported when the sources are not summed. Total projected sound levels may be even higher once all of the sources in Section 3.2.3 of the report are accounted for. This is just one example of the calculations and summary of the calculations being incorrect. The

analysis would need to be updated for each receptor to include the total sound level from all sources.

**TABLE 2: DEMONSTRATION OF SUMMATION OF SOUND LEVELS ALONG SECTION A-A'**

<b>SOURCE</b>	<b>REPORTED SOUND LEVEL (dBA) OF CURRENT OPERATION</b>	<b>REPORTED SOUND LEVEL (dBA) WITH PROPOSED EXPANSION</b>
Excavator loading haul truck (behind 50 ft. high wall)	40.5	41.2
Rock drill (behind 50 ft. high wall)	47.3	48.0
Rock drill (top of 50 ft. high wall)	54.3	55.0
<b>Total Sound Level (just three sources listed above):</b>	<b>55.2</b>	<b>55.9</b>

### ***Mitigation***

As identified by the APA and NYSDEC, the 2021 Sound Study identifies several mitigation measures that could be used at the project site, but the report does not state that the mitigation measures will be used, nor does it discuss or quantify the potential effectiveness of the mitigation measures. In future sound studies for the Project, the mitigation plan should be expanded upon and described in detail including the quantification of the potential effectiveness of the proposed mitigation measures for those that can be quantified.

### **Phase Two Review**

Phase Two of the 2021 sound study focuses on sound emissions and projections from offsite truck traffic on 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road. Measurement of existing traffic noise and truck passbys were conducted on March 1, 2021. There are three issues with this data collection and analysis: wind speeds may have been too high, the roads were wet, and the monitors may have been improperly sited. Additional detail on these three items are provided below:

- The data reported in Phase 2 may suffer a similar issue to that identified with the August 28, 2020 data, as wind speeds during the site visit on March 1, 2021 ranged between 5 and 15 miles per hour. Based on the lack of meteorological data provided in the report, it's unclear how much of the sound level data was affected by wind speeds in excess of 11 miles per hour.
- The report states that "Roads were damp from precipitation overnight." Traffic noise is composed of two primary sources: tire-pavement interaction and engine noise. With many of the vehicles being passenger cars and light trucks, the



sound levels of this traffic noise as measured on March 1 were likely higher than would typically be measured when roads are dry because wet roads increase the sound emission of the tire-pavement interaction. This means that the sound levels of existing traffic noise in the report may be overstated and the change in sound level between existing and future scenarios may be greater than the 1.4 to 4.5 dB increase listed in the report.

- The report does not state how far back from the road the monitors were located. To be representative of a sensitive receptor, they should be located at a similar distance as the setback of nearby residences. Without this information, it is unclear if the measured and projected sound levels of traffic noise are representative of sound levels within the right-of-way or at residences along the road.

With the uncertainty of the data discussed above, one can conduct a simplified analysis to project the potential change in sound level due to Barton Mine trucks alone. For every doubling of the number of sources, average sound levels over the course of an hour would increase by 3 dB. Using the same truck trip assumptions from the 2021 Sound Study, increase from 2 truck trips per hour to 8 truck trips per hour would result in up to a 6 dB increase in sound levels from Barton's trucks alone.

## **REVIEW OF THE MAY 2022 SOUND STUDY SCOPE**

The May 2022 Sound Study Scope outlines a plan for an additional sound study, identified as Phase Three, that may have already been conducted, but is not available currently. The purpose of the additional sound study was to address feedback that was provided by the NYSDEC in the DEC Sound Study Review and by the APA in the 2021 NIPA. The scope for Phase Three addresses some of the concerns we have outlined in this memorandum, but not all of them.

### **Background and Operational Sound Level Measurements**

The scope calls for operational and background sound level measurements at six additional monitoring locations (MW-3 through MW-8) with background defined in the scope as the mill in operation, which as previously stated would not actually measure background sound levels in the area.

#### ***Timing***

Monitoring is specified to take place for 24 hours at each location. This is longer than the previous monitoring period from Phase One, but is still not long enough to account for variations in sound propagation due to changing environmental conditions. For example, for Section 94-c projects in New York, the minimum sampling time is four days.



## **Locations**

Most of the locations specified in the scope are appropriate locations for measuring background sound levels at or near relevant sensitive receptors. The one exception is MW-6 which is meant to be representative of the Siamese Wilderness area. With the primary purpose of the monitor being measurement of existing background sound levels, it would be better for this monitor to be located along the property line with the Siamese Wilderness Area rather than the location shown in Figure 1 of the scope which is approximately 700 feet within the Barton Mine property.

## **Sound Level Measurements of Operational Equipment**

The scope calls for additional measurements of operational equipment at a standardized distance of 50 feet, if possible. If possible, these measurements should collect octave band sound pressure level data in addition to the overall A-weighted sound levels should sound propagation modeling be needed in the future. This is because sound at different frequencies attenuate differently over distance.

It's not clear if the additional measurements to be taken include all operational sources. If there are other sources, such as the haul truck hauling material to the crusher, those sources should be included in the measurements as well.

## **Projections of Future Sound Levels**

The May 2022 Sound Study Scope calls for additional projections of future sound levels using the inverse square law. While additional projections of future sound levels are merited, Phase Three of the study should include a more detailed calculation beyond the inverse square law, such as sound propagation modeling that accounts for complex terrain, reflections, and additional attenuation factors, beyond distance using a standardized methodology, like ISO 9613-2. This method would align with a Second Level Noise Impact Evaluation in the NYSDEC policy and is discussed further in our recommendations below.

## **DISCUSSION**

In conducting reviews of noise studies, we often consider five factors:

1. Whether the noise assessment followed applicable professional standards;
2. Whether the noise assessment evaluated the project to appropriate community noise standards;
3. Whether the data measured or used in the assessment is representative of what would be reasonably expected given the circumstances (e.g. the type of sound source, the expected background of an area, etc.);
4. The appropriateness and potential effectiveness of proposed mitigation measures; and



5. The appropriateness of the qualifications of those conducting the assessment.

## **Professional Standards**

The 2021 Sound Study does not appear to follow professional standards in the field of acoustics in several areas that have been discussed in this memorandum. Specific examples include:

- Some sound level measurements were conducted when wind speeds exceeded 11 miles per hour, and it does not appear as though that data was excluded from the analysis. This does not align with ANSI S12.9 Part 3.<sup>2</sup>
- Sound level measurements of background traffic noise were made when roads were wet which would have resulted in elevated sound levels from tire-pavement interaction.
- It is unclear if wind screens were used on any of the outdoor measurements, and if so, what types were used.
- No photographs of the monitors were provided in the noise assessment.
- If any measurement standards or guidelines were used (ANSI, ISO, etc.), none were identified in the report.

## **Appropriate Community Noise Standards and Guidelines**

The 2021 Sound Study evaluates the project against NYSDEC policy by comparing projected sound levels to the background sound levels. It also discusses the existing APA permit conditions for the mine which calls for equipment at the site to be maintained and operated to minimize noise. To our knowledge the existing APA permit does not contain a sound level limit.

While evaluating an existing project against existing APA permit conditions and NYSDEC thresholds is appropriate, there are other guidelines that should be considered as well. The project borders the Siamese Ponds Wilderness to the north, west, and southwest. There has been little consideration in the 2021 Sound Study of noise standards or guidelines related to the sensitivity of the wilderness area. The Adirondack State Land Master Plan provides the following definition of wilderness:

A wilderness area, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man--where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. A wilderness area is further defined to mean an area of state land or water having a primeval character, without significant improvement or permanent human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve, enhance and restore, where necessary, its natural conditions, and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least ten thousand acres of contiguous land

and water or is of sufficient size and character as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value.

Two elements that should be considered is the potential impact of noise on the “outstanding opportunities for solitude” and the natural resource that is the wilderness’s soundscape.

The National Park Service is charged with protecting natural sounds in lands that they manage. One way the Natural Sounds and Night Skies Division assesses potential impact is through quantifying the percent of time that anthropogenic sounds are audible in protected areas and quantifying  $L_{nat}$  which is the sound level of just natural sounds in the area. This type of method could be applied to the proposed project to define the natural sound level within the wilderness area for comparison to the existing and projected sound levels from the project. ANSI S12.100, “Methods to Define and Measure the Residual Sound in Protected Natural and Quiet Residential Areas” provides a similar approach which could be used for this project.

The method discussed in the previous paragraph also aligns with the World Health Organization’s (WHO) Guidelines for Community Noise (2000). The WHO guidelines provide recommended values for community noise for specific environments based the potential effect. In this case, for a wilderness areas, the WHO guidelines state that “Existing quiet outdoor areas should be preserved and the ratio of intruding noise to natural background sound should be kept low.”

Given this information, an evaluation of the existing natural sound levels in the adjacent Siamese Ponds Wilderness and a comparison to the existing and projected future sound levels from the project would be prudent. The 2021 Sound Study does not provide this type of analysis, nor does it appear to be planned in the May 2022 Sound Study Scope.

## **Representativeness of Presented Data**

Some of the data presented in the 2021 Sound Study is reasonable and aligns with expected values. For example, the overall sound levels for each source reported in Table 1 are within the range of levels to be expected from that type of equipment.

Some of the data, however, is not representative of values that may be expected. Specifically:

- The total projected sound level at receptors was not calculated. Only projected sound levels from individual sources were provided.
- The sound levels that were presented as background were not background because they included the operation of the mill.
- Background sound levels were not measured at relevant property line or residential locations.



- Sound emission data and projections are missing for many sources and operations as detailed on Pages 7-9 of this memorandum.

Perhaps the most problematic issue with the 2021 Sound Study is that it does not assess the cumulative impact of all of the operations at the mine. By the Applicant including sound from the mill in the background sound level measurements and by not accounting for all sources that operate at the site in the projections, the cumulative impact of the mine is not assessed and, in fact, allows for a ratcheting up of ever increasing sound levels over time, otherwise described as noise creep. This effect would only further exacerbate the GHPOAs concerns about the residents' perceptions that sound levels have been increasing over the years.

In order for the data to be representative of the potential impact of the project, the following scenarios should be quantified, analyzed, and compared:

- Background sound levels in the area excluding any sources at the project site.
- Existing sound levels in the area including all sources that can operate at the project site simultaneously. This may involve multiple modeled scenarios.
- Future sound levels in the area including all sources that can operate at the project simultaneously. This may involve multiple modeled scenarios including the varying terrain over the life of the project.

## **Appropriateness and Effectiveness of Mitigation Measures**

With the existing APA permit for the project calling for the noise to be minimized, evaluation of appropriate mitigation measures should be included in the sound study. It is not included in the 2021 Sound Study. The study contemplated using temporary mobile noise barriers near the drilling operations. The study should indicate where the barriers should be located relative to the drill and sensitive receptors, when the barrier should be used depending on where the drill is operating, the recommended dimensions and specifications of the barrier, and the expected reduction in sound level (total and from the drill alone) if a barrier is used. The study also contemplates enclosing the drill with absorptive material and constructing a berm near the residual mineral expansion area. The effectiveness of both of these mitigation measures should be evaluated and stated in a sound study.

Other mitigation options should be considered as well including:

- Planning routes for mobile equipment, including trucks, in a circular pattern to minimize the need to use backup alarms.
- Limiting the number of drills and rock hammers that can operate simultaneously.
- Leave the quarry high wall in place for the life of the project.

- Maintaining forested areas surrounding the extraction area such that line-of-sight remains blocked to nearby property boundaries and residences.
- Use of a noise reducing shroud on the drills and rock hammers.
- Reducing or eliminating nighttime operations.
- Limiting the hours of operations to weekdays.
- Public notification of scheduled blasts.

## **Qualifications of the Sound Study Consultant**

The 2021 Sound Study was conducted by H2H Geoscience Engineering (“H2H”). We are unfamiliar with their expertise in noise control engineering. Noise control engineering is a specialized field that requires experience beyond that of a typical professional engineering certification. Institute of Noise Control Engineering (INCE) Board Certification is the formal recognition of one’s professional capability in noise control engineering. Based on a search of the INCE directory, there are no INCE Board Certified staff at H2H nor any members of INCE at H2H. Similarly, a search of the Acoustical Society of America Directory, and the National Council of Acoustical Consultants yields no staff at H2H.

Given the information currently available to us, we are unable to confirm that the author of the 2021 Sound Study is qualified in the area of noise control engineering.

## **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The proposed project would allow for the expansion of the extraction area from 28.8 acres to 69 acres, an expansion of the residual mineral pile by 56.4 acres, increasing blasting from two to three times per month to six times per month, and continuation of the project as a whole until the year 2095. A project of this size and complexity merits a more detailed noise assessment that considers the potential cumulative impacts throughout the project area including property boundaries, residences, and the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area.

The 2021 Sound Study and May 2022 Sound Study Scope do not meet acceptable standards for conducting noise studies and are inadequate to characterize the potential cumulative noise impacts of the project. As currently conducted, the 2021 Sound Study allows for noise creep over time by comparing projected sound levels to background sound levels that include existing noise sources at the mine. We recommend that a more detailed noise assessment be conducted that includes:

1. An inventory of existing and proposed sound sources at the project site including how, why, when, and where they will operate including sound power levels that are either from the manufacturer or derived from on-site measurements. Note that some equipment may require multiple sound power ratings for different operations and conditions. For example, the sound power level of a haul truck



descending into the extraction area, may be different than ascending, idling, loading, or unloading.

2. Identification of all sensitive receptors and land uses including residences, wilderness areas, and parks, among others.
3. Identification and discussion of applicable community noise standards and guidelines including NYSDEC policy, WHO community noise guidelines, and consideration of potential impacts to wilderness areas.
4. Continuous long-term (5 to 10 days) background sound level monitoring at property boundaries, nearby residential locations, and in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area. Collected sound level data should be analyzed to exclude periods of precipitation, low temperatures (below 14°F), and high winds (greater than 11 miles per hour). Each monitor location should also have an anemometer to log wind speed at microphone height for the duration of the monitoring period. Background monitoring should exclude all existing noise sources at the project site. An operational monitoring period may also be conducted with existing noise sources operating at the site.
5. Sound propagation modeling that follows ISO 9613-2, “Acoustics – Attenuation of sound during propagation outdoors – Part 2: General method of calculation.” Sound propagation in a three-dimensional computer model that uses the ISO standard allows for calculation of sound levels throughout the project area including the entire property line, residences, and in the wilderness area. Per the ISO standard, this modeling would account for a moderate temperature inversion, or equivalently a moderate downwind condition. Smooth vertical rock faces can be modeled as reflective surfaces and densely forested areas that will remain densely forested can be included for attenuation effects. Modeling should be conducted for each phase of extraction (i.e. changing terrain and location of noise sources) and include sound emissions from all sources at the project site that could operate simultaneously to assess the total potential impact from each phase including clearing and reclamation.
6. An evaluation of mitigation options that can be implemented to reduce potential noise impacts at sensitive receptors including residences, property boundaries, and the wilderness area. Mitigation options that can be quantified and included in the sound propagation model should be, including barriers, berms, and sound level reductions due to other elements (e.g. enclosures, shrouds, etc.). Mitigation options should include those necessary to meet applicable standards and guidelines, but also generally available mitigation measures to minimize noise per the project’s existing APA permit.
7. Qualifications of the preparer(s)

## APPENDIX A. ACOUSTICS PRIMER

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### Expressing Sound in Decibel Levels

The varying air pressure that constitutes sound can be characterized in many different ways. The human ear is the basis for the metrics that are used in acoustics. Normal human hearing is sensitive to sound fluctuations over an enormous range of pressures, from about 20 micropascals (the “threshold of audibility”) to about 20 pascals (the “threshold of pain”).<sup>7</sup> This factor of one million in sound pressure difference is challenging to convey in engineering units. Instead, sound pressure is converted to sound “levels” in units of “decibels” (dB, named after Alexander Graham Bell). Once a measured sound is converted to dB, it is denoted as a level with the letter “L”.

The conversion from sound pressure in pascals to sound level in dB is a four-step process. First, the sound wave’s measured amplitude is squared and the mean is taken. Second, a ratio is taken between the mean square sound pressure and the square of the threshold of audibility (20 micropascals). Third, using the logarithm function, the ratio is converted to factors of 10. The final result is multiplied by 10 to give the decibel level. By this decibel scale, sound levels range from 0 dB at the threshold of audibility to 120 dB at the threshold of pain.

Typical sound sources, and their sound pressure levels, are listed on the scale in Figure 1.

### Human Response to Sound Levels: Apparent Loudness

For every 20 dB increase in sound level, the sound pressure increases by a *factor* of 10; the sound *level* range from 0 dB to 120 dB covers 6 factors of 10, or one million, in sound *pressure*. However, for an increase of 10 dB in sound *level* as measured by a meter, humans perceive an approximate doubling of apparent loudness: to the human ear, a sound level of 70 dB sounds about “twice as loud” as a sound level of 60 dB. Smaller changes in sound level, less than 3 dB up or down, are generally not perceptible.

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<sup>7</sup> The pascal is a measure of pressure in the metric system. In Imperial units, they are themselves very small: one pascal is only 145 millionths of a pound per square inch (psi). The sound pressure at the threshold of audibility is only 3 one-billionths of one psi; at the threshold of pain, it is about 3 one-thousandths of one psi.



FIGURE 1: A SCALE OF SOUND PRESSURE LEVELS FOR TYPICAL SOUND SOURCES



## Frequency Spectrum of Sound

The “frequency” of a sound is the rate at which it fluctuates in time, expressed in Hertz (Hz), or cycles per second. Very few sounds occur at only one frequency: most sound contains energy at many different frequencies, and it can be broken down into different frequency divisions, or bands. These bands are similar to musical pitches, from low tones to high tones. The most common division is the standard octave band. An octave is the range of frequencies whose upper frequency limit is twice its lower frequency limit, exactly like an octave in music. An octave band is identified by its center frequency: each successive band’s center frequency is twice as high (one octave) as the previous band. For example, the 500 Hz octave band includes all sound whose frequencies range between 354 Hz (Hertz, or cycles per second) and 707 Hz. The next band is centered at 1,000 Hz with a range between 707 Hz and 1,414 Hz. The range of human hearing is divided into 10 standard octave bands: 31.5 Hz, 63 Hz, 125 Hz, 250 Hz, 500 Hz, 1,000 Hz, 2,000 Hz, 4,000 Hz, 8,000 Hz, and 16,000 Hz. For analyses that require finer frequency detail, each octave-band can be subdivided. A commonly-used subdivision creates three smaller bands within each octave band, or so-called 1/3-octave bands.

## Human Response to Frequency: Weighting of Sound Levels

The human ear is not equally sensitive to sounds of all frequencies. Sounds at some frequencies seem louder than others, despite having the same decibel level as measured by a sound level meter. In particular, human hearing is much more sensitive to medium pitches (from about 500 Hz to about 4,000 Hz) than to very low or very high pitches. For example, a tone measuring 80 dB at 500 Hz (a medium pitch) sounds quite a bit louder than a tone measuring 80 dB at 60 Hz (a very low pitch). The frequency response of normal human hearing ranges from 20 Hz to 20,000 Hz. Below 20 Hz, sound pressure fluctuations are not “heard”, but sometimes can be “felt”. This is known as “infrasound”. Likewise, above 20,000 Hz, sound can no longer be heard by humans; this is known as “ultrasound”. As humans age, they tend to lose the ability to hear higher frequencies first; many adults do not hear very well above about 16,000 Hz. Most natural and man-made sound occurs in the range from about 40 Hz to about 4,000 Hz. Some insects and birdsongs reach to about 8,000 Hz.

To adjust measured sound pressure levels so that they mimic human hearing response, sound level meters apply filters, known as “frequency weightings”, to the signals. There are several defined weighting scales, including “A”, “B”, “C”, “D”, “G”, and “Z”. The most common weighting scale used in environmental noise analysis and regulation is A-weighting. This weighting represents the sensitivity of the human ear to sounds of low to moderate level. It attenuates sounds with frequencies below 1000 Hz and above 4000 Hz; it amplifies very slightly sounds between 1000 Hz and 4000 Hz, where the human ear is particularly sensitive. The C-weighting scale is sometimes used to describe louder sounds. The B- and D- scales are seldom used. All of these frequency weighting scales are normalized to the average human hearing response at 1000 Hz: at this frequency,



the filters neither attenuate nor amplify. G-weighting is a standardized weighting used to evaluate infrasound.

When a reported sound level has been filtered using a frequency weighting, the letter is appended to “dB”. For example, sound with A-weighting is usually denoted “dBA”. When no filtering is applied, the level is denoted “dB” or “dBZ”. The letter is also appended as a subscript to the level indicator “L”, for example “L<sub>A</sub>” for A-weighted levels.

## Time Response of Sound Level Meters

Because sound levels can vary greatly from one moment to the next, the time over which sound is measured can influence the value of the levels reported. Often, sound is measured in real time, as it fluctuates. In this case, acousticians apply a so-called “time response” to the sound level meter, and this time response is often part of regulations for measuring sound. If the sound level is varying slowly, over a few seconds, “Slow” time response is applied, with a time constant of one second. If the sound level is varying quickly (for example, if brief events are mixed into the overall sound), “Fast” time response can be applied, with a time constant of one-eighth of a second.<sup>8</sup> The time response setting for a sound level measurement is indicated with the subscript “S” for Slow and “F” for Fast: L<sub>S</sub> or L<sub>F</sub>. A sound level meter set to Fast time response will indicate higher sound levels than one set to Slow time response when brief events are mixed into the overall sound, because it can respond more quickly.

In some cases, the maximum sound level that can be generated by a source is of concern. Likewise, the minimum sound level occurring during a monitoring period may be required. To measure these, the sound level meter can be set to capture and hold the highest and lowest levels measured during a given monitoring period. This is represented by the subscript “max”, denoted as “L<sub>max</sub>”. One can define a “max” level with Fast response L<sub>Fmax</sub> (1/8-second time constant), Slow time response L<sub>Smax</sub> (1-second time constant), or Continuous Equivalent level over a specified time period L<sub>EQmax</sub>.

## Accounting for Changes in Sound Over Time

A sound level meter’s time response settings are useful for continuous monitoring. However, they are less useful in summarizing sound levels over longer periods. To do so, acousticians apply simple statistics to the measured sound levels, resulting in a set of defined types of sound level related to averages over time. An example is shown in Figure 2. The sound level at each instant of time is the grey trace going from left to right. Over the total time it was measured (1 hour in the figure), the sound energy spends certain fractions of time near various levels, ranging from the minimum (about 27 dB in the figure) to the maximum (about 65 dB in the figure). The simplest descriptor is the average sound level, known as the Equivalent Continuous Sound Level. Statistical levels

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<sup>8</sup> There is a third time response defined by standards, the “Impulse” response. This response was defined to enable use of older, analog meters when measuring very brief sounds; it is no longer in common use.

are used to determine for what percentage of time the sound is louder than any given level. These levels are described in the following sections.

## Equivalent Continuous Sound Level - $L_{eq}$

One straightforward, common way of describing sound levels is in terms of the Continuous Equivalent Sound Level, or  $L_{eq}$ . The  $L_{eq}$  is the average sound pressure level over a defined period of time, such as one hour or one day.  $L_{eq}$  is the most commonly used descriptor in noise standards and regulations.  $L_{eq}$  is representative of the overall sound to which a person is exposed. Because of the logarithmic calculation of decibels,  $L_{eq}$  tends to favor higher sound levels: loud and infrequent sources have a larger impact on the resulting average sound level than quieter but more frequent sounds. For example, in Figure 2, even though the sound level spends most of the time near about 34 dBA, the  $L_{eq}$  is 41 dBA, having been “inflated” by the maximum level of 65 dBA and other occasional spikes over the course of the hour.

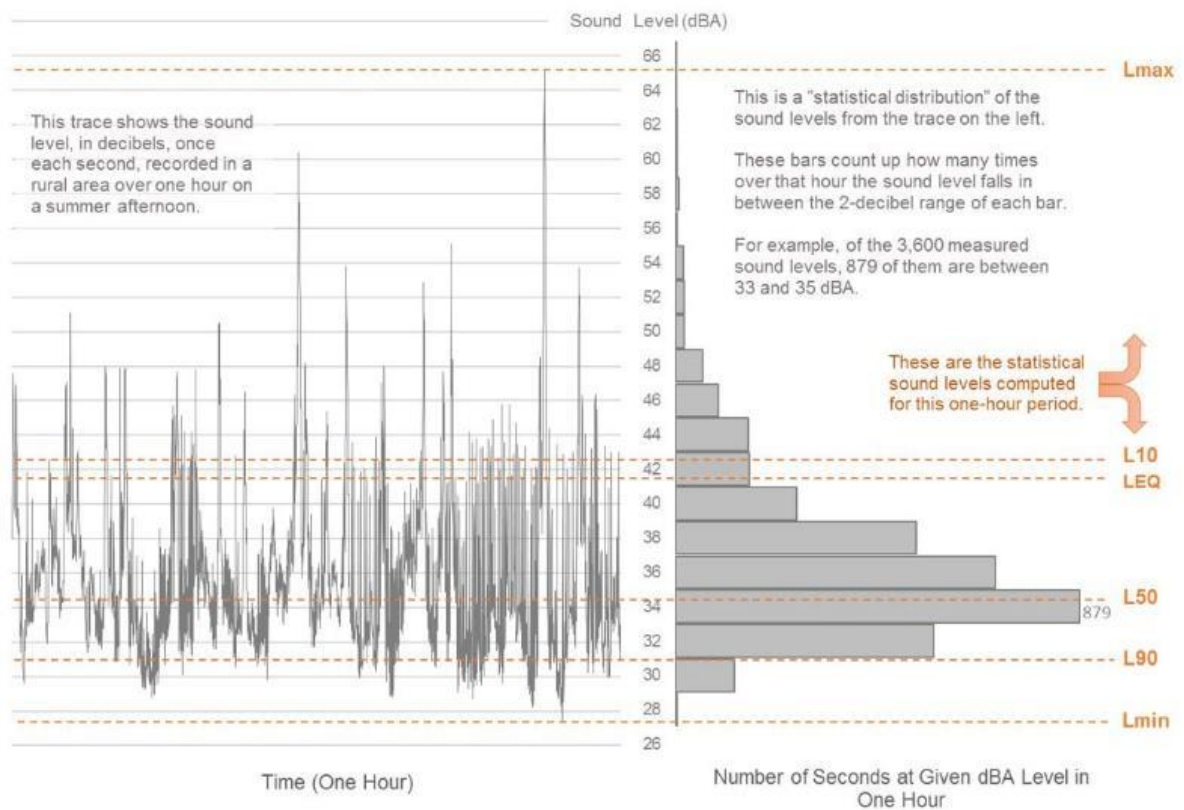


FIGURE 2: EXAMPLE OF DESCRIPTIVE TERMS OF SOUND MEASUREMENT OVER TIME

## Percentile Sound Levels – $L_n$

Percentile sound levels describe the statistical distribution of sound levels over time. “ $L_n$ ” is the level above which the sound spends “ $n$ ” percent of the time. For example,  $L_{90}$  (sometimes called the “residual base level”) is the sound level exceeded 90% of the time: the sound is louder than  $L_{90}$  most of the time.  $L_{10}$  is the sound level that is



exceeded only 10% of the time.  $L_{50}$  (the “median level”) is exceeded 50% of the time: half of the time the sound is louder than the  $L_{50}$ , and half the time it is quieter than the  $L_{50}$ . Note that the  $L_{50}$  (median) and  $L_{eq}$  (mean) are not always the same, for reasons described in the previous section.

The  $L_{90}$  is the sound that persists for longer periods, and below which the overall sound level seldom falls. It tends to filter out other short-term environmental sounds that aren't part of the source being investigated.  $L_{10}$  represents the higher, but less frequent, sound levels. These could include such events as barking dogs, vehicles driving by and aircraft flying overhead, gusts of wind, and work operations.  $L_{90}$  represents the background sound that is present when these event sounds are excluded.

Note that if one sound source is very constant and dominates the soundscape in an area, all of the descriptive sound levels mentioned here tend toward the same value. It is when the sound is varying widely from one moment to the next that the statistical descriptors are useful.

## **APPENDIX B. EDDIE DUNCAN'S CV**

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**EDDIE DUNCAN,  
INCE BD. CERT.**

Senior Director

**EXPERIENCE** | 20 Years

**EDUCATION** | MS, Environmental Studies, Green Mountain College;  
BS, Engineering Science, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

**CERTIFICATIONS** | Institute of Noise Control Engineering, Board Certified;  
Acoustical Society of America, Member

## BIO

Eddie Duncan conducts noise assessments for a wide range of public and private organizations and develops solutions to mitigate noise impacts. He is involved in all aspects of environmental noise and noise control engineering projects including measurement, analysis, modeling, design, testimony, policy development, stakeholder discussions, and project management. Eddie has two decades of experience in computer modeling and monitoring of environmental noise and has conducted noise analyses for projects from many different industries, some of which include parks and tourism, mining, renewable energy, power transmission, transportation, commercial developments, and residential developments.

## PROJECT EXPERIENCE

**NPS Natural Sounds Valuation Project.** Worked with a multi-disciplinary team to develop a study that is designed to assess the value of natural and historical sounds in National Parks. Researched and selected appropriate acoustical metrics to be used in the study. Directed the development of field-tested audio files with layered anthropogenic noise that would be used in a stated preference choice experiment for the study. The Natural Sounds and Night Skies Division will use the results of the study to provide value context to the natural and historical sounds they are charged with protecting. (2015-2021)

**Oak Hill Mine, Lewis, New York.** Managed a noise assessment of an existing wollastonite quarry that was planning to add new processing equipment to its operation. Reviewed the existing permit with the Adirondack Park Agency (APA). Measured background sound levels at neighboring residential areas and the sound emissions of the existing equipment at the site. Conducted sound propagation modeling of the existing and proposed operations to predict the sound levels throughout the area. Consulted with the APA and NYCO Minerals regarding mitigation options to reduce potential noise impacts in the surrounding area. (2020)

**Northeast Materials Group Crushing Operation, Graniteville, Vermont.** Managed a noise assessment of a proposed crushing operation at Rock of Ages Quarry which was seeking an Act 250 permit. Conducted background sound level monitoring and equipment noise emission measurements. Conducted sound propagation modeling of operational noise. Developed mitigation strategies to reduce potential noise impacts on the surrounding community. Provided expert testimony before the District Commission and the Vermont Superior Court, Environmental Division. (2017-2019)

**NCHRP 25-52 Meteorological Effects on Roadway Noise.** Assisted with project management, analysis, and reporting for a TRB project to measure and document the meteorological effects on roadway sound propagation under different atmospheric conditions. The project helped develop best practices and provide guidance on how to quantify meteorological effects on roadway noise propagation and explain those effects to the public. (2018)

**Talc Processing Facility, Ludlow, Vermont.** Managed a noise assessment of Imerys Talc Vermont's Genesis Project, a talc processing facility. The assessment included background sound level monitoring, sound level measurements of existing equipment, sound propagation modeling of over 50 sources to predict existing and future sound levels throughout the project area, and mitigation development. The assessment compared projected sound levels with local and state laws for environmental permitting. (2015-2017)

**NPS CadnaA Training Course.** Developed and provided a training course in the sound propagation modeling software, CadnaA for staff at the Natural Sounds and Night Skies Division of the National Park Service. (2015)

**Waterfront Park, Burlington, Vermont.** Consulted with the City of Burlington on noise policies and mitigation for events at Waterfront Park in support of their proposed Act 250 Permit Amendments. Reviewed existing noise policies and proposed new noise policies for events at the park. Provided a technical comparison of the implications between the existing and proposed policies in the context of Vermont's Act 250 criteria. (2014)

**Chaves Quarry, Londonderry, Vermont.** Conducted short-term sound level measurements of pre-construction background sound levels. Modeled the projected sound levels from the proposed operations at a nearby residences and recommended mitigation measures to reduce the noise impact of the project. Provided a pre-construction noise impact assessment. Provided testimony before the District Commission and before the Environmental Division of Vermont Superior Court. Analyzed post-construction sound levels for the purpose of assessing compliance with permit conditions. Authored a post-construction compliance monitoring report. (2014)

**Circus Smirkus Summer Camp, Greensboro, Vermont.** Conducted a noise impact assessment of a proposed summer camp. The assessment included pre-construction monitoring of background sound levels, modeling projected sound levels at nearby residences from camp sources, and mitigation recommendations. Sound sources incorporated into the model included a kitchen exhaust fan, performances in circus tents,

outdoor play areas, and breakout noise from the dining hall. Provided testimony in support of the study before the District Commission. (2013)

**Town of Royalton Gravel Pit, Royalton, Vermont.** Monitored sound levels throughout a community near a town gravel pit that was proposing to expand operations. Coordinated operation of equipment including a screener, loader, and haul truck during the monitoring period. Provided a letter to the client reporting the monitoring results for their use in the Act 250 permitting process. (2013)

**Natural Sound Level Data Analysis, Mount Rainier National Park.** Analyzed long-term sound level monitoring data according to NPS methodologies to assess the natural sound level, that is the sound level less anthropogenic noise, in Mount Rainier National Park. (2011)

**Edmunds Asphalt, Franklin, New Hampshire.** Modeled existing background sound levels due to traffic noise and projected sound levels from the proposed installation of an asphalt plant at an existing gravel operation. Developed mitigation recommendations to reduce noise impact at nearby residences. Provided report and testimony to the local planning board. (2011)

**Ridge Road Quarry, Randolph, Vermont.** Monitored existing background levels around a proposed gravel pit site. Modeled the projected sound levels from the proposed operation at nearby residences. Recommended mitigation measures to reduce the noise impact of the project and provided a summary of the results and recommendations in a report. Provided testimony before the local planning board and the District Environmental Commission. (2010)

**Cochran Gravel Pit, Morristown, Vermont.** Conducted a noise demonstration before the public and the District Commission at an existing gravel pit that was proposing to expand its operations. Developed a noise demonstration protocol detailing what equipment would be operating during the measurements and where monitoring would be conducted. Provided a report of sound levels monitored during the noise demonstration for the client's use in the Act 250 permitting process. (2010)

**Carrara Gravel Pit, East Middlebury, Vermont.** Worked with the developer and the community to establish a protocol for conducting the noise impact assessment for a proposed gravel pit expansion. Met with a community group and the developer on several occasions to provide noise assessment updates and to discuss community noise issues. Monitored existing background sound levels in the surrounding community and existing operational sound levels of a gravel pit. Modeled the sound levels from the proposed expansion of the gravel pit and proposed mitigation to meet the local standard and community requests. Provided a report and testimony to the local planning board. (2008)

**Mapping of Hikers' Noise Exposure, Rocky Mountain National Park.** Assisted in the development of a sound propagation model that mapped traffic noise along Bear Lake Road and assessed hikers' exposure to noise. (2008)

## PUBLICATIONS

Duncan, E., et. al., Commercial Delivery Drone Routing: A Case Study of Noise Impacts, Proceedings of the Quiet Drone International e-Symposium on UAV/UAS Noise, INCE Europe & CidB, October 2020.

Duncan, E., Kaliski, K., Old, I., and Lozupone, D., Methods for Assessing Background Sound Levels during Post-Construction Compliance Monitoring within a Community, Proceedings of the 6th International Meeting on Wind Turbine Noise 2015.

Kaliski, K., Duncan, E., et al, The Massachusetts Research Study on Wind Turbine Acoustics – Methods and Goals, Proceedings of the 2014 Institute of Noise Control Engineers NOISE-CON 2014.

Duncan, E., Using Public Input to Develop Scientifically Sound Noise Pollution Policy for Vermont's Rural Land Uses and Communities, MSES Thesis, Green Mountain College, October 2013.

Duncan, E., Using Public Input to Develop Scientifically Sound Noise Pollution Policy for Vermont's Rural Land Uses and Communities: Methodology and Initial Results, Proceedings of the 2013 Institute of Noise Control Engineers NOISE-CON 2013.

Duncan, E., Sustainable Noise Pollution Policy, Proceedings of the 2012 Institute of Noise Control Engineers INTER-NOISE 2012.

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Duncan, E., and Kaliski, K., A Case Study in Cooperation: A Gravel Pit and Its Community, Proceedings of the 2010 Institute of Noise Control Engineers NOISE-CON 2010.

Kaliski, K., and Duncan, E., Calculating Annualized Sound Levels for a Wind Farm, Proceedings of Meetings on Acoustics (POMA), Vol. 9-159th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America/NOISE-CON 2010.

Kaliski, K., and Duncan, E., "Propagation Modeling Parameters for Wind Power Projects," Sound & Vibration Magazine, Vol. 42 No. 12, December 2008.

Kaliski, K., and Duncan, E., Propagation Modeling Parameters for Wind Turbines, Proceedings of the 2007 Institute of Noise Control Engineers NOISECON 2007.

Kaliski, K., Duncan, E., and Cowan, J., "Community and Regional Noise Mapping in the United States," Sound & Vibration Magazine, Vol. 41 No. 9, September 2007.

## LICENSES, CERTIFICATIONS, MEMBERSHIPS, AND AFFILIATIONS

- Institute of Noise Control Engineering
  - Board Certified, 2009-Current
- Acoustical Society of America
  - Member of the Technical Committee on Architectural Acoustics, 2007-2018



**From:** [Thomas Langan](#)  
**To:** [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Martino, Terry \(APA\)](#); [Zalewski, Joseph M. \(DEC\)](#); [SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov](mailto:SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov); [stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov); [supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com); [marsha langan](#); [Stephanie Langan](#); [Emily Langan](#); [Thomas Langan](#); [Amanda Danieu](#); [Pete](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mine Expansion  
**Date:** Friday, August 12, 2022 11:49:32 AM

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August 12, 2022

Robert Lore

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

CC: Terry Martino, Executive Director, NYS Adirondack Park Agency; Joseph Zalewski, Regional Director NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 5; Matthew Simpson, NYS Assemblyman; Daniel G. Stec, NYS Senator; Andrea Hogan, Supervisor, Town of Johnsburg.

Dear Mr. Lore:

We have been part time residents of North River, NY since 1998. We are avid hikers, bicyclists, swimmers and canoers who value the “forever wild” Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area, especially the pristine waters of Thirteenth Lake.

We were aghast and dismayed when, in the last 2 years, we became aware of the unsightly accumulation of tailings visible from the Barton Mine operations on Ruby Mountain in Johnsburg, NY.

We have serious concerns about the increasingly intrusive and disruptive operations at the Barton Mine, as well as their proposed plans to apply for an expansion of their permit with the Adirondack Park Agency.

The Adirondack Park Agency needs to fully assess the impact of this project. Information Barton provides as part of the permitting process needs to be independently verified. Independent studies need to be undertaken to fully assess potential impact to the Forest Preserve and local residents and visitors.

The tailings pile has grown dramatically over years so that it is now visible from both Thirteenth Lake Road and from hiking trails in the Wilderness Area. Lights have grown in strength and intensity. Light can now be seen as a glow from the Forest Preserve and also streetlight-type lights from other areas, including residences. Barton needs to ensure that its mining operation has no negative visual impacts on local residents or visitors to the Forest Preserve.

It is also distressing that the noise from mining operations has increased significantly. This appears to be a result of both pit-mining and onsite processing. In the past, there was no audible sound from the mine. It is now easily recognizable on a daily basis, even through the night. Noise can be heard from several miles away, including deep into the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area. Noise mitigation measures need to be addressed explicitly in any new permit or hours of operation must be limited.



Each year, the amount of dust on surfaces has increased. There are no other discernible environmental factors to account for this change. The impact on surfaces is concerning. The impact of fugitive dust and airborne particulates on both humans and animals needs to be independently studied. More stringent mitigation measures to control dust also need to be enacted during mining activities.

We are also concerned that truck traffic along 13th Lake Road appears to be increasing. To preserve 13th Lake Road, and the surrounding environment, truck traffic needs to be limited in size, scope, and duration.

In addition, Thirteenth Brook has changed. It's clarity has been compromised by what may be effluent or debris from Barton Mines. Locals report a decrease in the brook trout fishery once prevalent in the stream. The rain event that caused a bridge to blow out on Thirteenth Lake Road is above the stream used as an output for the Barton Mine. This needs to be evaluated. Lastly, any potential use of well water may impact the sustainability of the water supply for local residents.

Many of the above concerns are compounded by ever longer working hours at the mine, especially the crusher which operates around the clock. A review of current and future permitting needs to be explicit in limiting operations which disrupt the serenity of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area.

Please consider our concerns. This is not a simple issue with an easy answer. The APA needs to protect the "forever wild" nature of the Adirondacks from overzealous industrial growth. We are greatly concerned that if left unchecked, this growth will diminish the serene beauty of the Siamese Pond Area that has captivated residents and visitors for decades.

Thus, Barton Mines should not be granted a new permit without thorough consideration for each of these issues and their impact on both the Wilderness Area and the local residents. To that end, we request an official adjudicatory public hearing if this project is to move forward.

We are grateful for your openness to hearing from all stakeholders as you proceed with your evaluation. We look forward to your continued advocacy in preserving the beauty and allure of the Adirondack Park.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Langan ([tjlangan@gmail.com](mailto:tjlangan@gmail.com))  
Marsha B. Langan ([mburns.langan@gmail.com](mailto:mburns.langan@gmail.com))

775 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road  
North River, NY, 12856

**From:** [Larry Blackhurst](#)  
**To:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [dec.sm.DEP.R5](#); [Zalewski, Joseph M. \(DEC\)](#); [SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov](#); [stec@nysenate.gov](#); [supervisor@johnsburgny.com](#); [friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mine noise continues on Labor Day weekend unfortunately !!!  
**Date:** Sunday, September 4, 2022 9:31:21 AM

---

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Robert Lore, Deputy Director For Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore,

**My name is Larry Blackhurst. I am a permanent resident of North River, NY, who values the peace and quiet the “forever wild” Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area offers. I have been a property owner here since 1979, moved here permanently in 1985, and I have written to you about my experiences with the Barton mining operation several times in the past. In short, THE MINE NOISE IS STILL GOING, ON LABOR DAY SUNDAY! Can't the Barton engineers reduce the mine noise with appropriate insulation, efficient motors, and containment. I can hear the noise inside my house! I know first hand the other residents of Birch Mountain Road, where I live, and Ruby Mountain View Road also hear the noise.....and see the lights and see the tailings pile, too. This is not the quality of life I want to experience in a wilderness setting.**

**I have serious concerns about the increasingly intrusive and disruptive operations at the Barton Mine on Ruby Mountain in Johnsburg, NY, as well as their proposed plans to apply for an 80-Year extension and expansion of their permit with the Adirondack Park Agency. The Adirondack Park Agency and the Department of Environmental Conservation need to fully assess this application and place appropriate controls on the Barton operation with regards to any application approval.**

**I wanted to just address the noise issue in this letter today, but there are other issues still of concern about the Barton mining operation. These include light pollution, water issues, increased truck traffic, dust plumes, and the visual impact of an increasing tailing's pile height. I hope this quiet letter gets the message to you about the obnoxious and contant mine noise.**

**Thank you,  
Larry Blackhurst**

**P.O. Box 332**

**North River, NY 12856**

**[Laurenceblackhurst@gmail.com](mailto:Laurenceblackhurst@gmail.com)**

**518-338-7063**

**From:** [Miriam Deutch](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#); [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**Cc:** [FriendsOfSiamesePonds@gmail.com](#); [anthony.cucchiara@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mine Operations  
**Date:** Saturday, September 3, 2022 6:02:33 PM

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Robert Lore, Deputy Director For Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore,

We are residents of North River, NY who value the “forever wild” Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area, especially Thirteenth Lake. However, recently we have noticed more noise and dust on our hikes and just being in our home.

We have serious concerns about the increasingly intrusive and disruptive operations at the Barton Mine on Ruby Mountain in Johnsburg, NY as well as their proposed plans to apply for an 80-Year extension and expansion of their permit with the Adirondack Park Agency. The Adirondack Park Agency and the Department of Environmental Conservation need to fully assess this application.

The following are the issues that reflect our greatest concerns:

- **Noise levels and duration:** These problems are not compatible with the goals of “Forever Wild”, with stone crushing around the clock, noise and disruption from hauling up to 10pm at night, and maintenance of tailings piles occurring at weekends as well as noisy truck traffic for many hours on Thirteenth Lake Road. In the past, there was no audible sound from the mine. It is now easily recognizable on a daily basis, even through the night. Noise can be heard from several miles away, including deep into the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area. Noise mitigation measures need to be addressed explicitly in any new permit or hours of operation must be limited
- **Visibility:** Recently, with the mine expansion the tailings piles are now visible from the wilderness areas as well as from local roads, residences and hiking trails. The increased water runoff from these piles causes concern about water quality in local streams and wells.
- **Dust:** Dust plumes from the tailings piles cause health and safety concerns as well as domestic nuisance. Each year, the amount of dust on surfaces has

increased. There are no other discernible environmental factors to account for this change. The impact on surfaces is concerning. The impact of fugitive dust and airborne particulates on both humans and animals needs to be independently studied. More stringent mitigation measures to control dust also need to be enacted during mining activities.

- **Light pollution:** 24 hour lighting impacts the Adirondack “dark skies” in the area.

Lights have grown in strength and intensity and can now be seen as a glow from the Forest Preserve and also streetlight-type lights from other areas and residences. Barton needs to ensure that it’s mining operation has no negative visual impacts on local residents or visitors to the Forest Preserve.

Please consider these concerns. The APA needs to ensure the “forever wild” character of the Adirondacks. Thus, Barton Mines should not be granted a new permit without thorough consideration for each of these issues and their impact on both the Wilderness Area and the local residents. To that end, if potential impacts are not mitigated, we request an official adjudicatory public hearing if this project is to move forward.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Miriam Deutch and Anthony Cucchiara  
North River, NY

**From:** [Amy Garrahan](#)  
**To:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Martino, Terry \(APA\)](#); [Zalewski, Joseph M \(DEC\)](#); [SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov](mailto:SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov); [stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov); [supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com); [friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mine Permit Application  
**Date:** Friday, August 12, 2022 2:45:43 AM

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TO: Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Lore,

The following comments are neither exaggerated nor hyperbolic, but plain truth. I am a part-time resident of North River. My husband and I were planning on making this our full time residence, but are now seriously considering selling instead. The constant drone of the Barton

Mine—even through closed windows in my well-insulated home is incessant and obtrusive..

Today, I was awakened by the sound of large boulders moving, trucks backing up and rumbling on the road. Woken up it was that loud!

This evening, I went to dinner at a friend's a mile further from the mine. We listened to the Bard Owls calling back and forth over the constant whine of machinery. A quiet evening in the wilderness marred by the industrialized mining facility.

Tonight, I arrived home tonight at two in the morning. The drone of the mine is noticeable even in the dead quiet. I am in bed and can clearly hear the constant drone of the mine. In the six years we've lived here, the mine has become much, much louder.. It has gone from minor annoyance to major disturbance.

**Please**, let the mine operate during business hours and let the people live their lives during the rest of each day. A happy medium would allow Barton to operate, residential home values in the area to stay intact, the tourist industry protected, and the wilderness area preserved.

Sincerely,  
Amy Treistman  
96 Ruby Mountain View Dr.  
North River, Ny 10509

**From:** [Mariann Rapple](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Thursday, June 1, 2023 5:38:58 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Mariann Rapple  
mhrapple@yahoo.com  
2346 Black Point Road TICONDEROGA, NY 12883

**From:** Allisa Blanchard  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Monday, June 5, 2023 12:58:10 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Allisa Blanchard  
allisacatherineb@yahoo.com  
812 Goodman Rd JOHNSBURG, NY 12843



**From:** [Kenneth Blass](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Thursday, May 25, 2023 4:54:19 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Kenneth Blass  
KBlass@BlassMarketing.com  
357 Pitts Rd Old Chatham, NY 12136

**From:** [Bruce Carpenter](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Friday, May 26, 2023 6:01:55 AM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Bruce Carpenter  
carpej@localnet.com  
26 Walnut St Corinth, NY 12822

**From:** [James Carpenter](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Friday, May 26, 2023 6:01:29 AM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- James Carpenter  
carpej@icloud.com  
400 Northwoods Club Rd Minerva, NY 12851

**From:** Doug Hauser  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Monday, June 5, 2023 1:55:58 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Doug Hauser  
dhauser@msigusa.com  
5542 SR-30 Indian Lake, NY 12842

**From:** [Raoul Castaneda](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Monday, June 5, 2023 12:26:57 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Raoul Castaneda  
rcastane@optonline.net  
154 Old Schoolhouse Rd North River, NY 12856

**From:** [Jean Comstock](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 31, 2023 3:27:55 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Jean Comstock  
jflcomstock@frontiernet.net  
11 Park Road Johnsburg, NY 12843

**From:** [Peter Benoit](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Monday, May 8, 2023 10:53:16 AM  
**Attachments:** [Barton MinesAPA DEC Mine Permit PDF.pdf](#)

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante,

Kindly see the attached letter from a former Barton Mines employee. I am in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application.

Best regards,

Peter Benoit  
4 Waverly Place, Queensbury, NY 12804  
518-796-4053  
[pbenoit50@gmail.com](mailto:pbenoit50@gmail.com)

Peter Benoit  
4 Waverly Place  
Queensbury, NY 12804

May 8, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYDEC  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Reform  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE: Barton Mines/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations - providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

As a former employee, I know first hand that Barton Mines' Ruby Mountain operations are safe and have been performed in a responsible manner since 1983. I have absolute confidence that Barton's plan is designated to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you.

Sincerely

Peter Benoit



**From:** [William Flint](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 23, 2023 9:23:31 AM

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Dear Mr. Plante,

>

> My name is William Flint. I reside at 8385 Royal Troon Dr, Duluth, Georgia 30097. My cell phone number is (949) 636-0468.

>

> I have been retired from Barton Mines for 6 years, after working for the company for 13 great years. My job was the VP of Sales.

>

> I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the Adirondack operations, providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

>

> Speaking from my experience, I can say that Barton is a company with integrity, and treats its employees, customers, community, and the environment around all of its facilities with the highest level of respect.

>

> Barton has been owned and operated by the Barton family for 145 years. This type of legacy does not happen by accident. The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and its local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to continue its legacy by providing the community all of the benefits far into the future.

>

> Thank you,

> Bill Flint

**From:** [don plumley](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 31, 2023 7:33:42 AM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- don plumley  
donplumley@frontier.com  
80 main st apt a north creek, New York 12853

**From:** [Shannon Passino](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Friday, May 26, 2023 1:05:30 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Shannon Passino  
shann137@hotmail.com  
24 Glenwood Ave Queensbury, NY 12804

**From:** Kevin Morse  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Sunday, June 4, 2023 10:12:13 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Kevin Morse  
cindymorse828@gmail.com  
828 Peaceful Valley Rd North Creek, New York 12853

**From:** [Kyle Greene](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Friday, May 26, 2023 11:29:03 AM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Kyle Greene  
kgreene1060@gmail.com  
149 Higgins Rd Granville, NY 12832

**From:** [Angela McCarty](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Friday, May 26, 2023 9:44:03 PM

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Angela McCarty  
[angelamerie2000@gmail.com](mailto:angelamerie2000@gmail.com)  
46 Meditation Way Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

**From:** [Thomas Lyons](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Thursday, May 25, 2023 7:40:50 PM

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Thomas Lyons  
tlyons@gilbaneco.com  
12 OLD STAGE RD CHARLTON, NY 12019-2629

**From:** Robert Smith  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Monday, June 5, 2023 12:58:45 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Robert Smith  
robertryansmith@gmail.com  
812 goodman rd johnsburg, ny 12843



**From:** [Lynette Jensen](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Sunday, May 28, 2023 11:08:58 AM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Lynette Jensen  
jensenla1968@gmail.com  
10 Brookview Dr Corinth, NY 12822

**From:** [John Jackson](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Friday, June 2, 2023 11:24:09 AM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations, which provides critically important jobs and economic benefits.

I feel confident Barton is acting responsibly to protect our environment while conducting their business operations. Please approve their permit modification accordingly.

Thank you and regards,  
John E. Jackson  
P.O. Box 25  
Indian Lake, NY 12842  
(518) 648-5449

**From:** [Andy Wells](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Sunday, June 4, 2023 8:54:47 PM

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Attn: Beth Magee - Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

David Plante- Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs Adirondack Park Agency

Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

As an employee at Barton for over 9 years, I have witnessed an unfettered dedication to stewardship of this natural resource tied to the Adirondack operations and surrounding area of Ruby Mountain. Barton has a long track record of mining responsibly

and collaborating with regional and local neighbors to reduce any impact to users of the Adirondack State park. Furthermore, Barton has long managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton, who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types

of community benefits far into the future.

Respectfully,

Andrew Wells

154 Silver Fox Trail

McCall, ID 83638

**From:** [Clifford Summers](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Thursday, June 1, 2023 11:30:27 AM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Letter of Support - 1 June 2023.pdf](#)

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ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Good Day,

Attached to this email, please find my letter of support for Barton Mines' Mine Permit Modification application.

Sincerely,  
Clifford F. Summers IV

Clifford F. Summers IV  
7 Danford Court  
Queensbury, NY 12804

May 31, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Cliff F. Summers IV", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Clifford F. Summers IV

**From:** [Linda Vinchiarello](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Thursday, May 25, 2023 4:34:35 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from lvinchiarello@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Linda Vinchiarello  
lvinchiarello@yahoo.com  
3 Old West Shore Drive Valatie, NY 12136

**From:** [Kathy Weiss](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Thursday, May 25, 2023 4:42:10 PM

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Kathy Weiss  
kweissoc@gmail.com  
17 Drowne Rd Old Chatham, NY 12136



**From:** [Rick Bennett](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Monday, May 29, 2023 12:56:49 PM

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Rick Bennett  
northcreektradingpost@gmail.com  
5 Waldron Rd North Creek, NY 12853

**From:** [Joyce Wolf](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Thursday, May 25, 2023 4:52:13 PM

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Joyce Wolf  
jwortiz@nycap.rr.com  
10 Bog Meadow Run Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

**From:** [Paul Ameden](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Monday, May 29, 2023 9:14:55 AM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Mines Support.pdf](#)

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Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

Please see attached memo that I am writing in support of Barton Mines' Mine Permit Modification. I have send letters to both of your offices if that is preferred.

Thank you both for your service to the Adirondack Community.

Paul...

Paul Ameden  
585-317-9623  
[pameden@gmail.com](mailto:pameden@gmail.com)

Paul Ameden  
160 Fred Gay Road  
Indian Lake, NY 12842

May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

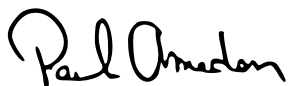
My name is Paul Ameden and I'm a resident of Indian Lake NY. I grew up in this town, moved away during my working career, but am in the process of relocating back. I purchase a house there 3 years ago and expect to be full time this summer.

I'm writing to you in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critical and important jobs as well as to extend economic benefits for future generations.

I've seen first-hand the destruction of many businesses in the Adirondack Park and keeping jobs in the community should be a high priority for regulatory and other government agencies. I personally know several employees and Barton Mines and recognize the important benefit that Barton Mines provides to our community.

Knowing some of the management team, I have no doubt that they will continue to operate a safe business for its employees while respecting the beauty and importance of the Adirondack Park.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Ameden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paul Ameden

**From:** [Kettria Huggard](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines application  
**Date:** Monday, May 8, 2023 10:10:05 AM

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ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Dear Mr. Plante,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend operations in North River. Barton Mines provides good work for over a hundred Johnsburg residents. In turn these people bring important participation to the life and organizations in our town. Over the last forty years I served with Barton's employees on the Johnsburg Central School Board, the Library Board, the board of the Adirondack Outreach Center, the vestry of the Episcopal Church and the Johnsburg Youth Commission.

Please approve this application.

Sincerely,

Kit Huggard

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Keri O'Shea](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines permit  
**Date:** Saturday, June 3, 2023 7:50:29 AM

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ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante,

Greetings. My ancestors have lived in the Adirondacks for over 100 years. They made their livelihood in the woods and waters. Running their ski business was challenging due physical hardships in the early 20th century and to the poor local economy in the later part of the century. Recently the inconsistent weather patterns have made it impossible to predict how much inventory to keep in stock.

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations. It will provide important jobs and economic benefits for future generations. Barton is a major employer providing over 100 jobs. Not only are they a good taxpayer, but also a philanthropic business.

I trust this family business to manage our natural resources.

I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits into the future . They have been responsible for mining the world's finest garnet since 1878.

Best,

Keri M. O'Shea  
914.282.3979  
3183 St Rt 28  
BML, NY 12812

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Matthew Petro](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines permit application  
**Date:** Thursday, June 1, 2023 1:10:22 PM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Mine Support.docx](#)

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Please see attached affirmation to personally support Barton Mine's Ruby Mt permit modification application.

Thank you!

Matt Petro

**Matt & Amy Petro**

108 Iroquois Trail

Johnsburg, NY 12853

6/1/23

Beth Magee – NYS DEC

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

232 Golf Course Road

Warrensburg, NY 12885

Re: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee:

We are writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application. We feel that Barton has been a good neighbor, has supplied good and important jobs, and whose operations in North River are an asset to the local community. It is in our interest to see those operations thrive to provide economic benefits and an improved quality of life in our region in the future.

We recognize and appreciate Barton as a creator of excellent jobs, tax payer, and customer to our local North Creek community. We are interested in supporting their further responsible development of their Ruby Mountain operations.

We urge both the DEC and the APA to approve the company's permit application to encourage their further responsible development and resource management, so that Barton can continue to be the exemplary community partner and resource manager they have proven to be for the past 145 years.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Petro", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Matt Petro





**From:** [Scott Taylor](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton mines permit mod support letter  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 6, 2023 8:08:38 AM

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20 Holly Ln  
Wallingford CT 06492

Adk address 172 Stanton Rd, Indian Lake NY 12842

6 June 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977 [rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations - providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

My family has owned a place in Indian Lake for over 50 years, we enjoy spending time there and enjoying time away from the every day-to relax and enjoy life.

I have asked life long residents of Indian Lake (and my friends) if they support this activity and received an affirmative from a former town council member and also a neighbor.

I believe Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer/ and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Scott Taylor

[m.scott.taylor@gmail.com](mailto:m.scott.taylor@gmail.com)

**From:** [Scott Chase](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines Permit Modification  
**Date:** Friday, June 2, 2023 11:27:10 AM

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June 1,2023

Scott Chase

560 Carpenter Hill Road

Pine Plains, NY 12567

Mr. David Plante, Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Adirondack Park Agency

Ray Brook, NY 12977

rpcomments @apa.ny.gov

Re: Barton Mines DEC/APA Mine Permit Modification

Dear Mr. Plante,

I am writing to express my support for the Barton Mine permit modification application. We are long time summer residents in Indian Lake and have seen the difficulty that local residents have in finding decent jobs in the area. Assuming the mine can adhere to the required regulations and conditions I believe we need to help keep good jobs using the resources in the area.

Thank you

Scott Chase



**From:** [Elizabeth Little](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines Support letter  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 24, 2023 5:43:53 PM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Permit Support Letter.docx](#)

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*Betty Little*  
*11 Pioneer Pt.*  
*Queensbury, NY 12804*

*May 24, 2023*

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I would like to add my support for the approval of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application. Approval is needed in order to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations. Having been the Legislator representing Warren and Hamilton Counties I was well aware of the importance of this long-time local company and the many jobs (125) and economic benefits Adirondack residents have received.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts. Hopefully Adirondack residents will benefit from their operation for generations to come.

The garnet products produced at their location are used worldwide. As a major employer, important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses we need to see them succeed. The Adirondack Park has had many companies which mined our natural resources that closed their operations for various reasons. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to continue to be part of our economy far into the future.

Sincerely,

Betty Little



**From:** [Jim Carpenter](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines Support  
**Date:** Friday, May 26, 2023 6:07:40 AM  
**Attachments:** [Barton-Permit-Support-Letter.pdf](#)

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from carpej@icloud.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Please find an attached letter of support for the Barton Mines Project. We own nearly 50 acres not far from Barton and know that the jobs they provide help the area.

Thanks!

Jim

James Carpenter  
69 Waterview Dr  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

5/26/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

*As a long-term property owner in Minerva, NY the tax base in the Adirondacks depends on quality jobs like Barton provides.*

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Jim Carpenter

**From:** [David Hudson](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 31, 2023 11:59:10 AM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from urpsdavid@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Hello,

Barton Mines sent a nice brochure to my wife and myself regarding their request for expansion.

We own property in Sabael, NY on Indian Lake. It is a summer residence.

For my part, I leave the decision in your capable hands. My belief is that you have more information and knowledge than I do regarding this issue.

Please contact me if you wish to know more about us and our love for the Park.

Part of our property has been in my wife's family since 1930, my daughter owns adjacent property to us and it is indeed a special place to be.

Much luck with you work, I am sure it is challenging.

Sincerely,

David Hudson  
6 Konig Road  
Ghent, NY 12075  
518.441.0941 cell  
And

Griffin Road  
Sabael, NY on beautiful Indian Lake

**From:** [Jeff Bennett](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines' permit modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 24, 2023 5:05:03 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from jrbennett134@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

David Plante

Beth Magee

It has come to my attention that Barton Mines have applied for a modification to their mining permit. I support the modification they have proposed to allow them to continue business for the foreseeable future. I am a property owner in Indian Lake and have spent many days in the Adirondacks hunting, fishing, hiking, camping and just enjoying the outdoors. I have passed by Barton Mines on my way to Indian Lake too many times to count since I was a boy, I'm now 63. We as Adirondackers, New Yorkers, and Americans, need to promote, whenever possible, businesses in the north country for all the folks who live there. With your support I'm sure you and Barton can come to a mutually agreeable outcome that can benefit everyone involved.

Thank You for your consideration

Jeff Bennett

**From:** [Lord, Jalane](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Support Letter  
**Date:** Friday, May 26, 2023 2:25:44 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[Barton Permit Support Letter Jalane Lord.pdf](#)

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from jlord@barton.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Hello

Please see attached letter of support to Barton Mines.

Thank you

**Jalane Lord**  
**Staff Accountant**

**BARTON**

BARTON International

Phone: 518-615-2056

Email: [jlord@barton.com](mailto:jlord@barton.com)

Web: [www.barton.com](http://www.barton.com)

Store: [store.barton.com](http://store.barton.com)

Jalane Lord  
24 Queensbury Ave  
Queensbury, NY 12804

5/25/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

I have been an employee of Barton for 5 years now and I have to say I have never worked for a corporation that cares as much as they do about their employees and their community. If you visit the site or talk to any of our employees, you will see firsthand that this is how they function as a business. I have complete trust that management and staff will ensure to continue to run our business safely for the neighboring communities.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's

permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Jalane Lord

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jalane Lord". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the printed name.

January 31, 2023

16 Hayes Road  
North River, NY 12856

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

FEB 03 2023

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,



Kevin M Bean



January 31, 2023

16 Hayes Road  
North River, NY 12856

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

  
Carole J Bean



Mark and Kristen Cartwright  
4 Kevin Drive  
Burnt Hills, NY 12027

June 1, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

We are writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations. We live in the Garnet Hill community at the base of the Ruby Mountain mine. We recognize the importance of mining in the history of the development of the Adirondacks.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs with competitive wages and benefits that support local families. The income disparity that is present as an inevitable side effect of the economics of tourism and growth of second home-owners in the region has driven the expansion of minimum wage jobs to support the service industry. Barton Mine has been an anchor in the community providing living wage salaries where there are too few. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Mark and Kristen Cartwright



RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 05 2023

SEP - 9 2022

Austin B. Clayton  
47 Brookview Terrace  
North River, NY 12853

Robert Lore, Deputy Director For Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Beth Magee, Permit Administrator  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook NY 12977  
[beth.magee@apa.ny.gov](mailto:beth.magee@apa.ny.gov)

September 5, 2022

Dear Mr. Lore and Ms. Magee,

My name is Austin Clayton. I am a resident of North River, NY. Specifically, my property adjoins 13<sup>th</sup> Brook and faces the Barton Mine Operation on Ruby Mountain. I have serious concerns about the increasingly intrusive and disruptive operations at the Barton Mine on Ruby Mountain in Johnsbury, NY as well as their proposed plans to apply for an 80-Year extension and expansion of their permit with the Adirondack Park Agency. The Adirondack Park Agency and the Department of Environmental Conservation need to fully assess this application.

Like many of my fellow residents in North River, I am not opposed to the continued operation of the mine, which has been a consistent and generally good member of our community for many decades. I am concerned though by the recent request to greatly expand their operations without adequate mitigation and in a manner consistent with its location on the edge of the "forever wild" Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area.

In this letter I focus on my concerns about noise pollution. My wife is sending a separate letter regarding water pollution, light pollution and increased dust emissions from the mining operations.

In years past, the occasional, expected noise from mining operations could be heard during daytime working hours. But today, there is near constant noise emanating from the mine. Whether inside a tent on the shore of Thirteenth Lake or on a Brookview Terrace front porch on an early Sunday morning, a constant droning noise from the mine is usually audible. Barton's mountain-top mine operations have expanded greatly, moving up the mountainside where operational noise propagates unimpeded into the

Siamese Ponds Wilderness and the hamlet of North River. The creation of a large high-altitude rock amphitheater at the mine, with attendant acoustic-enhancing properties, further exacerbates the situation.

Review of Barton's 1979 APA permit (P79-358), including materials submitted by the applicant, analysis and deliberations by the public, APA staff and Commissioners, and the final permit itself, do not indicate any expectation that mountain-top mining operations, including crushing and concentrating garnet, would occur continuously--24/7/365. Such operations are completely out of character given the adjacent Siamese Ponds Wilderness and the community of nearby residents. As part of the initial APA permit application, Barton conducted a cursory study of potential noise impacts to local receptors. The study, in short, measured sound levels (dBA) from different types of earth moving equipment placed not at the mine location, but in the Thirteenth Brook valley near the current mine entrance on Thirteenth Lake Road. The study was described by the applicant as a worst-case scenario assuming that, once the mine was in operation, such sources of noise generation would be located up the mountain, even further away from potential receptors and thus less noticeable.

Unfortunately, this assumption was flawed for many reasons. For example, the topography of the valley and the forest vegetation present in the study area would reduce sound propagation, unlike the placement of noise-generating equipment at the mine's ultimate location, high up on the mountainside. Even so, the noise study still found detectable noise at the beach on Thirteenth Lake. When the mine's mountain-top facility was completed and additional equipment installed, noise increasingly traveled down and across the valley floor. Over time, new types of heavy equipment, and new crushing and milling processes were added to the mine's operations. Today, rock crushers, bulldozers and conveyers operate at high elevations, located on the very tops of the tailing's areas, all contributing to the area's noise pollution. It is time for APA and DEC to put a stop to the unremitting noise generated by mine operations. Barton Mines needs to address noise mitigations measures in its new permit application and set up independent noise impacts studies.

It is imperative that the APA and DEC thoroughly examine Barton Mine's application, current operations and future plans with environmental impact in mind. It is my hope that a comprehensive analysis will result in a sensible approach to minimizing the current and future effects of Barton Mine.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,



Austin Clayton

Cc:

Barbara Rice, Executive Director, NYS Adirondack Park Agency (Barbara.rice@apa.ny.gov)

Joseph Zalewski, R.Dir. NYS Dept. Environmental Conservation (joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Kate Smith, Reg. Mineral Resources Manager (kate.smith@dec.ny.gov)

Matthew Simpson, NY State Assemblyman (SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel G. Stec, NY State Senator (stec@nysenate.gov)

Andrea Hogan, Supervisor, Town of Johnsburg (supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Friends of Siamese Ponds Wilderness (friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com)

Louisa Bartle Clayton  
47 Brookview Terrace  
North River, NY 12853

Robert Lore, Deputy Director For Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Beth Magee, Permit Administrator  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook NY 12977  
[beth.magee@apa.ny.gov](mailto:beth.magee@apa.ny.gov)

September 5, 2022

Dear Mr. Lore and Ms. Magee,

My name is Louisa Bartle Clayton. I am a resident of North River, NY. Specifically, my property adjoins 13<sup>th</sup> Brook and faces the Barton Mine Operation on Ruby Mountain. I have serious concerns about the increasingly intrusive and disruptive operations at the Barton Mine on Ruby Mountain in Johnsbury, NY as well as their proposed plans to apply for an 80-Year extension and expansion of their permit with the Adirondack Park Agency. The Adirondack Park Agency and the Department of Environmental Conservation need to fully assess this application.

Like many of my fellow residents in North River, I am not opposed to the continued operation of the mine, which has been a consistent and generally good member of our community for many decades. I am concerned though by the recent request to greatly expand their operations without adequate mitigation and in a manner consistent with its location on the edge of the "forever wild" Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area.

In this letter I focus on my concerns about water pollution, light pollution and increased dust emissions from the mining operations. My husband is sending a separate letter regarding noise pollution.

**Water Pollution:** 13<sup>th</sup> Brook is a natural stream connecting 13<sup>th</sup> Lake in the Siamese Pond Primitive Wilderness Area with the headwaters of the Hudson River. Neither can afford to have pollution from the mine affecting this critical watershed. I believe that there needs to be an independent scientific analysis of the stream habitat and water quality of 13<sup>th</sup> Brook. The company should also finance a multi-year study of the streams by an independent scientific institution or agent. Proposed groundwater

extraction wells adjacent to 13th Brook may be hydraulically connected to the stream and could have deleterious impacts on stream flows.

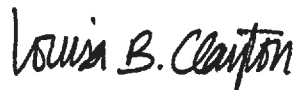
**Light Pollution:** In this rural setting 24/7 light pollution resulting from mountain-top operations is unacceptable. One of the most precious aspects of the Adirondacks is its access to dark quiet evenings for mapping the constellations and listening to the forest at rest. Barton Mines should be able to organize its operations in a manner that both enables its success and upholds its duty as a resident in the Adirondacks Park to maintain this special quality as it has done in the past.

**Increased Dust Emissions:** Residents across Garnet Hill, including me and my neighbors on Brookview Terrace, report frequent instances of their porches and windows covered with a white dust from the mines. Dust plumes emanating from mine operations are frequently observed on area roads and from the Siamese Ponds Wilderness vistas. There needs to be an independent study of fugitive dust and particulate emanating from the mine and much more stringent mitigation measures put in place.

It is imperative that the APA and DEC thoroughly examine Barton Mine's application, current operations and future plans with environmental impact in mind. It is my hope that a comprehensive analysis will result in a sensible approach to minimizing the current and future effects of Barton Mine.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,



Louisa Bartle Clayton

Cc:

Barbara Rice, Executive Director, NYS Adirondack Park Agency (Barbara.rice@apa.ny.gov)

Joseph Zalewski, R.Dir. NYS Dept. Environmental Conservation (joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Kate Smith, Reg. Mineral Resources Manager (kate.smith@dec.ny.gov)

Matthew Simpson, NY State Assemblyman (SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel G. Stec, NY State Senator (stec@nysenate.gov)

Andrea Hogan, Supervisor, Town of Johnsburg (supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Friends of Siamese Ponds Wilderness (friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com)



MAR 06 2023

Mr. David Plant  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. BOX 99  
Roeq Brook, NY 12977  
03/01/2023

Dear Mr. Plant,  
We are writing in support of Barton Mines  
APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected  
business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a  
century, and their proposal will enable the  
company to continue in this capacity for  
many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a  
good neighbor in the development of this  
application. The effort Barton has made to  
minimize any visual impacts of its residual  
minerals pile should be applauded. Their new  
plan to place a portion of their residuals  
back into the mine as part of the reclamation  
process will help slow the growth of the pile.  
They will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an  
ongoing basis by planting trees and other  
vegetation, which will help it blend into the


natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and courses.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

We hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

We do not understand the negative response to Barton's expanding their operation. This is a local company that will only make our economy stronger.

Sincerely, Francis Cofone   
Simelma Cofone Cofone D.D.

NORTHERN SEPTIC  
338 Hudson St  
Johnsburg N.Y. 12843

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 05 2023

5/24/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Greg Dornbusch  


**Gore Mountain Real Estate Company**  
**PO Box 323 – 295 Main Street**  
**North Creek, NY 12853**  
**Sandi Engle-Pratt**

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

**JAN 30 2023**

**January 26, 2023**

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,



**Sandra Engle-Pratt**  
**Owner – Gore Mountain Real Estate Company**

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Johnsburg Town Board  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

Box 203  
Long Lake, NY 12847  
April 14, 2022

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

APR 18 2022

Sarah Staab  
Adirondack Park Agency  
Box 99  
1133 NYS Rte 86  
Raybrook, NY 12977

Dear Ms. Staab:

I'm writing in regard to Barton Mines' application to expand its mining footprint in North River.

As far as I know, Bartons has been a good neighbor and citizen in North River and North Creek for over 100 years, and its proposed expansion of an already existing pit won't be the ruination of the Adirondack Park as certain environmentalists (most of whom don't live here) might have you believe.

I grew up in Indian Lake and my father's work in the mill at Bartons for 20 years supported a family and helped put me through college. The same was true for many of my friends. We need businesses like Bartons in the Park as the base that will allow people to live here and provide services for the tourists and second-home owners who expect them. We can't have one without the other. Allowing Barton's expansion makes sense; it's not as though a completely new mine will be gouged into the forest.

I've seen a redneck bumper sticker that says something like "It's no damn Park; it's where we live." I'd not go so far as to endorse that thought but might alter it to "It's a Park worth saving but we need to live here." There must be compromise between environmental and business extremists. Allowing the Barton expansion with reclamation stipulations would be common sense.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Mike Farrell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael J. Farrell



RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

920 West End Drive

Newton, N.J. 0786

May 30, 2023

JUN 05 2023

Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC

232 Golf Course Rd. Warrensburg, NY 12885

[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

Re: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit  
Modifications

David Plante

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99 Ray Brook, NY 12977

[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante: I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modifications application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations- providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

We have been vacationing in the Adks for about 50 years and have had a vacation home in Minerva for 15 years. We care about both preserving jobs and thus maintaining the families in the local communities. We have been on the mine tours and consider Barton to be a good generational neighbor.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impact. Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank You.

Stuart Feenstra



Catherine B. Feenstra



1583 CR 29 Olmstedville, NY

[feenstra1974@gmail.com](mailto:feenstra1974@gmail.com)



**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

RICHARD FIELDHOUSE  
67 RIVER ROAD  
P.O. BOX 112  
RIPPLES, NY 12862

[DATE]  
6/1/23  
Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 05 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

*[PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CUSTOMIZE YOUR PERSONAL MESSAGE HERE.]*

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

[YOUR NAME AND SIGNATURE]

RICHARD FIELDHOUSE  


Sharon Fish  
16 Geneva Dr.  
Queensbury, NY

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
JUN 05 2023

05/30/2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved  
To extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations-providing critically important jobs and  
economic benefits for the future generations.

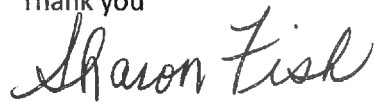
I lived in the Town of Indian Lake for over 60 years and watched as jobs moved out of the area.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in  
1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

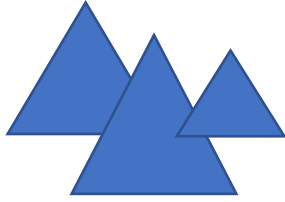
Thank you

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon Fish". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sharon Fish

Indian Lake/Queensbury





*Friends of Siamese Ponds*  
*North River, NY*

November 11, 2022

Dear Ms. Beth Magee and Ms. Corrie Magee:

[beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)  
[corrie.magee@apa.ny.gov](mailto:corrie.magee@apa.ny.gov)  
[dep.r5@dec.ny.gov](mailto:dep.r5@dec.ny.gov)  
[RPcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:RPcomments@apa.ny.gov)

We at the Friends of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness have sent you several letters about problems with the existing Barton Mine in North River from noise to dust to visual nuisance issues. We have always maintained a positive, pro mine, pro community stance, in accordance with the original vision of the Adirondack Park where residents, industry, tourism, small businesses and wilderness must co-exist.

In that same spirit it is important that you see images of the mine's dust problem that many in the community have been worried about. These photos below were taken November 7, 2022, from 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road, a residence on 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road and the Hooper Mine, located in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness. This air pollution appears to be a violation of DEC air quality and mining regulations. If the mine is permitted to expand laterally (proposed residual materials pile expansion requested at 70%) and vertically (100 additional feet) without implementing appropriate dust control measures, the frequency of these violations will increase.

When the Adirondack Park Agency Act was enacted into law, it was believed that it was going to provide powerful environmental protection for the Park, more comprehensive than the New York Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), the ace card held by the DEC. Fifty years later I can't find an environmentalist in the Park who doesn't view the APA as a captive agency. In one dispute after another the Agency allows industry to have its way and the communities and wilderness suffer the consequences. The vision, in contrast, was that the APA would help communities and industry navigate appropriate compromises and preserve the wild character of the Adirondack region.

We understand that navigating such a path among competing interest is necessarily a difficult one, but we have to say that it feels like the APA and DEC are neither leading, nor taking seriously that the Barton Mine has become a nuisance in the North River community, a community that supports the mine and the jobs and tax revenue it provides. These parties need a strong guiding hand, an empowered APA and DEC, to find a workable path for all parties, lest it leave these neighbors, whose community has begun to change dramatically because of this mine, to fend for themselves. And this is all before any expansion plans have been approved.

If the Agencies just push the paper for this mine back out with a conditional approval and a short window for citizens to provide more comments and expert testimony, you will have abrogated your responsibility to help citizens and industry find a middle ground. With all the strife we see in our

country we have a splendid opportunity for the APA and the DEC, Barton Mines and the North River community, to find real solutions. To that end, the attached photos of the dust blowing off the mine onto public lands, public roads, and across private property is just one of many issues Barton Mines needs your help in addressing.

On Behalf of Friends of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness,

John Passacantando



































Dr. Sherry Fraser, EdD  
30Lakeview Lane  
North River, NY 12856  
[frasersherry959@gmail.com](mailto:frasersherry959@gmail.com)

August 17,2022

Robert Lore, Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore,

My name is Dr. Sherry Fraser. I am a resident of North River, NY who values the "forever wild" Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area, especially Thirteenth Lake. I was recently hiking on the Balm of Gilead trail and I couldn't help but notice what I thought was thunder. The sky was clear blue with no sign of showers. After a few rumbles, I realized I was hearing blasting from Barton Mine.

I have serious concerns about the increasingly intrusive and disruptive operations at the Barton Mine on Ruby Mountain in Johnsbury, NY as well as their proposed plans to apply for an 80-Year extension and expansion of their permit with the Adirondack Park Agency. The Adirondack Park Agency and the Department of Environmental Conservation has responsibility to fully assess this application and the impact on our communities.

The following are the issues of most concern:

- **Noise levels and duration** are not compatible with the goals of "Forever Wild", with stone crushing around the clock, noise and disruption from hauling up to 10pm at night, and maintenance of tailings piles occurring at weekends.
- **Visibility** – with recent expansion the tailings piles are now visible from the wilderness areas as well as from local roads and residences. The increased water runoff from these piles causes concern about water quality in local streams and wells. **Dust** – Dust plumes from the tailings piles cause health and safety concerns as well as domestic nuisance.
- **Light pollution** – 24 hour lighting impacts the Adirondack "dark skies" in the area.

It is imperative that the APA and DEC thoroughly examine Barton Mine's application, current operations, and future plans with environmental impact in mind. It is my hope that a comprehensive analysis will result in a sensible approach to minimizing the current and future effects of Barton Mine.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely, Sherry Fraser



**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Additional FOSP Comments on Barton Mine Noise Issues  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 3:35:54 PM  
**Attachments:** [FOSP Noise Letter 8\\_24\\_2022.pdf](#)

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**From:** Alan Belenz <BELENSZ8@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 3:08 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>; Magee, Beth A (DEC) <beth.magee@dec.ny.gov>; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>; Rice, Barbara (APA) <Barbara.Rice@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** John Passacantando <j.passacantando@gmail.com>; francesrucker@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Additional FOSP Comments on Barton Mine Noise Issues

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Mr. Lore and Ms. Magee,

Please find attached comments from the Friends of Siamese Ponds on current and future noise concerns at the Barton Mine in North River.

We are hopeful that APA and DEC will require Barton to implement readily-available noise mitigation alternatives as part of the ongoing permitting process. We would be pleased to discuss these comments as well as previous comments we submitted regarding noise and other environmental concerns at your convenience.

Sincerely,  
Alan Belenz



*Friends of Siamese Ponds*  
*North River, NY*

August 24, 2022

Robert Lore  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Beth Magee  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

Additional FOSP Comments on Barton Mines Noise Evaluation

Dear Mr. Lore and Ms. Magee,

Please accept the following additional comments from the Friends of Siamese Ponds (FOSP) on the Barton Mines Company DEC Mine Permit Modification-APA Major Project Application, Appendix P, Sound Study, received by APA on October 15, 2021 (Permit Application) and the Proposed Phase Three Sound Study Scope of Work, dated March 21, 2022 (transmitted from B. Melewski to DEC and APA on March 23, 2022). We hope these comments are helpful for the ongoing DEC and APA review of the Barton Mine expansion proposal.

1) Current Conditions

As previously discussed, well before Barton submitted its October 15, 2021 permit application, North River residents and Barton engaged in discussions regarding impacts to the wilderness character of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness and on quality of life impacts to our North River community. We are disappointed that in its permit application Barton did not acknowledge these concerns, address the causes, or

propose mitigation alternatives. Additionally, Barton representatives rejected our request for a tour of the mine to allow neighbors to better understand its operations and rejected a request to visit our residences, so together we could listen to the noise conditions that are causing concern and agree on a common set of facts. Once the permit application was submitted, Barton officials informed us they would not further engage with FOSP while the administrative permitting process was ongoing.

Regarding noise, Barton has not explained why noise levels from mine operations began to dramatically increase about five years ago. An understanding of why conditions changed is crucial to developing mitigation alternatives for current conditions and preventing additional noise impacts moving forward.

## 2) Baseline Noise Levels

For purposes of determining baseline noise levels, Barton uses current mine noise levels. Note these are not current ambient noise levels, but ambient plus mill operations. Barton compares these levels to expected future increased noise levels resulting from the proposed mine expansion. This use of the current, elevated baseline noise level is inappropriate as the current levels are resulting in nuisance conditions in the community and wilderness areas. The use of the much quieter ~36-year baseline (Quiet Period), from mine permit issuance in 1979 to ~2017, is the appropriate metric for baseline conditions. While we are unaware of Barton data on ambient noise measurements during the quiet period, we are willing to supply testimony from local residents contrasting the conditions of the quiet period versus current conditions, if that would be helpful to the Agencies.

## 3) DEC Noise Policy Baseline Assessment

Barton misrepresents the DEC Noise Guidance, Assessing and Mitigating Noise Impacts, dated February 2, 2001. The policy applies to the impact of a new noise source on ambient noise levels, not to permit renewals, modifications, or expansions.

Barton's interpretation appears to be that the policy allows an existing facility applying for a new or modified permit to increase noise levels up to 5 dB(A), as such increases would be "unnoticeable to tolerable." Such a construct implies every time an applicant comes in for a new or modified permit, they would continuously be allowed to raise baseline noise levels by 5 d(B)A. This interpretation is inconsistent with the Guidance, the structure of many federal and State environmental laws (i.e., CWA, CAA, SEQRA) in general, and inconsistent with State and federal approaches to noise impacts in wilderness areas. It is especially inappropriate for the Barton Mine, whose baseline industrial operations are already resulting in nuisance noise conditions. As specifically stated on page 14 of the DEC Noise Guidance, "The goal in an industrial/commercial area, where ambient SPLs are already at a high level, should be not to exceed the ambient SPL."

#### 4) Additional DEC Noise Guidance Factors for Consideration

As the DEC Guidance explains, proper measurement and interpretation of noise pollution is highly dependent upon site specific factors. The Barton noise analysis and proposed Phase Three Study do not consider many of these details. As outlined in previous FOSP comments, current daytime and nighttime noise may be consistently high for days on end, or quite variable, and different in frequency and perceived loudness. Barton has not identified the specific processes and equipment at the mine that produce the different types of noise nor the reason(s) for the observed temporal variability. For example, since the Quiet Period ended, have there been alterations to the physical layout of the mine, removal of natural sound barriers, modifications to existing machinery, operation of machines at higher loads or speeds, or at different times, degradation of equipment over time, use of new equipment, techniques or processes, or changes to the location of fixed or mobile equipment?

The Guidance (page 10) explains how sound bends towards cooler temperatures and that temperature inversions (where air at higher elevation is warmer than the air

below) allow for distant propagation of sound. In recognition of this fact, the 1979 APA permit prevents Barton from blasting when inversions occur. These inversions, and consequent sound effects, are quite evident on lakes such as Thirteenth Lake, and in mountains, including in North River. For example, often an increasing roar from mine operations can be heard as the morning sun rises and begins to warm the mountain-top mine environs as cooler air remains trapped in the valley below. Similarly, a few days ago, on August 15<sup>th</sup>, mine noise was relatively light during daytime hours. In the evening, as clouds dissipated and sunset ensued, mine noise audible on Birch Mountain Road quickly increased approximately 15 dB(A) according to an iPhone noise app. A change in atmospheric conditions likely resulted in increased mine noise propagation (assuming there was a constant state of mine operations). These types of phenomena, and concurrent mitigation alternatives, need to be understood before the permit application is deemed complete.

#### 5) 24/7 Mine Operations

On a 24/7 basis, there often is noise from the mountain-top mill continuously grinding the coarse stones into a more finished product, and from the equipment outside the mill building moving waste materials into sedimentation ponds and tailings piles. While this noise may be found to not measure especially high in dB terms, it goes on and on, sometimes constant, other times increasing and decreasing rhythmically, disturbing sleep with open windows, sometimes even penetrating double glazed windows.

It is unclear why 24/7 operations are allowed. In our review of the APA 1979 Permit and associated documents obtained via FOIL we did not find any statements, explicitly or implicitly, allowing 24/7 operations. The only operational hours specified appear to be for off-site truck traffic. Excerpted 1979 permit testimony to the APA board from a Barton official implies the mine will run only one 8-hour shift daily:

Q. Your application states that the mine operation is a one-shift operation, is that right?

A. That's correct.

Q. How many hours are in a shift?

A. Eight. Well, let's -- eight working hours, and dependent on where we are and the men either receive a half hour for lunch which would make them on the job for eight and a half hours or incorporate their lunch during the eight-hour period and, therefore, they would be on the job only the eight hours.

#### 6) Truck Noise

Recent FOSP noise measurements on the Thirteenth Lake Rd bridge adjacent to Barton Mine property (collected using a factory calibrated Extech Sound Level Meter #407732 at 125ms measurement) indicate noise levels ranging from 81.5-88 dBA emanating from Barton mine. These high noise levels, much higher than noise measurements Barton obtained at other property boundary locations, likely result from Barton trucks traveling up and down the Barton Mine access road. We request APA and DEC to further investigate this issue and, as we have explained in previous comments, the overall design and implementation of previous noise studies.

In conclusion, we remain hopeful for an equitable solution to our concerns. Sound mitigation experts should be engaged to implement readily available options to alleviate much of the nuisance noise from current Barton Mine operations. And we are optimistic that the State of New York will require such mitigation at Barton Mines. We

are willing to discuss the issues outlined above and other concerns regarding the Barton Mine at your convenience.

Thank You,

John Passacatando

Frances Rucker

Alan Belensz

On Behalf of Friends of Siamese Ponds

cc:

Joseph Zalewski, Regional Director NYSDEC Region 5

Barbara Rice, Director Adirondack Park Agency

Andrea Hogan, Supervisor Town of Johnsburg

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mine Noise in Wilderness Areas and in Thirteenth Lake  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 27, 2022 8:02:17 AM  
**Attachments:** [FOSP Noise Letter 4\\_26\\_2022.docx](#)

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**From:** Alan Belenz <BELENSZ8@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2022 5:07 PM  
**To:** Magee, Beth A (DEC) <beth.magee@dec.ny.gov>; Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** John Passacantando <j.passacantando@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Barton Mine Noise in Wilderness Areas and in Thirteenth Lake

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Lore,

Please find attached a letter requesting cessation of noise from Barton Mine North River Operations in the adjacent Siamese Pond Wilderness Area, including Thirteenth Lake, and the Vanderwhacker Mountain Wild Forest.

We would be pleased to further discuss this issue with you at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

Alan Belenz  
John Passacantando  
On behalf of Friends of Siamese Ponds





*Friends of Siamese Ponds*  
*North River, NY*

April 26, 2022

Robert Lore  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Beth Magee  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

Noise in Wilderness Areas Resulting From Barton Mine North River Operations

Dear Mr. Lore and Ms. Magee,

This past winter noise generated from the Barton Mine North River Operations was evident from many locations in the Siamese Pond Wilderness Area and the Vanderwhacker Mountain Wild Forest (e.g., Raymond Brook ski trail). Now that the ice on Thirteenth Lake has receded, mine noise can be heard while paddling on Thirteenth Lake or hiking its shores.

In the 2011, NYSDEC proposed and subsequently adopted regulations banning the use of gasoline-powered engines on Thirteenth Lake. The rationale presented for this rulemaking was to preserve the wilderness character of the lake, in part by eliminating noise generated by gasoline boat engines.

As you are aware, in recent years noise from Barton Mine operations began to be heard throughout the year, day and night, on the lake and in adjacent lands. The

Barton Mines Company DEC Mine Permit Modification-APA Major Project Application, received by APA on October 15, 202, does not acknowledge these noise impacts. Nor does it propose noise mitigation strategies for these sensitive ecosystems. We request DEC and APA require the applicant to implement engineering and process controls to mitigate these ongoing impacts.

We would be pleased to further discuss the above noise issues and other concerns we have regarding the Barton application at your convenience.

Thank You

Alan Belenz

John Passacantando

On behalf of Friends of Siamese Ponds

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton  
**Date:** Friday, April 22, 2022 6:23:00 AM

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**From:** Brian Hammond <bhammond1388@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 7:59 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov>; supervisor@johnsburgny.com; simpsonm@nyassembly.gov; stec@nysenate.gov  
**Subject:** Barton

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Mr. Lore,

I have lived in the Adirondacks my whole life and I have worked at Barton going on 22 years. I am a proud member of the community and would like to express my support of the Barton Mines APA application.

- The impact of Barton closing would force me to move out of the area to find a job.
- I enjoy working at Barton. I am treated like family and I feel like I'm more than just a number.
- They truly care about their employees and the community.

If Barton were to discontinue their operations in North River, my family and I would need to explore opportunities outside the Adirondack Park, as there are not many employment opportunities like the one Barton offers within the park.

Barton has helped me provide for my family for the last 22 years. I ask you to respectfully consider the positive contributions Barton has made to the local community and approve their mine permit application.

Sincerely,  
Brian Hammond  
30 stagecoach road  
Chester Town,  
New York 12817  
[bhammond1388@gmail.com](mailto:bhammond1388@gmail.com).

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Concerns regarding Barton Mine Operations  
**Date:** Monday, August 29, 2022 8:37:14 AM  
**Attachments:** [Letter to APA re Barton Mine Concerns.docx](#)

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**From:** Sherry Fraser <frasersherry959@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 2:11 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** Concerns regarding Barton Mine Operations

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Mr. Lore,

I write to share concerns I have for my family and my neighbors' health and well-being.. I would appreciate it if you could respond to my communication and offer input on how to mitigate the potential for irreparable damage to the wilderness, wildlife, and human- beings in this amazing piece of God's creation and gift to us.

Thank you for your thoughts,  
Dr. Fraser

Dr. Sherry Fraser, EdD  
30Lakeview Lane  
North River, NY 12856  
[frasersherry959@gmail.com](mailto:frasersherry959@gmail.com)

August 17,2022

Robert Lore, Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore,

My name is Dr. Sherry Fraser. I am a resident of North River, NY who values the "forever wild" Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area, especially Thirteenth Lake. I was recently hiking on the Balm of Gilead trail and I couldn't help but notice what I thought was thunder. The sky was clear blue with no sign of showers. After a few rumbles, I realized I was hearing blasting from Barton Mine.

I have serious concerns about the increasingly intrusive and disruptive operations at the Barton Mine on Ruby Mountain in Johnsbury, NY as well as their proposed plans to apply for an 80-Year extension and expansion of their permit with the Adirondack Park Agency. The Adirondack Park Agency and the Department of Environmental Conservation has responsibility to fully assess this application and the impact on our communities.

The following are the issues of most concern:

- **Noise levels and duration** are not compatible with the goals of "Forever Wild", with stone crushing around the clock, noise and disruption from hauling up to 10pm at night, and maintenance of tailings piles occurring at weekends.
- **Visibility** – with recent expansion the tailings piles are now visible from the wilderness areas as well as from local roads and residences. The increased water runoff from these piles causes concern about water quality in local streams and wells. **Dust** – Dust plumes from the tailings piles cause health and safety concerns as well as domestic nuisance.
- **Light pollution** – 24 hour lighting impacts the Adirondack "dark skies" in the area.

It is imperative that the APA and DEC thoroughly examine Barton Mine's application, current operations, and future plans with environmental impact in mind. It is my hope that a comprehensive analysis will result in a sensible approach to minimizing the current and future effects of Barton Mine.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely, Sherry Fraser

From: [amy.gerrard@yohu.com](mailto:amy.gerrard@yohu.com)  
To: [Robert.Lum@nj.gov](mailto:Robert.Lum@nj.gov)  
Subject: Proposed Barton Mine Expansion WITH PICTURES  
Date: Monday, July 11, 2011 10:52:47 AM

From: Amy Gerrard <[amygerrard@yohu.com](mailto:amygerrard@yohu.com)>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 6, 2011 12:20 PM  
To: Lora, Robert (NJPA) <[Robert.Lum@nj.gov](mailto:Robert.Lum@nj.gov)>  
Cc: [Timothy.warren@delmar.com](mailto:Timothy.warren@delmar.com)  
Subject: Re: Proposed Barton Mine Expansion WITH PICTURES

Dear Mr. Lum,

I am writing to give you updated evidence for your consideration. The particulate dust from the mine has multiplied many times over in its volume and the noise is increasing in its intensity, causing even more disruption to both humans and animals.

In the six years since we brought our house, I've mentioned to others about how little dust we have! Even though it's a second home, left to gather dust for long stretches, it never seemed to get dusty. Even the screened porch, left unused over the winter and spring, was relatively easy clean-up. Sweep away the leaves and it was ready to use! This is no longer true. I swept the porch a total of five times, using brooms with successively smaller bristles. Attached, please find pictures of material swept from my screened porch, in the first pass by a broom. I never had to remove dust like this before! The dust is grey and fine - identical to dust from latrines.

If this particulate matter has amassed in this quantity on my porch, I imagine to think how it is settling in my family's lungs. This industrial waste from the mine is putting people at risk. I'm sure the adverse effects are experienced by other species.

Noise persists around the clock. In scientific noise readings it is difficult to separate mine noise from naturally occurring noise like birds and trees, so let me illustrate anecdotally. Sitting on our porch, the noise of the birds, the shake of leaves as a breeze blows by, and water in the brook are all dwarfed by the persistent noise from the mine. Laying in bed late at night, when all household noise are off, we can hear only the mine, even through closed and well-insulated windows. Kayaking on 12th Lake in the evening this week, in the heart of the Samawee Pond Wilderness Area, the mine noise was only drowned when a strong breeze blew through the trees. We were followed down the lake by the drone of industrial machines.

My husband and I are so concerned about the mine's intrusion on our quality of life and surrounding protected lands that we are considering selling our home. Already, this has created a loss for local industry as we have put off a very expensive renovation. We ask ourselves: Why invest in a home that is already worth less because of increasing mine disruption? Do we need to sell right now before we can't? The value of homes in the area are based on their connection to wilderness. I know others who are also feeling the same way. Businesses related to the local industry let let for anyone any economic benefits provided to the community by Barton Mine. If there is not a heavy red-hat bound to limit the intrusiveness of mining operations, one industry will succeed while many many others that employ exponentially more people, will fail.

Please view these photos and the anecdotal evidence I have submitted as you review the Barton application. I'd like to extend an invitation to you to have an look tea on my porch or a kayak on the lake to listen to the mine. Let me know your availability in August and we can make arrangements.

Sincerely,  
Amy and Paul Truittman  
96 Nole Mountain View Drive  
North Hous, NY 13856





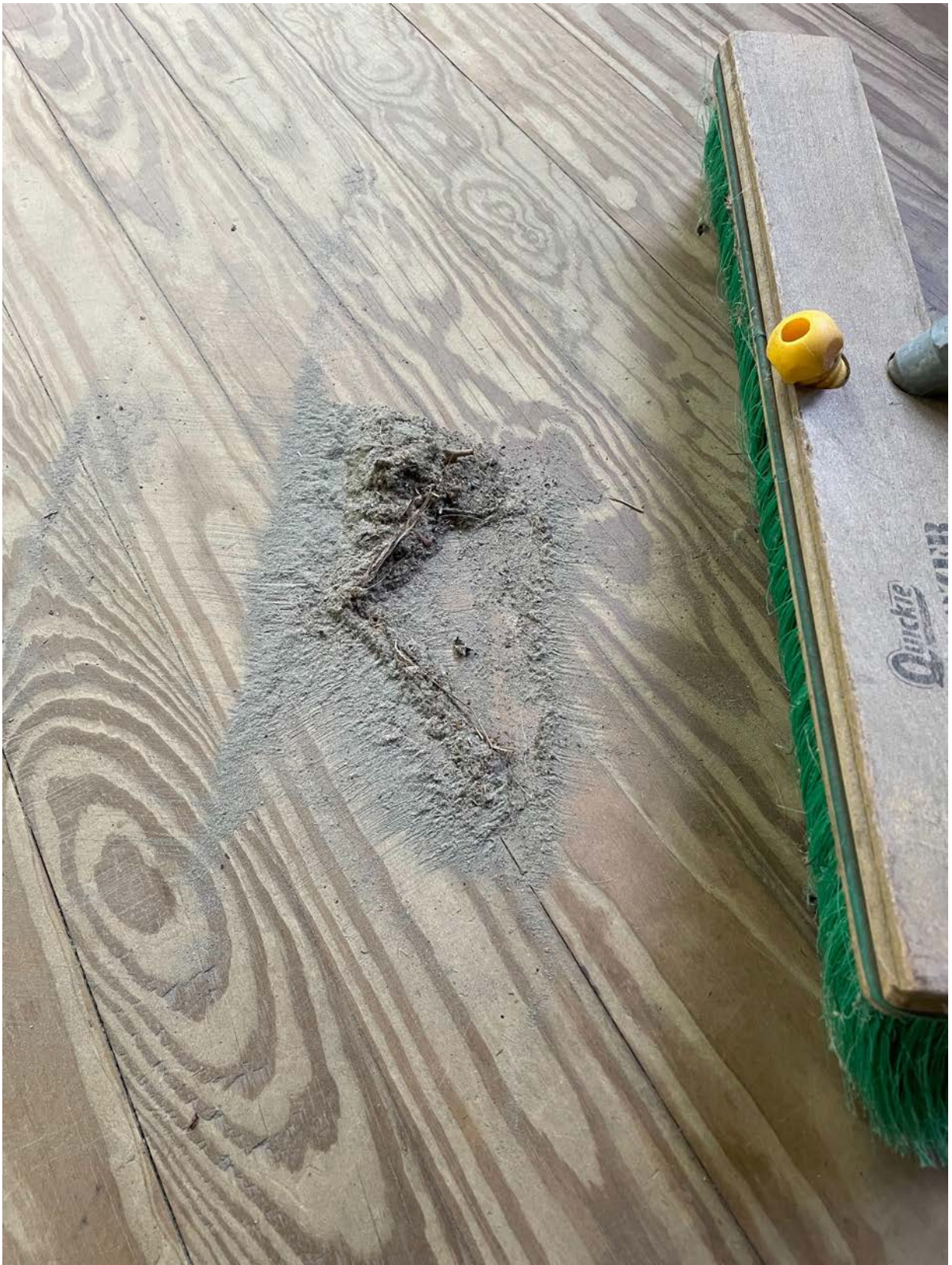












From: [amy.gerrard@yohu.com](mailto:amy.gerrard@yohu.com)  
To: [Robert.Lum@nj.gov](mailto:Robert.Lum@nj.gov)  
Subject: Proposed Barton Mine Expansion WITH PICTURES  
Date: Monday, July 11, 2011 10:52:47 AM

From: Amy Gerrard <amygerrard@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 6, 2011 12:20 PM  
To: Lora, Robert (NJPA) <Robert.Lum@nj.gov>  
Cc: Timothy.warren@delmar.com  
Subject: Re: Proposed Barton Mine Expansion WITH PICTURES

Dear Mr. Lora,

I am writing to give you updated evidence for your consideration. The particulate dust from the mine has multiplied many times over in its volume and the noise is increasing in its intensity, causing even more disruption to both humans and animals.

In the six years since we brought our house, I've mentioned to others about how little dust we have! Even though it's a second home, left to gather dust for long stretches, it never seemed to get dusty. Even the screened porch, left unused over the winter and spring, was relatively easy clean-up. Sweep away the leaves and it was ready to use! This is no longer true. I swept the porch a total of five times, using brooms with successively smaller bristles. Attached, please find pictures of material "swept" from my screened porch, in the first pass by a broom. I never had to remove dust like this before! The dust is grey and fine - identical to dust from latrines.

If this particulate matter has amassed in this quantity on my porch, I imagine to think how it is settling in my family's lungs! This industrial waste from the mine is putting people at risk. I'm sure the adverse effects are experienced by other species.

Noise persists around the clock. In scientific noise readings it is difficult to separate mine noise from naturally occurring noise like birds and trees, so let me illustrate anecdotally. Sitting on our porch, the noise of the birds, the shake of leaves as a breeze blows by, and water in the brook are all dwarfed by the persistent noise from the mine. Laying in bed late at night, when all household noise are off, we can hear only the mine, even through closed and well-insulated windows. Kayaking on Little Lake in the evening this week, in the heart of the Samawee Pond Wilderness Area, the mine noise was only drowned when a strong breeze blew through the trees. We were followed down the lake by the drone of industrial machines.

My husband and I are so concerned about the mine's intrusion on our quality of life and surrounding protected lands that we are considering selling our home. Already, this has created a loss for local industry as we have put off a very expensive renovation. We ask ourselves: Why invest in a home that is already worth less because of increasing mine disruption? Do we need to sell right now before we can't? The value of homes in the area are based on their connection to wilderness. I know others who are also feeling the same way. Businesses related to the local industry let let for anyone any economic benefits provided to the community by Barton Mine. If there is not a heavy red-hat found to limit the intrusiveness of mining operations, one industry will succeed while many many others that employ exponentially more people, will fail.

Please view these photos and the anecdotal evidence I have submitted as you review the Barton application. I'd like to extend an invitation to you to have an look tea on my porch or a kayak on the lake to listen to the mine. Let me know your availability in August and we can make arrangements.

Sincerely,  
Amy and Paul Truittman  
96 Nole Mountain View Drive  
North Hous, NY 13856





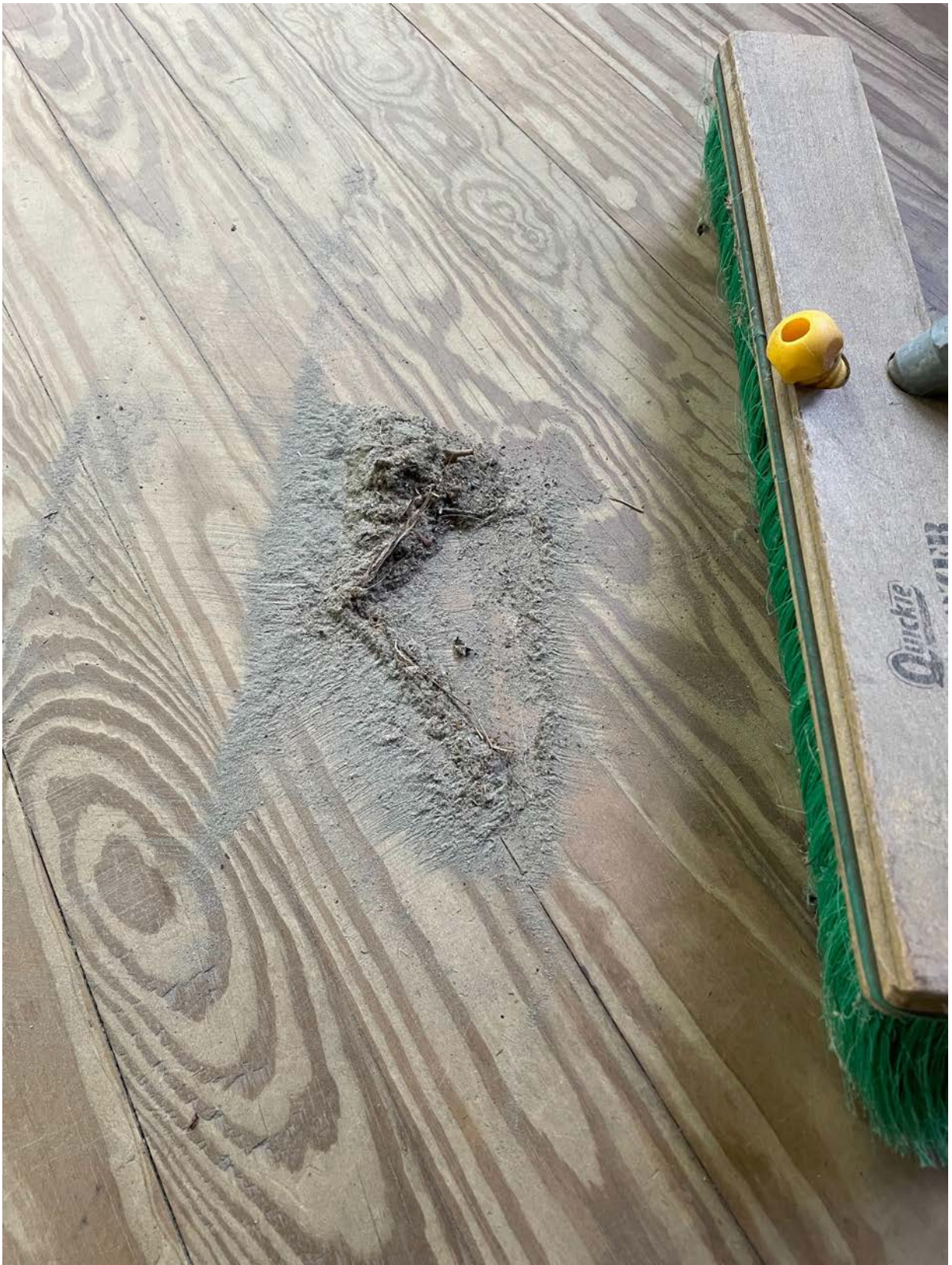












**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: proposed barton mine expansion  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 1:34:47 PM

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**From:** Kim Meusel <kmmeusel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 12:26 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com  
**Subject:** proposed barton mine expansion

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing to you again to express my concern over the Barton Mine current practices and the proposed expansion. I grew up coming to the Adirondacks and have a house in North Creek where my kids also grew up experiencing the beauty of the north country.

Over the years Barton Mine has grown in size and scope. In recent years the practices at Barton have become a major concern to our family and those living and running businesses in proximity. I'd like you to consider and understand what we are experiencing.

These are my observations of Barton Mine as a resident:

1. hours of operation are continuous- 24 hrs/day, 7days/week, 365 days/year-there is no let up
2. noise pollution- constant running machinery, jack hammers, trucks and blasting (without warning)- again 24/7/365 with blasting on holidays (ie.July 4th)
3. air pollution- dirty ash dust coating the grass, house, deck and outdoor furniture
4. light pollution- stadium lighting for their 24 hour/day practices, seen from miles around
5. visual mess- tailing piles seen from multiple vantages, nearby trails and hikes (i believe the cause of the air pollution- ash coating the area)

The growing mine work takes away the peaceful, natural experience from people who live nearby and visit the Adirondacks. Another major industry in the area is tourism which obviously can be hurt by Barton mine pollution. When tourists come to this area to explore outdoors and experience the Adirondacks they won't return if negative effects of the mine overshadow their time.

Most importantly, if my family and community feel the negative effects of Barton Mine pollution, what is happening to the environment? The land, water, birds and animals can't speak for themselves. I am worried about the environment, the natural habitats, the domino effect of non stop noise, air and light pollution on The Siamese Ponds Wilderness, Thirteenth Lake, surrounding wetlands and areas.



I realize the mine provides jobs and is an important, historic industry in the area. It is also an industry within the Adirondack park where we all must do our part to protect and coexist with nature. Barton Mine can limit their noise, air, light and visual pollution and work within business hours. Barton can and should be made to do better considering their location, the purpose of the park and the principles of leave no trace- reduce your impact as much as possible.

I implore this agency to take a hard look at the practices of Barton Mine and its effect on the surrounding environment and residents before forging ahead with an expansion.

Thank you for attending to our park and considering these issues,  
Kim Meusel

**From:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Barton Mines Expansion Project  
**Date:** Friday, September 2, 2022 10:10:05 AM

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**From:** Thomas Schuchaskie <urbankidadventurers@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 2, 2022 9:42 AM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov>; 5dep.r5@dec.ny.gov  
**Cc:** friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Proposed Barton Mines Expansion Project

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Mr. Lore and Ms. Magee,

We are writing as residents of North River who are deeply concerned about current operations and the proposal for expansion of the Barton Ruby Mountain mining operation. For decades, Johnsbury businesses and residents have coexisted within the wilderness that makes the Adirondack area so special. However, recent Barton Mines' operations are impacting the wilderness character of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness, including Thirteenth Lake, and unreasonably interfering the health and property of North River residents.

We have been hiking, backpacking, fishing and hunting this area for 26 years and this would be very for everyone, including the wildlife that inhabits the area.

Barton's current draft proposal to increase the areal extent of mining, residual piles, truck traffic, water use and hours of operations, if permitted as proposed, will increase the attendant mine impacts. Barton should be required to mitigate current and future impacts from the mine.

As your agencies continue to review the Barton mine expansion proposal, please ensure the project does not come at the expense of the nearby community and the integrity of the neighboring Siamese Ponds Wilderness.

As a member of the Friends of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness and a resident of North River, I am grateful for your attention to these concerns.

Sincerely,

Thom Schuchaskie and Eleanor Krieger

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [jsd3@frontiernet.net](mailto:jsd3@frontiernet.net)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [dec.sm.DEP.R5](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Proposed Barton Mines Expansion Project  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 18, 2022 7:20:36 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from jsd3@frontiernet.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

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----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** jsd3@frontiernet.net <jsd3@frontiernet.net>  
**To:** robert.lore@apa.ny.gov <robert.lore@apa.ny.gov>; 5dep.r5@dec.ny.gov <5dep.r5@dec.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com <friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 15, 2022 at 07:44:55 PM EDT  
**Subject:** Proposed Barton Mines Expansion Project

Dear Mr. Lore and Ms. Magee:

My wife and I own a home on Birch Mountain Road in North River that we have visited many times each year for the past 50 years. Pristine Thirteenth Lake and the surrounding Siamese Ponds Wilderness are jewels of the Adirondack Park that have rejuvenated family, friends, and neighbors time and time again. Until fairly recently, we have been aware of the operations of Barton Mines only sporadically and mostly in the background. But that has changed.

Most prominently, noise from the mine has become louder and often is experienced as a steady, intrusive din. Several times while visiting this summer, I made a point to make observations of the noise level while outside. Walking along Birch Mountain, Harvey, and Thirteenth Lake Roads on July 13, August 13, and September 2, I heard a steady drone until I was nearly two miles beyond the mine entrance on Thirteenth Lake Road. On September 5, Labor Day, at 7:25 AM, I heard a loud clanging in the direction of the mine from our home. I also noted from two spots on Thirteenth Lake Road and also from Moxham Mountain how large the tailing piles have grown. They and two machines sitting atop the piles created an eyesore that I'd not experienced before. Seeing dust plumes from these mounds, I can't help but wonder and worry about the impact on air quality in the area and potential adverse health effects. I also worry about the possibility of residential well water being contaminated if effective measures to contain industrial runoff are not taken, as well as nearby Thirteenth Lake and Brook losing their hospitability to trout, loons, and beaver.

I understand that a year ago the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) and New York State Department of Conservation (DEC) received an application from Barton Mines seeking a permit to expand their operations dramatically, and that this application is currently deemed incomplete. While I respect the many contributions that the mine has made to the local community for nearly a century, I also respect the precious wilderness area adjacent to the mine and how the Siamese Ponds Wilderness enhances the quality of life of residents and visitors alike, not to mention the wildlife. As such, I implore the APA and DEC to assess thoroughly the likely impacts of Barton Mines' proposed expansion before issuing a permit, using independent acoustical, air, water, and visual impact assays when possible. I believe it is in everyone's interest--including the mine's--for *effective* mitigation measures to be taken to reduce the harmful noise, air, water, and visual impacts that are *already* taking a toll.

I am grateful for the patience and sense of responsibility that the APA and DEC have shown thus far regarding the consequential Barton Mines application, and I sincerely hope that no decision regarding the permit request will be made without having adequate answers to the many serious questions it raises.

Sincerely,

John Durland  
13 Birch Mountain Road  
North River, NY

**From:** [Paul Hanson](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Barton Mine Permit  
**Date:** Monday, June 5, 2023 10:35:03 AM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from paulghanson1@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

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Good morning Mr. Plante:

I wanted to write to object to the Barton Mine request for an expansion of their permit. My biggest concern is the tailings. It has drastically grown higher and more visible as you travel up 13th Lake Rd.

My understanding is that Barton wishes to add to the pile and while they claim to be ready to plant vegetation, I fear if left at its present rate, the height of the pile will be visible from the lake, on trails, and the many homes in the area.

I would urge you to deny the permit in keeping with the goals of the Adirondack park.

Sincerely,  
Paul and JoAnn Hanson  
95 Beach Rd.  
North River



426 Dix Avenue  
PO Box 4787  
Queensbury, NY 12804  
Phone (518) 761-0400 Fax (518) 761-0707

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 05 2023

June 1, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations-providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton is a major employer and has managed its Ruby Mountain operations since 1983. The Ruby Mountain operations have been managed in a safe and responsible manner and Their plan is designed to minimize any impact on the community.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Galusha".

Daniel Galusha, Member

Emily Goodspeed  
North River NY

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 05 2023

5/24/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Professor, 





Laura L Greco  
100 Montgomery Rd / Po Box 107  
Wevertown, NY 12886

5/25/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

MAY 30 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

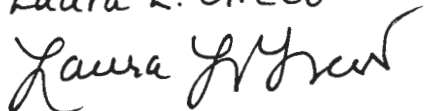
I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Laura L. Greco  


OCT 14 2022

Monday Sept. 19  
2022

Dear Mr. Lore,

For forty-six years, I have owned Big Shanty in North Creek, N.Y. I especially love swimming in crystal-clear cool 13<sup>th</sup> Lake and hiking the many trails surrounding our precious home. We have done everything we can to preserve the beautiful natural environment.

Recently I have become seriously disturbed by the disruptive operations at the Barton Mine on Ruluy Mountain in Jahnsburg, N.Y. and the proposed plan to apply for an 80-year extension and expansion of their permit with the Adirondack Park Agency.

Noise levels and duration are not compatible with the goals of "Forever Wild." The light pollution and stone crushing up to 10 km at night, the visibility of tailings piles from trails and water run-off polluting local streams are major concerns.

Please take these concerns seriously.  
and thank you for your attention  
Sincerely, Diane Cressy

September 3, 2022

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

SEP 06 2022

4 Harvey Road  
North River, NY 12856

Robert Lore, Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NY State Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Beth Magee, Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC Region 5  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY  
12885-1172

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Lore:

We are homeowners on Garnet Hill near Barton Mines writing to express our extreme displeasure at the Mine's application for their 80-year extension/expansion plans.

For starters an extension covering generations of unborn people is outrageous. No one can predict with any degree of probability the changes that might affect the mine and its environment over that period of time.

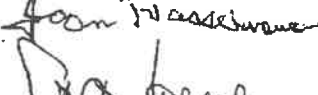
Nor is it clear how the site would be restored if the mine should close. Barton Mine's responsibility to restore the site to a pristine level in the likelihood of such an event must be legally clear.

In the immediate term Barton Mines must be required to respect the environment in which it is physically located including Adirondack forever wild designated areas and large residential neighborhoods. Barton should be required by enforceable regulations to control its level of pollution, including noise levels, visual pollution, air pollution and water pollution which are already intolerable. Barton's Application fails to do any of these things.

We would also point out that, without adequate restrictions and the continuation of their present polluting practices, property values nearby will decrease and therefore so will a significant part of the tax base of Johnsbury and Warren County, NY.

We appreciate your time and helpful action in considering our concerns. Thank you!

Sincerely,

  
Joan and Alan Hasselwander

Cc: Andrea Hogan, Barbara Rice, Matthew Simpson, Kate Smith, Daniel G. Stec, Joseph Zelewski

JUN 01 2023

Mr. David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Re: Support of Barton Mines/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Mr. Plante:

We are writing in support of Barton Mines application of their permit modification. Having known several members of the Barton family for 60+ years, they have been responsible employers, taxpayers, and generous members of the community.

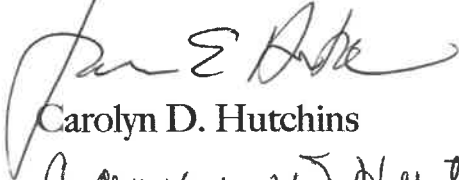
They employ 125+/- people which is a significant number in a Town that had 17 high school graduates a couple of years ago.

Jim Hutchins was chief engineer at NL Industries, Tahawus, NY until shortly before they closed - the loss of a major employer in rural areas is devastating.

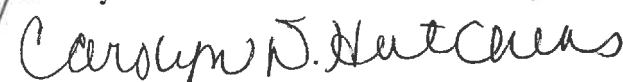
Bartons have been an integral part of the Town of Johnsburg and the local community. Thank you for considering the approval of their permit application so present and future generations can prosper.

Very truly yours.

James E. Hutchins



Carolyn D. Hutchins



37 Austin Pond Rd.  
North Creek, NY 12853

**From:** [Jordan, John J.](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Jordan, John J.](#)  
**Subject:** J Jordan Letter re Barton Permit Extension  
**Date:** Thursday, June 1, 2023 9:40:58 AM  
**Attachments:** [J Jordan Letter to APA-DEC re Barton Permit Extension.pdf](#)

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from john.jordan@nationalpfg.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.**

Ms. Magee and Mr Plante,

Attached please find a letter in support of Barton Mines for your consideration. Thank you and regards.

***John Jordan | Managing Director – Risk Management | National Public Finance Guarantee Corporation | Phone (914) 765-3556 | Mobile (914) 216-8626 | [john.jordan@nationalpfg.com](mailto:john.jordan@nationalpfg.com) | [www.nationalpfg.com](http://www.nationalpfg.com)***

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John J. Jordan  
25 Fairview Avenue  
North Creek, NY 12853

Ms. Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

Mr. David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rppcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rppcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

As a lifetime resident of North Creek, I knew the Barton family (then residing at the original Gore Mountain mine), my parents taught the Barton children in school and I worked along with several other local kids at the Gore mine or related facilities during college summer breaks. My brother has served as Town Attorney for the Town of Johnsburg.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening there in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton continues as a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer and a customer to many other local businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you for your consideration,



John J Jordan

Kristen King  
PO Box 83  
Indian Lake, NY 12842

May 24, 2023

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

MAY 30 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Mr. Plante,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

I have many friends and family who currently or have previously worked for Barton.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you.

  
Kristen King



Richard and Laura Klinski  
24 Brookview Ter.  
PO Box 5  
North Riven, NY 12856

January 29, 2023

NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
1133 NYS Route 86  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

FEB 01 2023

Dear Members of the APA:

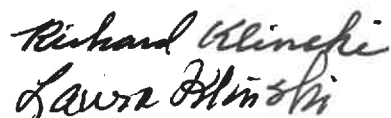
We purchased a lot in the Garnet Hill Association in 1986, built our home in 1992 and have lived here full-time since 2005. We are writing to you to express our thoughts and convictions concerning the existence and operations of Barton Mines. Presently and in the past, we have no major criticisms or complaints with Barton Mines. When work is going on at the mine, noise can be heard in the distance. At our home, we have experienced no increase in noise from the mine operations. Some owners here at Garnet Hill have expressed their concerns that the noise has increased during the past five years. Presently, their opinions and views are not backed up by any factual or scientific evidence. Anecdotal and subjective statements are given for their supporting beliefs.

The visual increase in the height of the tailing piles can now be seen. This aspect is actual and can be documented. This is the only criticism or change in the mines operations that can be validated. We and many of the residents here at Garnet Hill are not happy with the Garnet Hill Board of Directors actions concerning Barton Mines. Garnet Hill Association should not be a political or environmental entity. Our concerns should be addressed through the APA, DEC or the Town of Johnsburg.

We are writing because we know that you have been inundated with letters of complaint concerning the operation of Barton Mines. I have spoken and expressed my views to our town supervisor, Andrea Hogan, and she advised me to write to you to express our concerns. I am a conservationists and a lover of wilderness. I have hiked, camped, hunted and fished in the Siamese Pond Wilderness hundreds of times over the past 40 years. I enjoy living on the edge of the wilderness but I am also knowledgeable and aware of the APA classification of lands both public and private. In the 1999 APA Land Use and Development Plan Map, Barton Mines property is classified for Industrial Use. I think many people here in the Garnet Hill Association think they are living in the middle of the wilderness where no man-made activities exist.

I would love to attend your next scheduled meeting, but I am not able to do so. We trust you will weigh all factual information and not be influenced by manufactured, anecdotal and subjective opinions.

Respectfully,

Handwritten signatures of Richard and Laura Klinski in black ink. The signature of Richard is on top, and the signature of Laura is below it.

Richard and Laura KLinski

Irene S. Kohn  
846 Thirteenth Lake Road  
P.O. Box 206,  
North River, NY 12856  
Irene.Kohn@gmail.com

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
AUG 31 2022

August 26, 2022

Robert Lore, Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Beth Magee, Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC Region  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

Dear Mr. Lore and Ms. Magee:

My husband and I have had a home in North River for over 30 years. We came to this area for its beauty and peacefulness. We were happy to find a place at the edge of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness area where we were assured that we would be surrounded by forest land and that we would never hear the roar of snow mobiles and jet skis.

We were aware of the operations of the Barton Mine on Thirteenth Lake Road and felt that the mine was respectful of the surrounding wilderness and the neighbors in North River. But we have recently learned of the mine's permit application and proposed significant expansion of operations at the mine site.

We are writing to urge your agencies to study the impact of the proposed expanded operations of the mine in terms of noise levels, air quality, and water quality and to assure that a balance will be reached to continue mine operations and to respect the quality of life of the neighbors and the environment.

- The permit would enable the Barton Mine to significantly increase its visibility through the growth of the tailings pile, which already is visible on 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road and from the hiking trails and 13<sup>th</sup> Lake and the expansion of lighting which already has increased in strength and intensity.
- The permit would enable Barton Mine to increase the noise from both in-pit mining and on-site processing. Over the years we have heard minimal noise and blasting from the mine from time to time, but under the expansion outlined in the permit application, the noise levels will increase significantly disturbing the environment and neighbors in North River.
- The permit would also enable a significant increase in truck traffic on 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road, allowing truck trips every 15 minutes, hauling until 10:00PM and on weekends. These commercial vehicles are driving through a residential area adding a constant, noisy and dangerous disturbance.

August 26, 2022

- We worry that dust from the mine, which will increase under the permit if mitigation practices are not required, will have health impacts on residents and visitors to the area.
- The changes requested by the permit will have impact on local water quality and water flow. Local residents report a decrease in brook trout and we fear that water quality is already degraded. The permit should not be approved until further study of the water quality issues have been studied and resolved.

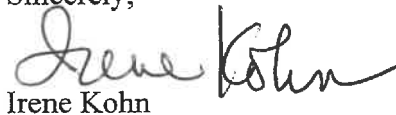
The expansion reflected in the permit application would have significant impact on quality of life for local residents, the quality of wilderness in the Adirondacks and the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area, and on the air and water that we all depend on, regardless of where we live.

I am writing to urge the APA and DEC to evaluate current operations of the Barton Mine and future plans as reflected in the permit application in light of the environmental impact of the mine and its impact on the quiet enjoyment of our homes and surrounding public land areas.

I recognize the importance of commercial activity in our area, but your agencies must consider the importance the variety of commercial activity including recreation and tourism and the importance of safe and peaceful residential areas within our North River community.

Thank you for your consideration of this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Irene Kohn".

Irene Kohn

Cc: Barbara Rice, Executive Director NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
Joseph Zalewski, Regional Director, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation, Region 5  
Friends of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness

**Janet R Konis**  
**86 Ridge St**  
**North Creek, New York, 12853**

**March 9, 2023**

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

**MAR 13 2023**

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Do you understand that if it wasn't for Barton Mines our town would be DEAD! Because of them we have jobs, health insurance, gas station, jobs, schools, grocery stores, drug stores, a town. A couple of people retire up here from other places know the mine is here and now make a big stink to stand with APA and are willing to ruin our lives. APA is not God; you were not giving the right to take away our livelihoods.

You created yourselves to protect not take away!

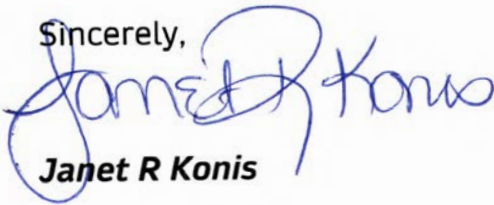
Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Janet R Konis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Janet" being more prominent than the last name "Konis".

**Janet R Konis**

**Richard Kropp  
85 Ridge Street  
North Creek, NY 12853**

**June 2, 2023**

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

**JUN 05 2023**

**Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)**

**David Plante Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)**

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

**Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:**

**I am writing to give you my support regarding Barton Mine's Permit Application.**

**As a business owner in the State of New York, I understand and appreciate how hard it is to own a business in the State and provide a living to the community in the Adirondacks. Barton Mines offers good jobs with good pay, one of the few companies that do in the North Country.**

**They have shown themselves to be a reputable company, working in a safe and responsible manner for many years. They also help alleviate the tax burden for our community.**

**We are urging you to renew their permits so they can continue to benefit our community into the future.**

**Sincerely**



**Richard Kropp**

**Jeffery and Theresa Lane  
12 Fairview Avenue  
North Creek, NY 12853**

**May 31, 2023**

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

**JUN 05 2023**

**Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)**

**David Plante Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rppcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rppcomments@apa.ny.gov)**

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

**Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:**

**We are writing to give you our support regarding Barton Mine's Permit Application. As you know Barton Mines has been a staple of this community for many years.**

**It is very hard to make a living in the Adirondacks. Most people have two jobs, own their own business or travel long distances to their jobs. Barton Mines offers good jobs with good pay, one of the few companies that do in the North Country.**

**They have shown themselves to be a reputable company, working in a safe and responsible manner for many years. They also help alleviate the tax burden for our community.**

**We are urging you to renew their permits so they can continue to benefit our community into the future.**

**Sincerely,**



**Jeffery and Theresa Lane**

ROB AND MARY /RENE LEE  
PO # 957, 1430 RT 28N  
MINERVA, NY 12851

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 01 2023

MAY 31, 2023

BETH MAGEE  
DEPUTY REGIONAL PERMIT ADMINISTRATOR  
NYSDCR  
232 GOLF COURSE ROAD  
WARRENSBURG, NY 12885

DAVID PLANTE  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR REGULATORY PROGRAMS  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
PO BOX 99  
RAY BROOK, NY 12979

RE: BARTON MINES APA/DEC MINE PERMIT MODIFICATION

DEAR MS. MAGEE AND MR. PLANTE:

WE ARE WRITING IN SUPPORT OF BARTON MINES' MINE PERMIT MODIFICATION APPLICATION, WHICH MUST BE APPROVED TO EXTEND THE LIFE OF THE COMPANY'S OPERATIONS - PROVIDING CRITICALLY IMPORTANT JOBS AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

THE MINES PROVIDES IMPORTANT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR OUR AREA, AND DOES NOT ENCRoACH ON ANY ENVIRONMENTAL AREAS.

BARTON HAS MANAGED ITS RUBY MOUNTAIN OPERATION IN A SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE MANNER SINCE 1993, AND WE



have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important tax payer and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible Natural Resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community for into the future.

Thank you

Robert M. Lee, Jr

Return to

MARY IRENE LEE

Mary Irene Lee

**From:** [Arthur Webb](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Letter in Support of Barton Mine Modification Application  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 24, 2023 12:16:57 PM  
**Attachments:** [Barton-Permit-Support-Letter.pdf](#)

---

Some people who received this message don't often get email from arthur@arthurwebbgroup.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Arthur Webb  
40 Armstrong Road  
Johnsburg, NY

May 24, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

*arthur y. webb*

Arthur Y. Webb

**From:** [Larry Blackhurst](#)  
**To:** [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [dec.sm.DEP.R5](#); [Zalewski, Joseph M. \(DEC\)](#); [SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov](#); [stec@nysenate.gov](#); [supervisor@johnsburgny.com](#); [friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Letter to Mr. Lore conceding the Barton Mine permit application  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 31, 2022 3:55:08 PM

---

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Robert Lore, Deputy Director For Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Mr. Lore,

My name is Larry Blackhurst. I am a permanent resident of North River, NY, who values the “forever wild” Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area, especially Thirteenth Lake. I have been a property owner here since 1979 and moved permanently here in 1985. I hear what sounds like machinery noise day and night from inside my house coming from the mine! My property is on about the same elevation as the mine, at about 1950 feet. When looking NNW, I can see the tailing pile when the leaves are off the trees and the lights are always visible at night!

I have serious concerns about the increasingly intrusive and disruptive operations at the Barton Mine on Ruby Mountain in Johnsburg, NY, as well as their proposed plans to apply for an 80-Year extension and expansion of their permit with the Adirondack Park Agency. The Adirondack Park Agency and the Department of Environmental Conservation need to fully assess this application.

The following are the issues of most concern:

- **Noise levels and duration** are not compatible with the goals of “Forever Wild”, with stone crushing around the clock, noise and disruption from hauling up to 10pm at night, and maintenance of tailings piles occurring at weekends.
- **Visibility** – with recent expansion the tailings piles are now visible from the wilderness areas as well as from local roads and residences. The increased water runoff from these piles causes concern about water quality in local streams and wells.
- **Dust** – Dust plumes from the tailings piles cause health and safety concerns as well as domestic nuisance.
- **Light pollution** – 24 hour lighting impacts the Adirondack “dark skies” in the area.
- **Truck traffic**- on 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road resulting in noise and increased wear of the road surface.

**If this Barton Mine project were a new project just being proposed, would the current state of manufacturing be allowed to exist? I would hope not! Or would more stringent measures be in place to reduce the noise, dust, light, water, road, and visual impact we are currently experiencing?**

It is imperative that the APA and DEC thoroughly examine Barton Mine’s application, current operations and future plans with environmental impact in mind. It is my hope that a comprehensive analysis will result in a sensible approach to minimizing the current and future effects of Barton

Mine.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,  
Larry Blackhurst  
P.O. Box 332  
North River, NY 12856  
[Laurenceblackhurst@gmail.com](mailto:Laurenceblackhurst@gmail.com)  
home 518-251-2032  
cell 518-338-7063

May 22, 2023

R. Jarrett Lilien  
21 East 96<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt 7  
New York, NY 10128

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
MAY 26 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpccomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpccomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

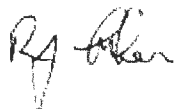
I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



R. Jarrett Lilien



**JOHNSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL**  
**165 MAIN STREET**  
**NORTH CREEK, NY 12853**  
**PHONE (518) 251-2921**  
**FAX (518) 251-2562**

Michael J. Markwica  
165 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

MAY 08 2023

May 5, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing to support Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically essential jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton Mines has been a vital company and partner to our community. They employ many of our residents with high-paying and life-fulfilling jobs. There are very few employers of the magnitude of Bartons, and the thought that this community could ever lose them is highly concerning. The economic hardship would be devastating.

In addition, I have been working at Johnsburg Central School as the Superintendent for the past twenty years. Barton Mines is very active in our school and town communities. They have supported us in several endeavors, including an outdoor classroom with solar panels installed for our student's educational experience, donated to our building project by providing a garnet cornerstone, and annually supporting our Dollars for Scholars fund.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations safely and responsibly since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plans minimize community impacts.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton, who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Markwica", written in a cursive style.

Michael J. Markwica  
Superintendent  
Johnsburg Central School



**From:** [Frances Rucker](#)  
**To:** [dec.sm.DEP.R5](#); [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#); [Rice, Barbara \(APA\)](#)  
**Subject:** Measurements of Noise Nuisance from Barton Mine  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 9, 2023 11:41:37 AM  
**Attachments:** [May 6th 2023 Noise Data.pdf](#)

---

Some people who received this message don't often get email from francesrucker@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Beth Magee and Corrie Magee,

I have attached recordings of the noise levels arising from Barton Mine over the last year. These noise levels are over 20dB above the background noise levels in the North River Community. According to the DEC documentation for assessing noise impacts, this increase in noise levels is considered very objectionable to intolerable.

I appreciate your consideration of this information.

Regards,  
Frances Rucker Ph.D

May 6<sup>th</sup> 2023

NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99

Ray Brook, NY 12977

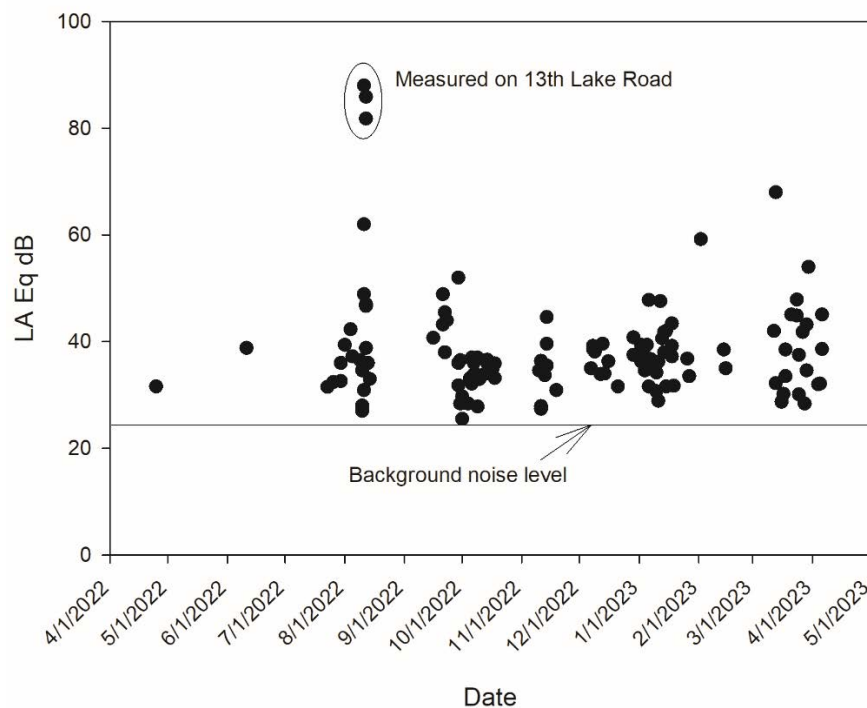
Re: Noise from Barton Mine

To the APA and DEC:

For the last several years, the residents of Garnet Hill have been experiencing noise from the Barton Mine on 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road in North River, New York. Prior to this time the mine was relatively quiet with only occasional blasting.

To quantify this noise nuisance, I have collected noise data over the course of the last year. The data was collected using the NIOSH SLM noise App on the Iphone 12 and the Extech Noise Meter. I am not a noise expert, but I have a PhD in Vision Science and have collected data of various forms throughout my career as a research scientist. I am presenting this data to you to demonstrate the excessive noise levels that the residents are exposed to on a daily basis.

### Equivalent Noise Level



As you can see in the graph above, when the mine is quiet the background noise levels are around 25 dB. The LAEq noise levels can reach as high as 68 dB in the residential area and 88 dB on 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road when the mine is working. When a noise varies over time, the LAEq noise levels are the equivalent continuous noise levels. As stated in the DEC Program Policy Document for Assessing and Mitigating

Noise Impacts, and shown in Table B below, an increase of over 20 dB is considered a very objectionable to intolerable increase in noise. In the North River community, we are experiencing up to a 43 dB increase over the background noise level of 25 dB.

Table B  
HUMAN REACTION TO INCREASES IN SOUND PRESSURE LEVEL

Increase in Sound Pressure (dB)	Human Reaction
Under 5	Unnoticed to tolerable
5 - 10	Intrusive
10 - 15	Very noticeable
15 - 20	Objectionable
Over 20	Very objectionable to intolerable

(Down and Stocks - 1978)

I hope this data provides sufficient evidence for the need to re-evaluate and reassess the impact of the noise from Barton Mine on the local community.

Yours faithfully,

Frances Rucker

Notes:

Information on the Extech sound meter: <https://calright.com/product/extech-407732-sound-meter>

The accuracy and use of the NIOSH App has been verified and relevant publications and studies can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/noise/app.html>

All measurements were made in the residential area of Garnet Hill on Ruby Mountain View Drive, apart from the three measurements that are circled. These three measurements were made on 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road outside the entrance to the mine. The measurements were made at random times throughout the day and at random intervals. Measurements were only made when the windspeed was below 11 mph and typically when there was wind of less than 5 mph. Weather conditions were recorded.

## Petith, Stephanie L (APA)

---

**From:** Rick and Jane MOON <jrmoonmail@frontiernet.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 8, 2022 2:59 PM  
**To:** Staab, Sarah A (APA)  
**Subject:** APA PROJECT NO. 2021-0245

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the aforementioned proposal. We recognize that Barton Mines, LLC is a significant economic factor within the local community, and we respect Barton Mines, LLC's right to continue operations on the property adjacent to our Beach Rd. location. We are confident that the APA will address the proposal's environmental fit given the mine's proximity to the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area. Our understanding of the proposed expansion is that it would extend operations to a location directly uphill from our Beach Rd. home. Our concerns follow:

Air borne particulate from the tailings, which seems to collect on exterior horizontal surfaces, may present a health hazard regardless of particulate composition.

If the tailings were to become saturated with moisture and slide down the mountain towards our adjacent property or if any slurry pond should burst, a significant health and safety risk may exist. Similarly, run off from the mining process could seep or flow down hill and pollute our drinking water.

Occasionally, blasting has shaken our home. The proposed expansion may increase blasting frequency, hence increasing the possibility of structural damage. Concern is also raised regarding the unknown affect blasting may have on our well.

There is a seasonal stream which runs through both Barton Mines, LLC and our properties. Future mining operations may intensify the consequences of spring run off, as well as, heavy rain run off. This run off may present the risk of property damage. Run off may also present a threat to Beach Rd itself. The existing stream configuration and Beach Rd.colvert may be inadequate to handle increased run off presenting a safety hazard.

Thank you.

**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

MR. AND MRS. JAMES J. MORRIS, III  
52 Morris Road  
P. O. Box. 2  
Wevertown, N. Y. 12886-0002

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
MAY 30 2023

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

[PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CUSTOMIZE YOUR PERSONAL MESSAGE HERE.]

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you, **JAMES J. MORRIS, III**  
[YOUR NAME AND SIGNATURE]

*James J. Morris, III*

5/24/23  
(518) 251-2653  
captamajora1@gmail.com

*we need a lot  
more jobs locally.*  
*JJM*

Eugene Mulligan  
2489 Garnet Lk. Rd. N.  
Johnsburg, NY 12843  
May 30, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

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ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 05 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modifications

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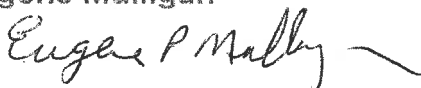
My wife has generations of friends and family who have or are currently working for Barton Mines in the Adirondacks. Our son has 17 years and counting there. I would hate to see this company loose their permit as they are vital to our small community.

Barton is a major employer, providing 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these benefits far into the future.

Thank you

Eugene Mulligan



Pamela Mulligan  
2489 Garnet Lk. Rd. N.  
Johnsburg, NY 12843  
May 30, 2023

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 05 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
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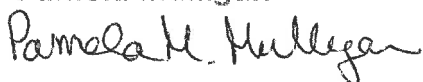
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Thank you

Pamela Mulligan





JUN 05 2023

P. B. Bopp  
Preparing by 12862  
June 4, 2023

Barnish P. Bopp  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
Box 99

My Brookings

Dear Mr. P. Bopp

I am writing in support of Barton mine permit modification applications which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations.

Barton, a major employer has provided over the years countless employment opportunities and continues to do so locally in order that residents need not travel great distances to find work.

The mining operation is conducted in the best possible way now for the mine which is necessary though to some it interrupts the so called tranquility of the Adirondacks.

Our Park needs responsible resources who agree with us Barton who keep locals employed and our local community thriving, therefore it urges you to approve the company's permit applications.

Respectfully

Res. David E. Newberry



Michelle A. Paraso  
P.O. Box 375  
102 Bennett Road  
Indian Lake, NY 12842

June 2, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
JUN 05 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

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The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

*Michelle Paraso*

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

APR 17 2023

1300 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Apt. 506

Coral Gables, Florida 33134

drarmandoiperez@gmail.com

April 5, 2023

Adirondack Park Agency

P.O. Box 99

Ray Brook, NY 12977

Re: Barton Mine (North River, NY) Permit Application-Climate Change Adjustments to Rainfall Curves?

Dear APA Staff:

As a homeowner in the neighboring Garnet Hill Community, and a retired Water Resources Engineer, I am writing to inquire about the rainfall curves that Barton's consultant used in the HydroCAD stormwater computer model to size detention facilities.

According to an October 2022 document, the model simulated the effects of the 10-year, 24-hour and 100-year, 24-hour storms. The total rainfall volumes were 3.69 inches and 5.39 inches, respectively.

My question is: Do these rainfall volumes and associated curves (i.e., volume distribution over the 24 hours) include any adjustments made for climate change? Please see specifics below.

My understanding is that the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is the entity that develops standard rainfall curves and makes them available in design manuals for engineering studies and permit applications. I'm aware that in 2015 the Northeast Regional Climate Center of Cornell University, in a study partially funded by the federal agency NOAA, generally predicted rainfall increases in the future. Later, the 2021 DEC report "Observed and Projected Climate Change in New York State" also predicted general increases in rainfall.

To the extent that climate change adjustments may not be reflected in the aforementioned design storms, it would seem prudent to (1) update the model calculations and/or (2) set aside additional land within the project site to accommodate possible expansion of stormwater detention facilities, perhaps via a permit condition.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Respectfully submitted,



Armando I. Perez, PhD

**Jane & Dean Phillips**  
**PO Box 616 – Austin Pond**  
**North Creek, NY 12853**

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
FEB 03 2023

**January 28, 2023**

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

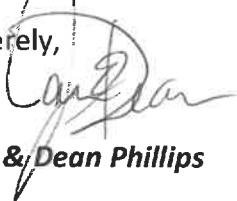
Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,



**Jane & Dean Phillips**

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Johnsburg Town Board  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

June 1, 2023

JUN 05 2023

Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
Regulatory Programs

NYSDEC  
Agency

232 Golf Course Rd. Warrensburg, NY 12885

David Plante

Deputy Director for

Adirondack Park *Agency*

PO Box 99

Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

In addition to the attached standardize letter provided by Barton Mines I wish to offer my support for Barton Mines' application and my personal views regarding Barton Mines' application for the Mine Permit Modification and 75-year expansion application.

My wife and I have been second home owners at Garnet Hill since 1982 and are members of the Garnet Hill Property Owners Association. We support Barton Mines' application for expansion. We have some concerns about the visual impact of the tailings, air-born dust and noise. We realize that the Adirondack Park Agency was created with the mission of a cooperative blend of wildlife preservation, residential living, and private land ownership that includes industrial zones. We all have a responsibility to protect the legitimate needs of all communities within the Park.

I have specific recommendations for the Barton Mine application:

1. Relocation of the present and future tailings to an "open pit" area within the Mine's property and outside the view of the residential community of

Garnet Hill and North River. Perhaps the tailings can be transported to the open pit of the now closed mine at Gore Mountain and reforested.

2. Revegetation of the existing tailings with fast growing grass or plants and eventual permanent reforestation. Reasonable time-tables for completion need to be established, monitored and enforced.
3. Cost of this project would need to be determined. Perhaps tax waivers and/or environmental bond funds could fund the project.
4. Recommendation that Barton Mines and Garnet Hill Property Owners Association have members of North River and GHPOA communities as non-voting members on each of their Boards of Directors. I think that we all have a responsibility to promote harmonious, collaborative and non-adversarial relationships.
5. The APA needs to regulate adherence to existing and new regulations for the Mine and to fund evidenced-based and professionally accepted scientific monitoring.

These recommendations are offered with the hope of promoting a collaborative, non-adversarial relationship among all individuals and communities within the Adirondack Park. I believe that the APA will make a thoughtful and responsible decision.

Thank you.



Martin Philipps

10/10/2023

Martin Phillipps  
27 Ramble Road  
Haston Island, New York  
10308

32 Birch Mountain  
North River, New York

June 1, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

*[PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CUSTOMIZE YOUR PERSONAL MESSAGE HERE.]*

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,





**Board of Directors**

July 22, 2022

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John Nemjo  
Peter O'Shea  
Philip Terrie  
Chris Walsh

Peter Bauer  
*Executive Director*

Rob Lore ([robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov))  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Beth Magee  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

**JUL 25 2022**

**RE: Public comments on APA Project 2021-245 Barton Mines major expansion**

Dear Mr. Lore and Ms. Magee:

Protect the Adirondacks submitted comments to the Adirondack Park Agency in June 2021 concerning the proposed expansion of the 850+/- acres Barton Mines in the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County. Since that time, Barton Mines submitted a permit application in October 2021. The APA issued a Notice of Incomplete Application (NIPA) on November 16, 2021. At this point, Barton Mines has not fully responded to the NIPA. Barton Mines is planning a wide-ranging expansion of its mining operations. The company is seeking to expand its mining footprint by more than one-third from 194.5 acres to 267 acres. The company is seeking to raise the elevation of its tailings/debris piles, now clearly visible above the tree tops from a number of locations, 100 more feet in height to 2,375 in total elevation. These piles are expected to bury 40 acres. The open pit will reach 17 acres. Barton Mines wants to run its industrial equipment 24 hours a day, which provides no relief for neighbors. Barton Mines is seeking to triple its truck loads driving up and down a steep and twisting County Route 78. Blasting levels will be doubled or tripled. These are all major issues that are critical to local neighbors in the Garnet Hill community that are seeking to live a peaceful rural life. These are also major issues to the many people who seek wilderness experiences in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness area, which borders the mine and is one of the great Wilderness areas in the Adirondack Park.

Barton Mines has a storied history in Warren County and the Adirondack Park. We wish the company every good fortune as it moves ahead with its expansion plans. We do, however, believe that the company needs to take seriously the concerns of local residents who live nearby its Ruby Mountain mine, and it needs to do more to protect the





*The picture at the top shows the Barton Mines on Ruby Mountain in 1998. The picture above shows the mines in 2021. The growth in the mine operations has been substantial over the years. The growth of this mine, and its off-site impacts, has not been adequately regulated and reviewed.*





*The picture shows the tailings pile as evident from County Route 78. Note the extensive exposed area. Note that visibility of industrial equipment on the right side of the pile.*

Forest Preserve. In short, Barton Mines needs to be a good neighbor. Many of the Barton Mine's changes, and growth of its mining operations, have been gradual since the mid-1980s. Yet, in the summer of 2022, this modest operation has grown into a large mountaintop mining operation that runs 24 hours a day and seven days a week, which is causing great distress for local residents who are simply trying to enjoy a decent rural quality of life and degrades the surrounding Forest Preserve.

There are many issues where Barton Mines needs to improve its management and mining operations. These include community outreach, visual impacts, noise, hours of operation, water quality, fugitive dust, truck traffic, light pollution, impacts to the Forest Preserve, climate change, and final closure design. Additionally, we provide relevant examples from APA permits that required various studies and long-term monitoring of mining impacts on nearby private residences.

**Visual Impact:** The visual impacts of the existing tailings pile has grown over the years as the tailings pile has grown in elevation. The tailings pile today is visible above the treetops from a number of locations, some as far away as Moxham Mountain. Often, the visual impact is exacerbated by large equipment at work on the pile. Whereas noise pollution cannot be seen, negative visual impacts are clear to the naked eye. The existing negative visual impact is unacceptable, yet Barton Mines is seeking to increase the height of the tailings pile by 100 feet.

It cannot be understated and must be front and center for regulatory agencies that 90% of the materials that Barton Mines removes from the ground is processed and then discarded as waste. The company tells us that just 4% of the material it removes from the ground is high-value "fine" material and

another 7-8% is usable. This is an incredibly destructive process that is slowly tearing apart Ruby Mountain just to remove less than 10% of the material mined. These discarded “waste” materials are causing a negative visual impact.

The proposed measures by Barton Mines fall short of what is needed to mitigate the visual impacts. The existing visual impacts analysis is incomplete.

The NIPA issued by the APA cites that Barton Mines is seeking to increase the tailings pile from 2,275 to 2,375 feet in elevation, which will expand the open face of the tailings area considerably. This alone will make the visual impacts significantly greater for the surrounding community. APA-DEC must consider:

- ☐ The Barton Mines visual impact analysis is inadequate because it seeks to limit the area of the exposed tailings pile to 4.13 acres. APA notes in its NIPA that “the 4.13-acre face view estimate does not account for side slope areas on the east or west nor lateral expansion below 2,275 feet. Given the RM pile is currently located on land designated Resource Management and is proposed to be expanded within the Wilderness Critical Environmental Area, please evaluate other alternatives that could reduce the proposed expansion of the RM pile.” The NIPA also notes “Mining of the southern highwall as proposed would result in the removal of a 2,100 foot forested ridgeline to an elevation of 1,950 feet, increasing the face view visibility of the quarry by an area approximately 150 feet tall by 1,400 feet long, totaling 4.82-acres of potential visibility increase.” These are all factors for which new information is needed and the record needs to be corrected.
- ☐ Many of the pictures provided by Barton Mines in its application are blurry or taken from locations that seek to minimize the impacts of the tailings pile. Regulatory agencies should demand better visual analysis.
- ☐ Barton Mines is also seeking to make considerable changes to the “entrance road” off of County Route 78. Little information is provided in the application about the visual impacts from the reconstruction of this roadway. APA-DEC needs to request and assess a visual impacts assessment of the new roadway.
- ☐ The tree planting plan by Barton Mines is inadequate. First of all, it is a phased activity that falls near the end of the process. The existing visual impacts are unacceptable and there should be tree planting measures required in the short-term to mitigate the impacts of the existing tailings pile. Robust tree growth will go a long way towards mitigating the current negative visual impacts. Towards this end, Barton Mines should be required to undertake a vigorous tree planting program where seedlings and saplings are planted on a reconstructed exposed face of the tailings pile. Barton Mines will need an irrigation program and should be made to monitor tree growth and replant in areas where there is mortality. Any increases in the elevation of the tailings pile should be tied to the success of Barton Mines in reforesting the lower levels. The amount of tailings pile that is exposed and unfor-ested should be absolutely minimized and future elevation increases should be tied to performance standards for revegetation of the lower levels.
- ☐ The NIPA states “that the residual mineral storage area will be reclaimed in a manner consistent with the reports titled ‘Revegetation Testing Program Monitoring, Summer 1998’ and ‘Revegetation Test Program Monitoring, Summer/Fall 1999.’ These materials should be evaluated for their efficacy.
- ☐ The five mile visual impacts rule is inadequate to evaluate impacts in the Adirondack Park. The





*The picture shows the tailings pile at Barton Mines on Ruby Mountain with Thirteenth Lake and the Siamese Ponds Wilderness in the background. The mine is projected to grow to a point where the tailings pile on the mountaintop will be visible from Thirteenth Lake. Such visual intrusions to the Wilderness Area is unacceptable.*

visual impacts of this open pit mountaintop mine on Ruby Mountain are clearly seen from the Gore Mountain Ski Area and Moxham Mountain, two areas that are popular with the public. We agree with the comments of the Friends of Siamese Ponds that “The applicant’s viewshed analysis should include views from the Log House at Garnet Hill Lodge and the remnants of Hooper Mine. The Hooper Mine, a popular destination, may have the most direct visual and audible impacts from mine operations in the Forest Preserve.”

- The Forest Preserve is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. As such, the visual analysis provided by Barton Mines is inadequate to evaluate visual impacts to this historic natural resource area of national importance.
- Additionally, the applicant cites that this expansion will make the mine visible from Thirteenth Lake. This is unacceptable. This mine expansion should not be allowed to destroy the public’s wilderness views and experience from Thirteenth Lake. As mentioned above, the Forest Preserve, including Thirteenth Lake, is part of the National Register of Historic Places.
- The final design of the tailings pile that Barton Mines has submitted needs additional analysis and options. What Barton Mines has submitted looks like a capped industrial facility. It should be the goal of APA-DEC that the final state is that Ruby Mountain looks like an undulating completely forested mountain, like all the other mountains and ridges nearby. The final design should be a property that completely blends in with the surrounding forested landscape of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness area. The applicant must provide different options for how it proposes to achieve these ends.

**Noise Impacts:** One of the greatest impacts, and perhaps the greatest complaint that we hear from local residents, is the near-constant noise coming from the Barton Mine on Ruby Mountain. Long-time local residents tell us that the noise from the mine has grown considerably since the mid-1980s as the mine has moved to 24-hour mining activities. The soundscape of the open pit mountaintop mine on Ruby Mountain has changed considerably and Barton Mine materials say that the mine now has an “amphitheater” effect that projects noise outward from the mine onto the residential community throughout Garnet Hill.

The negative impacts from noise pollution from Barton Mines on the rural quality of life of the Garnet Hill and Essex County Route 78 communities are significant and must be remedied. In addition, the negative impacts from noise pollution from Barton Mines on public Forest Preserve must be remedied. APA-DEC need to strengthen its evaluations of noise impacts.

- The APA’s NIPA identified numerous shortcomings in the Barton Mines noise study. These must all be addressed and new, more accurate data provided by the applicant. The Noise Analysis submitted failed to take measurements at a number of local area residences and businesses through the Garnet Hill community. This study needs to be greatly expanded.
- The application does not provide any information about noise impacts in rural areas. One of the great benefits of life in the Adirondack Park is the quiet that residents and visitors enjoy. For many in the Garnet Hill and Essex County Route 78 communities, living a life with the pleasure of rural quietness is not an option. The mine next door runs 24 hours a day and seven days a week and industrial mining activity noise is a constant presence. APA-DEC need to evaluate noise impacts in a rural landscape.
- The December 2021 letter from the Friends of the Siamese Ponds enumerates a number of issues and deficiencies in the Barton Mines application. These issues should be fully examined by APA-DEC and additional information requested from Barton Mines.
- The noise study submitted by Barton Mines fails to address noise impacts on wildlife adequately. This is especially acute for animals, such as bats and owls, that rely upon noise evaluations to hunt for prey. Neither the APA NIPA or DEC correspondence with the company has adequately raised the issue of noise impacts on wildlife. Specific information is needed about noise impacts on vulnerable birds species in Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area.
- See section “Precedent for Long-Term Monitoring Conditions in an APA Permit” below for how in past APA permits the agency required long-term noise monitoring for a mining operation’s impacts of nearby residences.

**Enclose Industrial Equipment/Operations to Mitigate Noise Impacts:** The APA NIPA and DEC correspondence have not adequately pressed Barton Mines for information on enclosing buildings where industrial equipment operates or building enclosures where there are currently none. The applicant is seeking a massive expansion and should be made to undertake all measures to mitigate negative noise impacts that disrupt the rural quality of life of many dozens of local residents. Building enclosures should be examined for their benefits to help mitigate noise pollution.





*The picture shows the industrial operations at Barton Mines on Ruby Mountain. The conveyor belt from the mine and processing area to the tailings piles runs for 24 hours a day and seven days a week. Barton Mines needs to do much more to mitigate the relentless noise which plagues local residents throughout the Garnet Hill community.*

**Mandatory Blasting Notifications:** Barton Mines is seeking to double or triple the number of blasts per month. The APA NIPA notes “Given the area surrounding the project site is heavily residential to the south and east and includes state land designated Wilderness to the west and north, to ameliorate noise concerns from nearby landowners, please consider amending the blasting plan to exclude blasting on Saturdays.” This response from the APA is inadequate. APA-DEC should require information for how Barton Mines will develop a notification system by email/texts about its blasting schedule with 24-hour and 1-hour notifications. Such schedules have been APA permit requirements in the past and the company should be asked about how it would organize a blasting notification plan. Such a notification plan was done in the NYCO Minerals, Inc. permits (APA Project 96-76) in Lewis, NY.

**Hours of Operation:** The applicant seeks to increase its hours of operation by one hour per day. While this may seem like a minor adjustment, how hours of operation are calculated fails to address the whole issue. Protect the Adirondacks does not see how some mining operations are listed as only allowable during daytime “business” hours, while other industrial activities are somehow exempt for hour/day restrictions and are allowed unfettered 24 hours a day and seven days a week. The APA-DEC must evaluate the “Hours of Operation” issue to include all mining activities.

**24 Hours a Day/Seven Days a Week:** APA-DEC correspondence with Barton Mines notes that mining operations on Ruby Mountain will run 24 hours a day and seven days a week. The APA NIPA states “The

existing operation on the project site operates a mill 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.” Somehow, the 24-hour-7-days-a-week operating schedule is not part of the hours of operation section. We fail to see how only some mine activities are allowable during certain hours, while other activities are in effect, unregulated and continuous. With the applicant seeking a permit for another 75 years of mining activities, negative noise impacts from 24-hour-7-days-a-week operations must be addressed and resolved. It is unacceptable for local residents and the Forest Preserve to have to endure another 75 years of relentless noise pollution from the mine.

The 24-hour mining activities are the source of perhaps the most significant complaints that we hear from local members and residents on Garnet Hill and up and down County Route 78. We hear complaints of grinding unrelenting noise in the middle of the night and on weekends. With mining activities that run 24 hours a day and seven days a week there is no break for local residents.

The continuous mining activities on Ruby Mountain are one of the major changes from mining activities in the mid-1980s. The decision to expand mining activities to 24 hours a day has never been effectively scrutinized for impacts. Neither the APA NIPA or DEC correspondence has questioned the need for, and impacts of, 24-hour-7-day-a-week mining activities. Neither agency has requested information or plans for how the company will mitigate noise impacts from 24-hour-7-day-a-week mining activities.

**Water Quality Impacts:** Many local residents have reported instances and sent us pictures of Thirteenth Brook running white due to debris or effluent from Barton Mines. Local anglers report the loss and degradation of the brook trout fishery in the stream. There needs to be an independent scientific analysis of the stream habitat and water quality of Thirteenth Brook. The company also needs to finance a multi-year study of the streams by an independent scientific institution or agent. Proposed groundwater extraction wells adjacent to Thirteenth Brook may be hydraulically connected to the stream and could have deleterious impacts on stream flows. The APA-DEC should examine this issue and a full hydrology study is necessary.

The APA NIPA fails to require a water quality monitoring study for Thirteenth Brook. The company should undertake a water quality study of its main tributary that leaves the mine at the point just above where it enters Thirteenth Brook, upstream on Thirteenth Brook, and downstream below where the mine tributary enters. This is critical for fully understanding long-term water quality monitoring impacts.

See section “Precedent for Long-Term Monitoring Conditions in an APA Permit” below for how in past APA permits the agency required long-term water quality monitoring for a mining operation’s impacts of associated streams.

**Fugitive Dust and Airborne Particulate:** Residents across the Garnet Hill community report frequent instances of their porches and windows covered with a white dust from the mines. Many of the residences are quite far from the mine, yet they find their property covered with mine dust. Dust plumes emanating from mine operations are frequently observed on area roads and from the Siamese Ponds Wilderness vistas. The potential for airborne respirable silica to impact human health needs to be evaluated.

The APA NIPA is weak on a full evaluation of dust impacts on nearby residences. There needs to be an

independent study of fugitive dust and particulate emanating from the mine and much more stringent mitigation measures put in place. Much more information is needed about how the dust will be controlled during mining activities.

See section “Precedent for Long-Term Monitoring Conditions in an APA Permit” below for how in past APA permits the agency required long-term fugitive dust monitoring for a mining operation’s impacts of nearby residences.

**Truck Traffic:** The application seeks to use both bigger trucks and to use more of them. The company is seeking to double truck traffic on County Route 78. The APA NIPA states “The applicant proposes to reduce its off-site trucking hours from 7am to 10pm, Monday through Friday, to 7am to 5pm, Monday through Friday, and increase the daily truck trips from 5 to 16 per day.” At its maximum operation, that’s one large truck passing (16 round trips = 32 truck passes) a residence on County Route 78 every 18.75 minutes. The application fails to provide a meaningful traffic study or analysis of the condition of County Route 78 to handle this level of truck traffic.

The significant increase in large truck traffic, along with the ongoing impacts from noise pollution and light pollution, are major detriments to the rural quality of life for local residents. Unfortunately, the tripling of truck traffic, and use of bigger trucks, has not been fully addressed by the applicant or the APA-DEC.

**Dark Skies and Light Pollution:** Dark skies are one of the joys of life in Adirondack Park. The mine is often illuminated at night and exports light pollution. The negative impact on dark skies should be assessed as part of the new application. The application remains weak for plans to curb light pollution. The APA NIPA also fails to adequately address this issue. This issue merits greater attention from the APA-DEC.

**Impacts on the Forest Preserve:** Barton Mines borders the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area, one of the grand Wilderness Areas in the Adirondack Forest Preserve. The mine exports fugitive dust and noise onto the Forest Preserve as well as a visual blight. This is unacceptable. The APA must assess the negative impacts to the Forest Preserve from the Barton Mine activities.

The APA NIPA states: “Given the RM pile is currently located on land designated Resource Management and is proposed to be expanded within the Wilderness Critical Environmental Area (CEA), please evaluate other alternatives that could reduce the proposed expansion of the RM pile.” The applicant has not provided alternatives to encroaching on the Forest Preserve. APA-DEC must continue to press the applicant on the importance of remaining outside of the Wilderness CEA.

The APA NIPA also fails to address impacts on the Forest Preserve more broadly. These include visual impacts from Thirteenth Lake and area hiking trails/peaks, noise, dust, and light pollution.

**Climate Change:** Under the 2019 Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), state agencies are mandated to weigh the impact of climate change in their decisions. Section 7(2) of CLCPA requires all State agencies to determine whether their administrative approvals are consistent with the attainment of, or will interfere with the attainment of, the statewide greenhouse gas emission limits in ECL Article 75. If inconsistent, they are required to explain why, and to identify alternatives or mitigation





*The picture shows the location of the Ruby Mountain mountaintop open pit mine surrounded by the Siamese Ponds Wilderness area. This impacts of this mine on the Forest Preserve needs to fully assessed.*

measures. In this case, the directive to the APA from CLCPA is to assess the impacts of forest clearing and climate change impacts from a major industrial mining operation. The application materials fail to address this matter.

Protect the Adirondacks is concerned about the APA's compliance with the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. We urge the APA to detail and quantify the climate change impacts of this project, the steps the APA took to mitigate these impacts, and how the APA has complied with the letter and spirit of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. To date, the APA has failed to take into consideration long-term carbon pollution in its review of major projects.

**Final Closure Design:** In the Barton Mines application, the company wrote "During the final phase of mining, fine-grained residual minerals will be deposited in the northernmost portion of the mine (area that enters the CEA). Once the mined-out area is filled with fines it will be reclaimed with topsoil and vegetation." It is our understanding that state and federal mine lands reclamation laws govern the final disposition of the Ruby Mountain mine. We have included aerial pictures of the former Barton Mine near Gore Mountain where, apparently, no such laws governed the final disposition of those lands. These pictures show open strip mines and unrestored/reforested tailings piles. Given that the company did relatively little to properly close its former mine, we're hopeful that state agencies will be vigilant to ensure quality restoration and reforestation of the Ruby Mountain mine.





*The picture shows the former Barton Mine. Note that the open pit and tailings piles have never been reclaimed or restored. This mine pre-dated the Mine Lands Reclamation Act.*

**Precedent for Long-Term Monitoring Conditions in an APA Permit:** In the late 1990s NYCO Minerals, Inc. went through a joint APA-DEC official adjudicatory public hearing. At that time, NYCO minerals operated a mine on Seventy Mountain, sought a new mine on Oak Hill, and operated a trucking route from the mines in Lewis to the processing plant in Willsboro. This is similar to the Barton Mines operation on Ruby Mountain and its factory on the banks of the Hudson River.

A community group intervened in the public hearing, as did one of the groups that merged to form Protect the Adirondacks. The active participation from local residents was successful in a number of permit conditions that should be used as a model for the new APA permit for Barton Mines. These includes measures to monitor and limit noise, set hours of operation, water quality monitoring, noise monitoring, a citizens council that is provided with information, among many other measures to mitigate negative impacts on the rural residential quality of life.

Since the late 1990s, the APA has changed its permit form and limited permit conditions in recent years. Protect the Adirondack believes that a number of permit conditions in APA Project 96-76 serve as a template for the way that a new permit for Barton Mines should be structured in the event one is issued. Here are highly relevant examples for the APA staff to investigate:

For "Water Quality" APA permit 96-76 (9c) states, in part:

The applicant shall monitor the water quality of Patterson and Derby Brooks at two points at each brook on or adjoining the applicant's property, one point upstream of the mine and the second point downstream of the mine. Each point selected by the applicant to be monitored shall receive written approval from the Agency prior to commencement of any pre-production operations authorized by this permit. The water shall be incidentally sampled and analyzed prior to commencing operations and at least once a year thereafter during July or August when the mine is being operated at or near full capacity for evidence of changes in water turbidity; B.O.D.; alkalinity; pH; bacterial (including coliform) and chloride content; total suspended solids, conductivity, settleable solids, and ammonia nitrogen.

The applicant shall submit a report of its findings, including the methods used, an interpretation of the data, and the persons and firms performing the analysis, to the Agency within 30 days of its initial testing and once a year thereafter. If, in the opinion of the Agency, there exists evidence of significant deterioration in water quality caused by applicant's operations, such that human health or aquatic life may be threatened, the Agency shall require the applicant to submit for approval and implementation a plan to rectify such threats. (p 47-48)

Certainly the water quality of Thirteenth Brook should be monitored by Barton Mines. The APA-DEC need to set up an independent water quality monitoring program for Thirteenth Brook to evaluate possible impacts from Barton Mines. The APA has done this before with other projects and this action is merited in APA project 2021-245.

For "Noise" APA permit 96-76 (7a, b) states, in part:

Except for noise generated by blasting, development activities on the project site shall be undertaken so as to limit the one hour equivalent noise level (Leg) emanating from the site to 57 dBA as measured at the residences located on tax map parcels 46.21-36.00, 46-2-141.000, 47.1-1-1.120, 46.2-1-35.0W and 46.2-1-43.0W. After site development activities are completed, all activities on the project site (except for noise generated by blasting) shall be undertaken so as to limit the one hour equivalent noise level (Leg) emanating from the site to 54 dBA at these five residences) These residences are shown on Hearing Exhibit 106G.

The following is a protocol for the measurement of outdoor sound levels at properties surrounding the Oak Hill mine. (p 39)

One reasonable permit condition is an independent noise monitoring paid for by Barton Mines developed jointly through some form of advisory group of local residents and Barton Mines. The APA-DEC need to set up an independent noise monitoring program for the surrounding Garnet Hill community. The APA has done this before with other projects and this action is merited in APA project 2021-245.

For "Fugitive Dust" APA permit 96-76 (8b) states, in part:

1) Pollutants to be monitored - Monitoring shall be conducted for particulate matter with a diameter of less than 10 micrometers (PM<sub>10</sub>).

2) Type of monitor - Monitoring shall be conducted using the DataRam<sup>0</sup> Real-Time Aerosol

Monitor. If the applicant believes other equivalent monitoring equipment should be used, it shall first obtain approval of the Agency.

3) Monitoring sites - The monitoring sites shall be those specified in Hearing Exhibit 106G. Subject to equipment availability, monitoring shall be conducted simultaneously at all three monitoring sites.

The exact location at each monitoring site shall be determined in conformance with good monitoring practice such that the sampling device *is* not obstructed with respect to air flow from the major sources on the NYCO property and is representative of the ambient air conditions at the site location. In the event that monitors cannot be operated at these locations, alternative representative sites will be chosen with the concurrence of the Agency. (p 44)

One reasonable permit condition is independent fugitive dust monitoring paid for by Barton Mines developed jointly through some form of advisory group of local residents and Barton Mines. The APA-DEC need to set up an independent fugitive dust monitoring program for the surrounding Garnet Hill community. The APA has done this before with other projects and this action is merited in APA project 2021-245.

**Conclusion:** Barton Mines is a longstanding mining operation and processing plant in the Town of Johnsbury, operating for more than 100 years. In much of that time they operated as a good neighbor with area residents. But something has changed. The mine appears to be bulging at the seams and is now causing major negative impacts on the quality of life of local residents. The new APA permit, which will likely govern mine operations for decades to come, must take into consideration these negative impacts and develop a permit that protects the environment and residential rural quality of life of neighboring property owners. Unfortunately, Barton Mines has not been forthcoming with information with neighboring landowners and has taken an aggressive position to dismiss their concerns.

As a regulatory agency, the APA needs to serve as a honest broker in this project review process. The APA needs to fully assess this project. This project is highly controversial and ripe for an official adjudicatory public hearing.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Protect the Adirondacks, please let me express our gratitude for the opportunity to submit these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Peter Bauer", with a stylized, flowing script.

Peter Bauer,  
Executive Director

B. Rice, NYS APA  
C. Cooper, NYS APA





**Board of Directors**

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Dale Jeffers  
Mark Lawton  
John Nemjo  
Peter O'Shea  
Philip Terrie  
Chris Walsh

Peter Bauer  
**Executive Director**

Christopher Amato  
**Conservation Director  
and Counsel**

November 22, 2022

John M. Burth  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Beth Magee  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 5  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

**RE: Comments on Visual Impact Assessment for APA  
Project 2021-245: Barton Mines Expansion, Town of  
Johnsburg, Warren County**

Dear Mr. Burth and Ms. Magee:

Protect the Adirondacks ("PROTECT") submits these comments concerning the Visual Impacts Analysis ("VIA") prepared by H2H Geoscience Engineering, PLLC for the proposed expansion by Barton Mines Corporation, LLC ("Barton") of the Ruby Mountain Mine in the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County. PROTECT's comments on the VIA are fully set forth in the attached report prepared by Dr. Richard Smardon. Dr. Smardon is a Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse, New York, where he has taught for over 36 years. He is a certified environmental professional with over 40 years of experience in visual impact assessments, and has written three professional reference books on the subject. These comments supplement PROTECT's prior submissions in June 2021 and July 2022 concerning the proposed mine expansion.

As explained in the attached expert report, Barton's VIA is seriously flawed because (i) it does not include two publicly accessible viewpoints on Forest Preserve lands and one publicly accessible viewpoint on private lands (Garnet Hill Lodge) with existing views of the mining operations; (ii) it fails to consider the industrial machinery and heavy duty motor vehicles that are visible at and near the summit of the residual materials ("RM") pile; (iii) it fails to include key simulations and cross sections to

**Protect the Adirondacks**

PO Box 48, North Creek, NY 12853 · 518.251.2700

[www.protecttheadirondacks.org](http://www.protecttheadirondacks.org) · [info@protectadks.org](mailto:info@protectadks.org)

*Follow Us on Twitter @ProtectAdkPark & Like Us on Facebook*

address visual impacts of the proposed mining operation expansion phases; (iv) it fails to quantify the severity or significance of the visual impacts of the mine expansion as required by agency guidance for assessment of visual impacts; (v) the proposed measures to mitigate visual impacts are not adequately detailed or explained; and (vi) it fails to address the visual impacts from blasting and wind-blown dust.

We ask that the Adirondack Park Agency and the Department of Environmental Conservation require Barton to remedy the serious deficiencies in the VIA so that the full visual impacts of the existing mine and the proposed expansion may be addressed.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Protect the Adirondacks, please let me express our gratitude for the opportunity to submit these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Amato".

Christopher Amato  
Conservation Director and Counsel  
**Protect** the Adirondacks! Inc.  
P.O. Box 48  
North Creek, NY 12853  
Office: (518) 251-2700  
Cell: (518) 860-3696

Hon. Robert D. Mayberger  
Clerk of the Court  
Appellate Division, Third Department  
P.O. Box 7288, Capitol Station  
Albany, New York 12224

**Re: Thomas Jorling v. N.Y.S. Adirondack Park Agency  
Case 533913**

Dear Mr. Mayberger:

As requested by the Court, enclosed please find the original and five separately bound copies of the Brief of *Amicus Curiae* Protect the Adirondacks! Inc., together with an Attorney's Affirmation of Service.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Amato", written in a cursive style.

Christopher Amato  
Conservation Director and Counsel  
Protect the Adirondacks! Inc.  
P.O. Box 48  
North Creek, NY 12853  
Office: (518) 251-2700  
Cell: (518) 860-3696

# **REPORT ON BARTON MINES VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

## **by Richard Smardon MLA PhD CEP**

### **Introduction**

This report has been prepared at the request of Protect the Adirondacks! Inc. to evaluate a Visual Impact Assessment (VIA”) submitted by Barton Mines Corporation, LLC (Barton) as part of applications to the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) and the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for the proposed expansion of Barton’s Ruby Mountain Mine located in the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County, New York in the Adirondack Park. The VIA was prepared by H2H Geoscience Engineering, PLLC in June 2021.<sup>1</sup> This report is based upon review of the VIA and a site visit conducted on November 4, 2022. My education and professional experience and qualifications are set forth in the curriculum vitae attached as Appendix F to this report.

As discussed in detail below, the VIA is seriously flawed because it does not include two publicly accessible viewpoints on Forest Preserve lands and one publicly accessible viewpoint on private lands (Garnet Hill Lodge) with existing views of the mining operations. In addition, the VIA does not consider the industrial machinery and motor vehicles that are visible at and near the summit of the RM pile. The VIA also fails to include key simulations and cross sections to address visual impacts of the proposed mining operation expansion phases. In addition, the VIA fails to quantify the severity or significance of the visual impacts of the mine expansion, and the proposed measures to mitigate visual impacts are not adequately detailed or explained. Finally, the VIA fails to address the visual impacts from blasting and wind-blown dust.

### **Proposed Permit Modifications**

The project is a proposed expansion of Barton’s Ruby Mountain Mine in the Town of Johnsburg in Warren County. Barton is seeking to expand its mining operations from 194.5 acres to 267 acres and to raise the elevation of its tailings/debris piles (the Residual Material pile, or “RM pile”) by 100 feet by completion of Phase Four of the mine expansion. Barton proposes to double the footprint of the RM pile from 67 to 130 acres and increase the height of the RM pile from 2,275 feet Above Mean Sea Level (AMSL) to 2,375 ASML. Barton states this will expand the mine face view by approximately 4.13 acres (APA 2021). According to APA NIPA comments, the 4.13-acre face view estimate does not account for side slope areas on the east or west nor lateral expansion below 2,275 feet. The quarry will more than double, from 27 to 68 acres.

The proposed expansion is to occur in four phases:

Phase 1- expand the RM pile north and south of its current location.

Phase 2- expand the RM pile by 70% around the perimeter with concurrent 100-foot lifts with topsoil and vegetation which is meant to reduce visibility from higher elevations.

Phase 3- raise the RM pile elevation to 2,310 feet with concurrent 100-foot lifts with topsoil and

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<sup>1</sup> H2H Geoscience Engineering, PLLC, Visual Impact Assessment, Barton Mines, Town of Johnsburg Warren County New York, NYS DEC Mine Permit #5-5230-00002/00002 Mine File #50483, APA Permit No. P79-140, P70-356, P87-39, P87-39A, P87-39B, P88-393, P88-393A.



vegetation.

Phase 4- raise the RM pile elevation to 2,375 feet with concurrent 100-foot lifts with topsoil and vegetation and expand the quarry highwall to the south. The quarry highwall is the operating face of the mine from which material is removed.

In addition, in Phase 4 there will be forest, soil and, rock removal for the expansion southward of the quarry highwall along 2,100 feet of forested ridgeline, which will increase the face view of the quarry to 150 feet vertical by 1,400 foot horizontal, totaling 4.82 acres.

### **Summary of DEC and APA Guidance for VIAs**

DEC guidance (NYS DEC 2000) specifies that VIAs must include an inventory of scenic resources in the project area; a visual assessment utilizing viewshed delineation with line-of-sight (or digital computer GIS) from receptor to the project; an assessment of the potential significance of the impacts; and proposed measures for mitigating visual impacts. This guidance applies to all projects reviewed by both the APA and the DEC.

The APA also has specific guidance for preparation of visual impact assessments (APA undated). The APA guidance requires an applicant to (i) delineate viewsheds from the introduced structure's (in this case the RM pile and quarry face) location on a topographic map with foreground, middleground and background view areas on the map plus all publicly accessible use areas; (ii) delineate line of sight profiles on the map; (iii) prepare separate and scaled line of sight profiles for each transect showing existing topography, public use areas and overall height of the proposed structure (RM Pile and quarry face); (iv) delineate by shading all areas on the map within a five-mile radius where the proposed structure would be visible based on topography; (v) assess the nature and extent of the structure's visibility from each identified public use area, documenting any screening by intervening vegetation, buildings, or other feature; and (vi) delineate on a map all public use areas and portions of those areas where the proposed structure will be visible, including the duration of visibility from roads and trails.

### **Summary of Barton's VIA Findings**

The methodology set forth in the VIA generally follows the APA guidance. The VIA describes the current mine viewshed and proposed viewshed utilizing GIS topography, and the VIA identifies potential view receptors with use of existing data sources for historic roadways, surface water features, trails, scenic vistas, and other public use areas, including some potential viewshed receptors within a five-mile viewshed radius. H2H did field photography on December 11, 2020, from 16 different receptors approved by APA staff. Eight weather balloons were used to simulate the RM pile visibility, and photographs were taken with 55mm, 85mm and 105mm camera lenses. Based on the field photography, the VIA concludes the following in terms of visibility the RM pile from public areas:

- The RM pile is currently visible from County Route 78 (Thirteenth Lake Road); it is partially visible at 1.2 miles for 7 to 9 seconds and at 0.7 mile for 24 to 32 seconds.
- The edge of the active quarry area will become visible from the eastern shore of

Thirteenth Lake (.Note: Photo location 4 is designated as a campsite at Elizabeth Point.)

- The RM pile and the quarry are visible from the summit of Gore Mountain but are screened from the Schaefer trail on Gore Mountain by vegetation.

Thus, the VIA concludes, based on field photography with the balloon visibility test, that the only publicly accessible areas where the RM pile or quarry are visible are , two stretches of Route 78, and one location on Gore Mountain. The VIA also concludes that if the proposed expansion occurs the mine will become visible from the eastern shore of Thirteenth Lake.

H2H constructed visual simulations from four viewpoints for each of the four phases of RM pile expansion and for the quarry expansion in Phase Four. These simulations included (i) simulations from two locations on the eastern shore of Thirteenth Lake; (ii) simulations from Thirteenth Lake Road; and (iii) simulations from the summit of Gore Mountain.

Line-of-sight profiles were provided for only three of the four major viewpoint receptor locations identified by H2H; there was no line of sight profile provided for the Thirteenth Lake viewpoint. The line-of-sight profiles, combined with the location data of the visual simulation viewpoints, illustrate the degree of visibility of the project from these viewpoints.

### **Barton's Proposed Mitigation Measures**

The measures proposed in the VIA to mitigate visual impacts include delaying mine expansion, phased and concurrent reclamation, and modifications to the RM pile design. The delayed mine expansion would extend the timelines for each of the four mining phases but would not mitigate the eventual visual impact. The phased concurrent reclamation would create 100-foot bench earthen structures on the RM pile which will be vegetated in order to mitigate visual impacts from the pile. The VIA claims that modification to the RM pile design will alter the final shape of the RM pile to mimic the local topography in order to mitigate visual impacts, but the visual renderings show a flat-top mound at mine closure.

### **Analysis of Barton's VIA**

As discussed in detail below, the VIA is seriously flawed because it does not include two publicly accessible viewpoints on Forest Preserve lands and one publicly accessible viewpoing on private lands (Garnet Hill Lodge) with existing views of the mining operations. In addition, the VIA does not consider the industrial machinery and motor vehicles that are visible at and near the summit of the RM pile in its assessment. The VIA also fails to include key simulations and cross sections to address visual impacts of the proposed mining operation expansion phases. In addition, the VIA fails to quantify the severity or significance of the visual impacts of the mine expansion, and the proposed measures to mitigate visual impacts are not adequately detailed or explained. The VIA also fails to address the visual impacts of blasting and wind-blown dust.

### **The Analysis is Incomplete**

There are several potential visual impacts not addressed in the VIA. The proposed modifications to the mine entrance road are not evaluated for an increase in visibility of mining operations. The

VIA also fails to consider the visual impacts from fugitive particulate matter (*i.e.* dust) generated from mine operations, including blasting, wind entrainment from RM piles RM conveyor operation and truck traffic. In addition, the VIA's assessment of visual impacts fails include the heavy machinery (*e.g.* tall conveyors) and heavy duty trucks typically located at or near the crest of the pile, thus increasing the the visibility of the RM pile and changing the impact to be more industrial in nature.

### Failure to Include Sensitive Receptors

The APA and DEC visual impact assessment guidance require that visual impacts be evaluated from all publicly accessible roads and trails. The VIA identified several Forest Preserve hiking trails, but none were included as viewpoint receptors. Some of these are sensitive publicly accessible receptors that should have been included in the VIA, such as the Hooper Mine trail and the Balm of Gilead Mountain trail in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area (*see* Appendix A) and the Moxham Mountain trail in the Vanderwhacker Mountain Wild Forest (*see* Appendix B.) The photos taken in Appendix A and Appendix B depict the optimum viewpoints from which visual simulations and cross sections should have been done to properly address visual impacts from these key publicly accessible viewpoints. In addition, the sensitive publicly accessible receptor at Garnet Hill Lodge was not included in the VIA.

The VIA fails to include crucial information about whether the balloons were at the maximum height of 2,375 feet AMSL during the visual assessment or whether wind conditions affected the height or visibility of the balloons. Some of the photos have poor light quality and are therefore not representative of visual conditions during bright days. In addition, the VIA fails to state whether visual impacts at the four receptors are year-round or seasonal visibility, and the number of people who may experience those impacts was not provided. This is important information that is required by the APA and DEC visual impact guidance.

### Inadequate Visual Simulation

The visual simulations in the VIA are flawed or deficient in several respects, as described below, resulting in an inadequate and inaccurate assessment of the project's visual impacts.

The visual simulations built from the Thirteenth Lake eastern shore photo do not provide an adequate simulation of visual impacts from the lake. The Thirteenth Lake simulations should have been based on photos from the middle of the lake which, as noted above, is heavily used by the public and has a much clearer line of sight to the mine than the eastern shore (*see* Appendix D).

The VIA simulations from County Route 78 (Thirteenth Lake Road) are flawed because of the darkness of the original inventory photos. The poor lighting in the original photos results in -the simulations only showing the shape of the ridgeline alternation, with no color or textural detail. As shown in Appendix C, the RM material is very light in color and thus creates a stark visual contrast with the existing darker vegetation cover. The simulations thus fail to accurately represent the visual impacts from Thirteenth Lake Road. The simulations from Gore Mountain are also flawed due to hazy atmospheric conditions when the original inventory photos were taken, making it difficult to see the mine site. In addition, the VIA fails to state whether the full southern build-out of the mine headwall planned for Phase 4 was utilized in producing the simulation.

The VIA is also deficient by failing to include simulations from the Hooper Mine trail (Appendix A) in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area and Moxham Mountain in the Vanderwhacker Mountain Wild Forest (Appendix B), both of which are important publicly accessible receptors which, according to APA and DEC guidance, should have been included in the assessment of visual impacts.

The VIA does not explain how the simulations were created. This usually involves digitally locating the original photographs on a GIS data base; constructing a 3D model of the mine in all four phases of expansion; locating each of these on a wire frame on the photograph in correct perspective and elevation; and rendering in the topographic landform changes and deletions of vegetative cover. The underlying data was not provided, thereby denying the public the opportunity to independently evaluate the assumptions used.

### Inadequate Vertical Profiles

The VIA does not include digital terrain models or profiles addressing visibility from the either the middle or east shore of Thirteenth Lake. This is a critical omission because the southern expansion of the mine highwall during Phase 4 will be visible from the lake. Also, line of sight profiles should have been done for the Hooper Mine trail (Appendix A) which is approximately 6,000 feet from the mine site and Moxham Mountain (Appendix B) which is approximately six miles from the mine. These are important publicly accessible hiking trails from which the RM pile expansion and active quarry are visible.

In addition, the VIA only addresses only the visibility of expanded mining operations and fails to consider the severity or significance of visual impacts as required by the DEC guidelines, NYSDEC (2000).

### Visual Mitigation Issues

The VIA fails to provide sufficient detail on the phased concurrent reclamation measures, including how the 100-foot lifts are to be constructed; how the proposed vegetation will be planted and maintained; and which plant species will be utilized and the survivability of these species over time under Adirondack weather conditions. The VIA should also include information on rock residual material weathering to reduce visual color contrast.

Although the VIA states that more natural contours for the RM pile design will be used to mitigate visual impacts, the simulations only show a bench-like final ridgeline shape, which is inconsistent with the adjacent natural topography. The actual ridgeline designs are not shown, and it is unclear how they would reduce visual impacts. In addition, as noted in the APA (2021) permit application review, the final RM pile elevation does not account for expansion of the side slope areas to the east and west, which may result in more reduction of screening ridgeline screening vegetation. To address these issues, alternative RM pile designs should be described, simulated from key viewpoints, and evaluated.

Mitigation measures to control blowing dust need to be described. Appendix E are photos showing the dust plume from the mine on a typically windy day, which creates much more visibility on the

ridge line of the RM pile.

## References

Adirondack Park Agency. November 16. 2021. Notice of Incomplete Permit Application APA Project Number 2021-0245. Adirondack Park Agency, Ray Brook, NY 7 pp. (especially project description and visual impacts).

Adirondack Park Agency. Undated. Visual Analysis Methodology. Adirondack Park Agency, Ray Brook, NY

H2H Geoscience Engineering, PLLC. 2021. Visual Impact Assessment Barton Mine, Town of Johnsburg Warren County New York, NYS DEC Mine Permit #5-5230-0002/0002 Mine File #50483 by H2H Geoscience Engineering, PLLC, Troy, NY

NYS DEC. 2000. Assessing and Mitigating Visual Impacts, DEP-00-2 NYS DEC, Albany NY.

## Bartın Mine VIA Review Appendix A



Figure 1: Entry point for trail to Hooper Mine in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area. Photo by R. Smardon taken on November 4, 2022. According to Garnet Hill Association owner there are up to 30 hikers using the trail on a busy day in the summer



Figure 2: View NW of both the RM pile and mine from Hooper mine in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area Photo by R. Smardon November 4, 2022. Note one can see both the RM pile as well as the mine face



## Bartın Mine VIA Review Appendix B

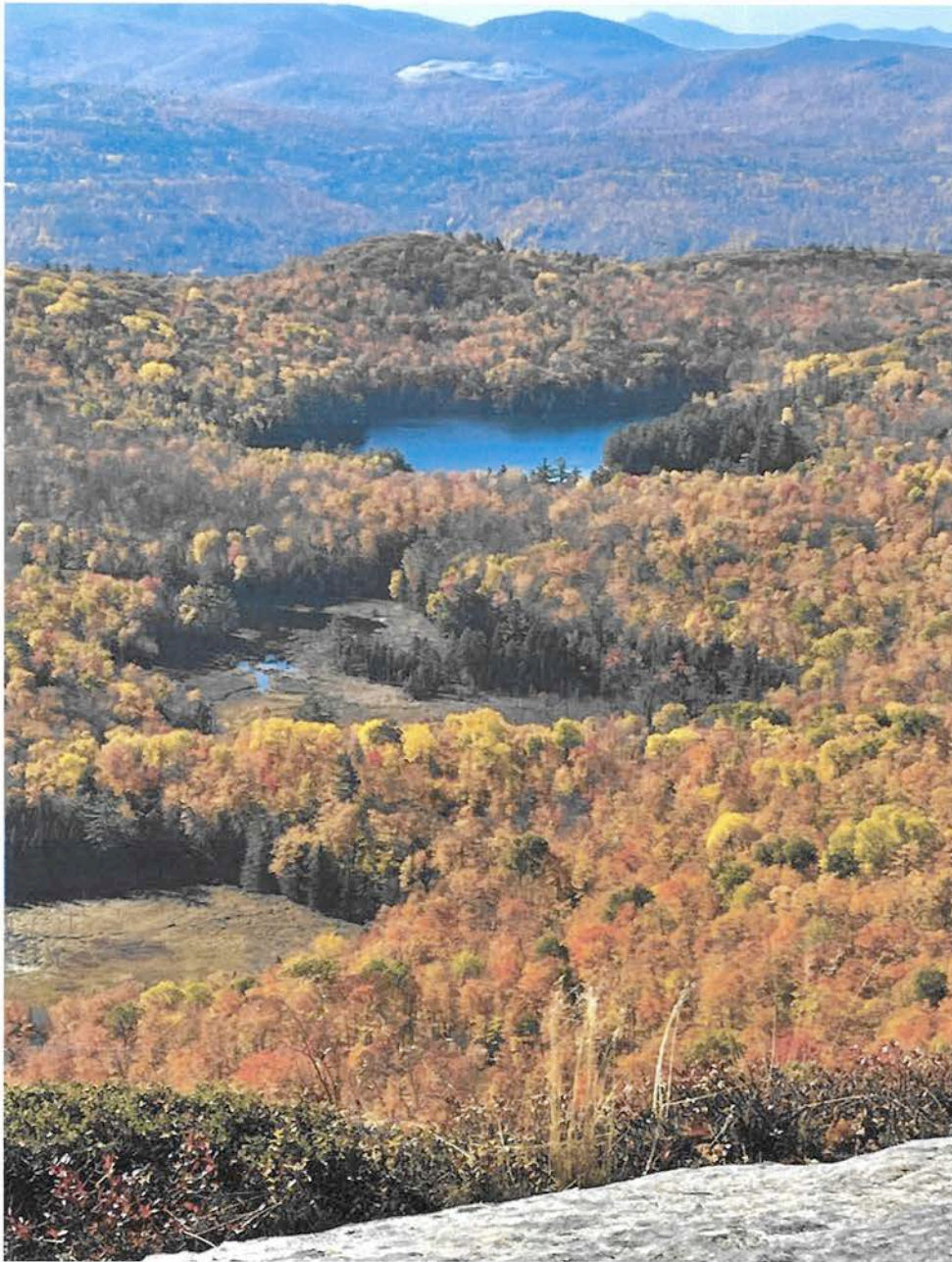


Figure 3: Viewpoint of the mine taken from Moxham Mountain clearly showing the mine face and residual materials pile.

## Bartın Mine VIA Review Appendix C



Figure 4: View SW on Route 78 Thirteenth Lake Rd showing the RM pile along the central ridge which is clearly visible



Figure 5: View from the McCabe residence just off Route 78 to the west clearly showing the high contrast of the RM pile material.



## Bartın Mine VIA Review Appendix D



Figure 6: View North from the Thirteenth Lake Association launch point which should have been taken from the middle of the lake Photo by R. Smardon November 4, 2022. According to Joanne Strongin Thirteenth Lake Garnet Hill Property Owners Association President -there are 183 boats owned by 90 members who launch from this point into the lake with heavy use months being July, August September and October which would justify a visual simulation from the middle of the lake. Users include property owners, renters, and Garnet Hill Lodge Guests

## Bartın Mine VIA Review Appendix E



Figures 6 and 7 illustrating dust from RM pile operations affecting visibility. Photos taken by Alan Belenz taken on November 7 from the McCain Residence and Thirteenth Lake Road respectively illustrating the amount of dust coming off the conveyor belt off-loading dust on the residual material pile

## APPENDIX F

**Curriculum Vitae**  
**RICHARD C. SMARDON, PhD**

**Present Position/Affiliations**

Professor, Dept. of Environmental Studies and SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus  
College of Environmental Science and Forestry, SUNY, Syracuse

**Education**

1970 University of Massachusetts; BS in Environmental Design; cum laude  
1973 University of Massachusetts; Master's in landscape architecture  
1982 University of California; Ph.D. in Environmental Planning

**Work Experience**

1972-73	Environmental Planner/Landscape Architect with Wallace, Floyd, Ellenzweig, Inc., Cambridge, MA
1973-75	Associate Planner, Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Boston, MA
1974-75	Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Forestry and Wildlife Management, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA
1975-76	Environmental Impact Assessment Specialist, USDA Extension Service, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR
1976	Sea Grant Trainee, Institute for Urban & Regional Development, University of California, Berkeley, CA
1977	Landscape Architect, USDA Pacific Southwest Forest & Range Experiment Station, Berkeley, CA
1977-79	Post-Graduate Research Landscape Architect, Department of Landscape Architecture, University of California, Berkeley, CA
1979-82	Research Associate, School of Landscape Architecture, College of Environmental Science & Forestry, SUNY, Syracuse, NY
1980-82	Environmental Planner, US Geological Survey, Intermittent Faculty position, Syracuse, NY
1980-88	Associate, The Graduate Program in Environmental Science, ESF-SUNY, Syracuse, NY
1981-83	Chief Technical Consultant, Ecology Compliance Ltd., Syracuse, NY
1982-89	Senior Research Associate, Faculty of Landscape Architecture, ESF-SUNY, Syracuse, NY
1986-87	Coordinator for the Graduate Program in Research, Faculty of Environmental Studies
1986-1997	Director, Institute for Environmental Policy and Planning
1986-2007	Co-Director, Great Lakes Research Consortium
1988-99	Intermittent Research Scientist, US Corps of Engineers, Waterways Exp. Station
1989-	Appointed by the Governor of New York to the Great Lakes Advisory Council
1991-97	Associate Professor, Faculty of Environmental Studies
1997	Professor, Faculty of Environmental Studies
1998-2007	Chair, Faculty of Environmental Studies
1998-2007	Director, Randolph G. Pack Environmental Institute
	Co-Director Division of Environmental Science and
	Director Graduate Program in Environmental Science
2008-2013	Professor of Environmental Studies
2013-2015	SUNY Distinguished Service Professor

**Activities/Memberships Awards**

1971	Life Member, Alpha Zeta Honorary Agricultural Fraternity
1972	Certificate of Honor for Excellence in the Study of Landscape Architecture, ASLA
1977	Design Award Recipient, Design and Environment Magazine
	Beatrice Farrand Fund Award for Ph.D. Dissertation Support

**Activities/Memberships Awards (continued)**

1979	Honorary Discharge, Captain, U.S. Army Reserve
1981	Sigma Lambda Alpha Landscape Architectural Honor Society
1981	Editorial Board Member, Northeastern Environmental Science Journal
1981	Member, Landscape Research Group (England)
1982	<i>Coastal Zone Management Journal</i> Reviewer and Special Issue Editor
1985	UUP Professional Development Award
1985	Transportation Research Board-NAS, Committee on Environmental Design and Landscape
1985-1990	Technical Advisory Board - Wetlands Research, Inc. (Chicago)
1985-1990	Advisory Board - Wetlands Fund (New York)
1987-1995	Advisory Board - Great Lakes Program, SUNY at Buffalo Board Member, Landscape Research Group (UK)
1980-1990	Editorial Board Journal of <i>Landscape and Urban Planning</i>
1991	Who's Who in the East
1991	CHP40 Community Leadership Practicum named by the Collaborative for Community Service and Development as an outstanding program model of community service in higher education
1992-1995	3rd continued appointment to NRC-TRB's Committee on Environmental Design and Landscape
1992	Who's Who Environmental Registry
1992	Progressive Architecture Award in Public Practice for work on Third Chicago Airport.
1992-	Who's Who in the East
1992-	Who's Who in Education
1992-	Who's Who in Science and Engineering
1993-	Who's Who in America
1993-1994	World Biographical Review
2000-2008	Editorial Board of <i>Environmental Science and Policy</i>
2008- 2011	Editorial Board of <i>ScientificWorld</i> (electronic Journal)
2006-	Editorial Board of <i>Journal of International Asian Environmental Science</i>
2007-2011	Chair of Environmental Research and Studies Group, National Association of Environmental Professionals
2009	Presidents Leadership Award – National Association of Environmental Professionals
2013	SUNY Distinguished Service Professor
2014	Editorial Board member for the journal <i>Water</i>
2015	Associate Book Review Editor <i>Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences</i>
2018	Editorial board member Journal of <i>Urban Planning</i>
2019	Editorial board member for journal <i>Land</i>
2019	Book editor for the <i>Landscape Journal</i>

**International Guest lectures**

Madrid Polytechnic, Ingenieros de Montanes, 1980 & 1986  
 CHIEAM, Short Courses in Zaragoza, Spain 1985 & 1987  
 Athens Polytechnic, Greece, 1989  
 Milan Polytechnic, Italy, 1992  
 Paris-Sorbonne, France, 1998  
 Goettingen University, Germany, 2003  
 Elphinstone College, Mumbai, India, 2006  
 Taipei, Taiwan 2008 and 2011(4 colleges)  
 University of Chile, Santiago, Forestry Division 2010 & 2012  
 University at Vitoria-Gasteiz Spain 2009 & 2011

**External Environmental Program Reviews**

Montclair State University, Doctoral program in Environmental management – 2002  
 St. Thomas College, Houston, Texas, Environmental Studies/Science programs – 2002  
 University of New Hampshire, Environmental Studies Program - 2004  
 Duquesne University Environmental Science and Management program - 2006



Pomona College Environmental Analysis Program – 2007  
 Ryerson University, Masters and Proposed Ph.D. in Env. Mgmt – 2008  
 Ithaca College, undergraduate Environmental Studies Program - 2008 & 2013  
 University of Maryland Univ. College, Masters in Env. Mgmt. – 2008  
 Bard College, Masters in Climate Change policy and Science – 2010  
 Salisbury State College, Maryland Environmental Studies program - 2011  
 Hobart & William Smith Colleges BA in Environmental Studies - 2012

### **Academic Committees and Task Forces**

1980-2015      **Major professor** to 128 graduate students including 28 PhD's.

#### **College-Wide**

1981-82      Served on Working Group on Instructional, Research and  
                  Financial Resources for Middle States College Accreditation  
 1981-82      Chair of Search for Director of the Graduate Program in Environmental Science  
 1982-83      Appointed to the Advisory Committee on Allegheny State Park Research  
 1984-85      Appointed to School of Landscape Architecture Dean Search Committee  
 1985          Blue Ribbon College Reorganization Committee to the President  
 1985          Environmental Policy Coordinator for Institute for Environmental Program Affairs  
 1986-87      Appointed Task Force on the Graduate Education and Research Initiative  
 1986-          Appointed Director, Institute for Environmental Policy and Planning  
 1986-87      Appointed to two Environmental and Forest Biology Search Committees  
 1988-          Public Service Committee  
 1990-92      Sussman Fund Coordinator for SUNY/ESF  
 1990          EPA National Environmental Management Study Coordinator for SUNY/ESF  
 1991          Middle States Accreditation Review Public Service Task Force  
 1997-98      College Public Service Committee Chair  
 2003          Committee on instruction, academic quality chair  
 2007          Committee on Public Service  
 2007          Faculty search committee for Construction Mgmt & Wood Products Engineering – green construction  
                  position  
 2008          Middle States Review Planning Committee

#### **SUNY-Wide**

1982              Invited to review Faculty Incentive Grant proposals for the  
                  Research Foundation, State University of New York  
 1986-2007      Co-Director Great Lakes Research Consortium  
 1987              Sea Grant Research Advisory Committee  
 2011-2012      SUNY Faculty Senate committee on research and graduate studies\_ including developing and  
                  conducting a SUNY wide program for sustainability research development May 2012 to now  
 2012              Reviewer for SUNY Research Foundation Collaborative Grant Program  
 2013              Appointed as SUNY Distinguished Service Professor

### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### **Books and Book Chapters**

Smardon, R.C. 1975. Assessing visual-cultural values of inland wetlands. In **Landscape Assessment: Value, Perceptions and Resources**, E. H. Zube, R. O. Brush and J. Gy. Fabos (Eds.) Dowden, Hutchinson and Ross, Inc., Stroudsburg, PA, pp. 289-318 (peer reviewed).

Smardon, R.C. 1979. Visual-cultural values of wetlands. In **Wetland Functions and Values: The State of Our Understanding**, P. Gresson, J.R. Clark and J. Clark (Eds.) American Water Resources Association, Minneapolis, MN, pp. 535-544 (peer reviewed).

Smardon, R.C. (Ed.) 1983. **The Future of Wetlands; Assessing Visual-cultural Values**. Allenheld-Osmun, Publishers, Totowa, NJ, 226 p. Available at <http://www.esf.edu/via>

- Smardon, R.C. 1983. State of the art in assessing visual-cultural values, pp. 5-16 In **The Future of Wetlands...**
- Smardon, R.C. 1983. Wetland policy and visual-cultural values in the United States, pp. 17-24 In **The Future of Wetlands...**
- Smardon, R.C. and J. Gy. Fabos. 1983. A model for assessing visual-cultural values of wetlands: a Massachusetts case study, pp. 149-170 In **The Future of Wetlands...**
- Smardon, R.C. with M. Hunter. 1983. Procedures and methods for wetland and coastal area visual impact assessment (VIA), pp. 171-206 In **The Future of Wetlands...**
- Smardon, R.C., N. R. Feimer, K.H. Craik and S.R.J. Sheppard. 1983. Evaluating the effectiveness of observer based visual impact assessment methods for the Western U.S. In **Managing Air Quality and Visual Resources at National Parks and Wilderness areas**, R. D. Rowe and L.G. Chestnut (Eds.) Westview Press, Boulder, pp. 84-102 (peer reviewed).
- Pease, J.R. and R.C. Smardon. 1984. The Scoping concept and citizen involvement: an opportunity for rejuvenating NEPA. In **From Checklists to Social Choice: Enhancing the Scientific Quality and Usability of Environmental Assessments**, S. L. Hart, G. A. Enk, with J.J. Gordon and P. Pereault (Eds.) Westview Press, Boulder, pp. 253-267 (peer reviewed).
- Smardon, R.C., J.F. Palmer and J.P. Felleman (Eds.) 1986. **Foundations for Visual Project Analysis**. John Wiley & Sons Press, NY, 374 p. Available at <http://www.esf.edu/via>
- Smardon, R.C., J.P. Felleman and J. F. Palmer. 1986. Decision-making model for visual resource management and project review, In **Foundations for Visual Project Analysis**, pp. 21-35.
- Smardon, R.C. with T. Costello and H. Eggink. 1986. Urban visual analysis, In **Foundations for Visual Project Analysis**, pp. 115-135.
- Smardon, R.C. 1986. Review of agency methodology for visual project analysis, In **Foundations for Visual Project Analysis**, pp. 141-166.
- Smardon, R.C. 1988. Visual-cultural assessment and wetland evaluation In D. D. Hook et al., (Eds.) **The Ecology and Management of Wetlands; Volume 2: Management, Use and Value of Wetlands**, Croom Helm, London/Timber Press, Portland, OR, pp. 103-114.
- Smardon, R.C., T.R. Day, J.F. Palmer, A. Redway and L. Reichardt. 1988, Historical Overview and Landscape Classification of Vistas and Rural Landscapes In F. P. Noe & W. E. Hammitt (Eds.) **Visual Preferences of Travelers Along the Blue Ridge Parkway**, National Park Service Science Publication Series, Washington, DC, pp. 105-141.
- Palmer, J.F., T.R. Day, R.C. Smardon, A. Redway and L. Reichardt. 1988. Simulating and Evaluating Management Practices. In F. P. Noe and W. E. Hammitt (Eds.) **Visual Preferences of Travelers Along the Blue Ridge Parkway**, National Park Service Science Publication Series, Washington, DC, 142-157.
- Smardon, R.C. 1989. Human perception of utilization of wetlands for waste assimilation; or How do you make a silk purse out of a saw's ear? In Donald A. Hammet (Ed.). **Constructed Wetlands for Wastewater Treatment: Municipal, Industrial and Agricultural**, Lewis Publishers, Chelsea, MI, pp. 287-295 (peer reviewed).
- Palmer, J. F. and R. C. Smardon. 1989. Measuring human values associated with wetlands. L. Kriesberg, T. A. Northrup, E. S. J. Thorson (Eds.). **Intractable Conflicts and their Transformation**, Syracuse University Press, pp. 156-179 (peer reviewed).
- Kiker, C.F., Davis, R., Johnson, R., Herren, R., Reed, M., Smardon, R. and Stierna, J. 1990. Analysis of impacts of site altering activities on BLH forests using activities. In J.G. Gosselink, L. C. Lee and T. Buir (Eds.) **Bottomland**

**Hardwood Forests: Ecological and Management Perspectives**, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Federal Activities, Washington, DC.

Smardon, R. C., and J. P. Karp. 1993. **The Legal Landscape: Guidelines for Regulating Environmental and Aesthetic Quality**. Van Nostrand-Rhinehold, New York, 287 p. sole author of chapters: 2,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15, and 16. Available at <http://www.esf.edu/via>

Smardon, R.C., 2009. **Sustaining the Worlds Wetlands: Setting Policy and Resolving Conflicts**, Springer-Verlang, New York, 10 chapters.

Reiter, M. A., W. J. Focht, P. A. Barresi, S. Bumpous, R. C. Smardon, and K. D. Reiter. 2011. Making Education for Sustainability Work on Your Campus: The Roundtables on Environmental Systems and Sustainability. In: Leal Filho, W. (ed.) **Chapter 4: World Trends in Education for Sustainable Development**, Vol. 32 of the series “Umweltbildung, Umweltkommunikation und Nachhaltigkeit” (Environmental Education, Communication and Sustainability), Peter Lang Scientific Publishers, Frankfurt, Germany, pp. 61-75 (peer reviewed).

Bae, Hyunkee and R.C. Smardon. 2012. Chapter 9: The trends of sustainable business practices in firms. In E. Broniewicz (Ed.), **Environmental Management**, Intech publishers, Poland, pp. 177-206.

Reiter, Focht, Barresi, Gill, Smardon, Baker, Reiter, Fitch, Rolfe and Bumpous. 2012. Chapter 8: Making Sustainability Work on Campus: The Proposals of the Roundtable on Environmental Systems and Sustainability. In W.L. Filho (Ed.), **Sustainable Development at Universities; New Horizons, Environmental Education**, Communication & Sustainability volume 34; Peter Lang publisher, pp. 109-116 (peer reviewed).

Apostol, D.; J. Palmer, M. Pasqualetti, R. Smardon & R. Sullivan (eds.). 2017. **The Renewable Energy Landscape: Preserving Scenic values in Our Sustainable Future**. Routledge/Taylor and Francis, London and New York 286pp. Co-wrote 6 of 11 chapters.

Smardon, R.C., S. Moran and A. K. Baptiste. 2018. **Revitalizing Urban Waterways: Streams of Environmental Justice**. Earthscan/Routledge/Taylor and Francis, London & New York. Wrote 7 of 11 chapters.

Focht, W; M. A. Reiter, P.A. Barresi and R. C. Smardon (eds). 2019. **Education for Sustainable Human and Environmental Systems: From Theory to Practice**. CRC/Routledge/Taylor and Francis London and New York, 268 pp. co-wrote or wrote 9 of 16 chapters

Smardon, R.C. (ed.) 2021. **Selected Papers from the 6<sup>th</sup> Fábos Conference on Landscape and Greenway Planning**. MDPI Basil Switzerland.

#### **Peer Reviewed Articles and Monographs**

Smardon, R.C. and R. Woodland. 1976-77. Some preliminary reports of Environmental Impact Report Review Process (EIRRP). **Journal of Environmental Systems** 6(3): 209-228.

Pease, J.R. and R.C. Smardon. 1978. Environmental impact assessment: a framework for local participation and decision-making. **EIA Review** 2:51.

Elsner, G.H. and R.C. Smardon (technical coordinators). 1979. **Our National Landscape: a conference on applied techniques for analysis and management of the visual resource** (April 23-25, 1979, Incline Village, Nevada). General Technical Report PSW-35, U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, Berkeley, CA, 752 p. Available at <http://www.esf.edu/via>

Baird, B. E., S.R.J. Sheppard and R.C. Smardon. 1979. Visual simulation of liquefied natural gas terminals in a decision-making context, pp. 636-644. In **Our National Landscape...**

Feimer, N. R., K.H. Craik, R.C. Smardon and S.R.J. Sheppard. 1979. Appraising the reliability of visual impact assessment methods, pp. 286-295. In **Our National Landscape...**

Smardon, R.C. 1979. The interface of legal and aesthetic considerations, pp. 676-685. In **Our National Landscape...**

Smardon, R.C. and G.H. Elsner. 1979-80. Our National Landscape: a conference on applied techniques for analysis and management of the visual resource. **Landscape Research** winter (1979-80): 27-29.

Smardon, R.C. and J.P. Felleman. 1980. Visual coastal resources: a review. **Coastal Society Bulletin** 4 (3): 5-8.

Feimer, N. R., R.C. Smardon and K. H. Craik. 1980-81. Evaluating the effectiveness of observer based visual resource and impact assessment methods. **Landscape Research** 6 (1): 12-16.

Smardon, R.C. and J.P. Felleman, Eds. 1982. Special issue on Visual Resources management. **Coastal Zone Management Journal** 9 (3/4) 200 p.

Smardon, R.C. and J.P. Felleman. 1982. The quiet revolution in visual resource management: a view from the coast. **Coastal Zone Management Journal** 9 (3/4): 211-224.

Smardon, R.C. 1983. Urban visual impact assessment and design evaluation through simulation. **Urban Design Review** 6 (2/3): 12-15.

Smardon, R.C., G.W. Curry and K. Stribley (Contributing Eds.) 1983. Landscape architecture in urban design today. Special Issue of **Urban Design International** 4(3): 40 pp.

Willmott, G., R.C. Smardon and R. McNeil. 1983. Waterfront revitalization in Clayton, NY. **Small Town** 14 (3): 12-19.

Smardon, R.C. 1984. Law and aesthetics or when is the pig in the parlor? **Environmental Review** 18 (2): 146-161.

Smardon, R.C. 1985. A visual approach to redesigning the commercial strip. **Transportation Research Record** 1016: 1-6.

Smardon, R.C., T. Day, T. Redway and L. Reichardt. 1985. Vegetative management techniques: present and past. **Landscape Research** 10(3): 9-13.

Lambe, R. A. and R.C. Smardon. 1985. Color photocopy use in landscape simulation. **Landscape Research** 10(3): 18-20.

Lambe, R. A. and R.C. Smardon. 1985. Commercial highway landscape reclamation; a participatory approach. **Landscape and Urban Planning** 12(4): 354-385.

Smardon, R.C. 1986. Historical evolution of visual resource management within three Federal agencies. **Environmental Management** 22: 301-317.

Smardon, R.C. 1987. Visual Impact Assessment for Island and Coastal Environments. **International Association for Impact Assessment Bulletin** 6 (1): 5-24.

Smardon, R.C. 1988. Perception and Aesthetics of the Urban Environment: The Role of Vegetation. **Landscape and Urban Planning** 16 (1988): 85-106.

Smardon, R. C. 1988. Water recreation in North America. **Landscape and Urban Planning** 16 (1988): 127-143.

- Smardon, R.C., J. Smith, J. Palmer, S. Winters. 1988. Assessing human-use values with the city/borough of Juneau, Alaska in R. J. Borden and J. Jacobs (Eds.) **Human Ecology: Research and Applications**, Society for Human Ecology, College Park, Maryland, pp. 228-232.
- Henderson, J.E., R. C. Smardon, J. F. Palmer. 1989. Development of the visual resources assessment procedure (VRAP) for the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. **Transportation Research Record** 1189: 67- 71.
- Smardon, R. C. and E. Carter. 1990. Introduction and Overview: Military base expansion and typical impacts to rural communities. In R. C. Smardon and E. Carter (Eds.) Special Issue Rapid Growth Impacts Rural Communities: The Fort Drum Case. **Small Town** 20 (5): 3-4.
- Smardon, R. C. and B. J. Nordenstam. (Eds.) 1998. Adirondacks and Beyond: Understanding Air Quality and Ecosystem Relationships. Special Issue of **Environmental Science and Policy** 1(3): 137-267.
- Nordenstam, B., S. Keith and R. Smardon. 1998. Adirondacks and beyond: understanding air quality and ecosystems relationships: a conference to explore science and policy linkages. **Environmental Science and Policy** 1(3): 139-141.
- Nordenstam, B. J. and R. C. Smardon. 2000. A perspective of educational needs in environmental Science and policy in the next century. **Environmental Science and Policy** 3(2000): 57-58.
- Faust, B. B. and R. C. Smardon (Eds.) 2001. Environmental Knowledge, Rights and Ethics: Co-managing with Communities, Special Issue of **Environmental Science and Policy** 4(4/5): 147-256.
- Faust, B. B. and R. C. Smardon. 2001: Introduction and overview: environmental knowledge, rights and ethics; co-managing with communities, **Environmental Science and Policy** 4(2001) 147-151.
- Smardon, R.C. 2003. The role of nongovernment organizations for sustaining wetlands heritage values. In Maria Gavari-Barbos and Sylvia Guihard-Anguis (Eds.). **Regards Croisés sur le Patrimoine dans le Monde a L'Aube du XXI Siecle**, University of Paris-Sorbonne Press, pp. 795-815
- R.C. Smardon and K.K. Loftus. 2004. Strategies for the Stewardship and Conservation of Great Lakes Coastal Wetlands. **Aquatic Ecosystem Health and Management** 7(2): 305-330.
- Faust, B. B. and R. C. Smardon. 2006. Overview: Biosphere Reserve management in the Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico: Resources, Collaborations and Conflicts. **Landscape and Urban Planning** 74 (3-4): 160-192, (lead piece for special issue with eight other pieces).
- Smardon, R.C. 2006 Assessing Heritage Values and Functions of Wetlands in the Yucatan Peninsula. **Landscape and Urban Planning** 74(3-4): 296-312.
- Smardon, R. C. 2008. A. Comparison of Local Agenda 21 Implementation; North American, European and Indian Cities. **Management of Environmental Quality** 19(1): 118-137.
- Smardon, R.C. 2009. Urban recreation park sustainability in an Asian context. **International J. of Asian Environmental Sciences** 4(2): 193-202.
- Menezes, A., R. Smardon and T. de Almeida. 2009. The Changing dynamics of local institutions in fishing communities in Mozambique: Responses to policy – Public participation and decision-making, **Environmental Practice** 11(1): 32-51.
- Park, Seohyun and R. Smardon. 2009. Intergenerational differences in values and dioxin risk perceptions in South Korea. **The Management of Environmental Quality: An International Journal**, 20(5): 522-537.
- Darkwa, S. and R. C. Smardon. 2010. Ecosystem restoration; evaluating local knowledge and management systems in Fosu Lagoon, Ghana. **Environmental Practice** 12 (3): 202-213.

- Cengiz, B.; R.C. Smardon and Y. Monluk. 2011. Assessment of river landscapes in terms of preservation and usage balance; A case study of the Bartın River floodplain corridor, **Fresenius Env. Bull.** 20(7): 1673-1684.
- Johnson, L. L. and R.C. Smardon. 2011. Case study of a restored wetland-treatment best management practice. **Wetlands; Journal of the Society of Wetlands Scientists** 31:921-931.
- Park, Seoyhun and R.C. Smardon. 2011. Worldview and social amplification of risk framework; dioxin risk case in Korea. **International Journal of Applied Environmental Sciences** 6(2): 173-191.
- Smardon, R.C. 2011. Developing a national framework for internal/external review of undergraduate environmental studies/environmental science programs, **Interdisciplinary Environmental Review** 12(3): 244-257.
- Baptiste, A. and R.C. Smardon. 2012. A review of the wetland use and management of the Nariva Swamp, Trinidad. **Caribbean Geography** 17(1&2): 57-72.
- Barnhill K. and R.C. Smardon. 2012. Gaining Ground: Green infrastructure attitudes and Perceptions from stakeholders in Syracuse, New York. **Environmental Practice** 14(1): 6-16 (Special issue on Green Infrastructure).
- Masquita, M and R.C. Smardon. 2012. The potential of a small-scale agro-industry as a sustainable livelihood strategy in a Caribbean archipelago province of Columbia, **Journal of Sustainable Development** 5(3): 16-32.
- Moghariya, D. and R. Smardon. 2012. Rural perspectives of climate change; A study from Saurashtra and Kutch of Western India, **Public Understanding of Science** at DOI: 10.1177/0963662512465698.
- Pasi, N. and R.C. Smardon. 2012. Inter-Linking of Rivers: A solution for water crisis in India or a decision in doubt? **The Journal of Science Policy and Governance** 2 (1): 1-41.
- Wu, Guihan and R.C. Smardon. 2012. "Using Alkalinity as a Tracer to Estimate the Ratios of Sewage in Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs)", **Journal of Environmental Science and Engineering** 1(2012): 727-731.
- Barresi, P.; W. Focht, M. Reiter, R.C. Smardon, M. Humphreys, S. Holms and K. Reiter. 2014 –Revealing complexity in educating for sustainability: An update on the work of the Roundtable on Environment and Sustainability. In W.L. Filho (ed.), **Integrating Sustainability Thinking in Science and Engineering Curricula**, World Sustainability Series, DOI 10.1007/978-3-319-09474-8\_35.
- Levy, Z.; R.C. Smardon, J. S. Bays, and D. Meyer. 2014. A point source of a different color: Identifying a gap in United States regulatory policy for “green” CSO treatment using constructed wetlands. **Sustainability** 2014 6: 2392-2412.
- Ma, B.; G. Song, R.C. Smardon, and J. Chen. 2014. Diffusion of solar water heaters in regional China; Economic feasibility and policy effectiveness evaluation. **Energy Policy**  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.enpol.2014.04.015>
- Ramsden C.; R. C. Smardon, and G. Michel. 2014. Municipal collaboration for carbon footprinting: Syracuse, New York case study. **Sustainability Accounting, Management and Policy Journal**, 5(2): 224-254.
- Smardon, R.C. 2014. Book Review; Wetland Ecology Principles and Conservation, Second Edition. **Water** 2014 6:813-817.
- Tao, W.; J.S. Bays, D. Meyer, R.C. Smardon and Z.F. Levy. 2014. Constructed wetlands for treatment of combined sewer overflow in the US: A review of design challenges and application status. **Water** 6:3362-3385, DOI 10.3390/w6113362.

Baptiste, A., C. Foley and R. Smardon. 2015. Green Infrastructure urban neighborhood differences in willingness to implement green infrastructure measures: a case study of Syracuse, NY. **Landscape and Urban Planning** 136: 1-12, DOI 10.1016/j.landurbplan.2014.11.012.

Owusu-Ansuh, F. and R.C. Smardon. 2015. Mining and agriculture in Ghana; a contested terrain. **International Journal of Environment and Sustainable Development** 14(4): 371- 397.

Smardon, R.C. 2015. Sarah L Burch and Sara E Harris (eds.): Understanding climate change: science policy and practice. **Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences** doi 10.1007/s13412-015-0286-0 book review

Smardon, R.C. 2015. Kent Portney: Taking sustainable cities seriously: economic development and quality of life in American cities, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. **Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences** doi 10.1007/s13412-015-0345-6 book review

Smardon, R.C. 2015. Mitchell Thomashow: The Nine elements of a sustainable campus. **Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences** doi 10.1007/s13412-015-0282-4 book review

Smardon, R.C. 2016. Sonya Remington-Doucette: sustainable world approaches to analyzing and resolving wicked problems. **Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences** doi 10.1007/s13412-016-0394 book review

Smardon, R.C. 2016. Visual impact assessment: Where have we come from and where are we going? **Journal of Environmental Protection** [http://dx.doi.org/10.4236/jep.2016.2016\\*\\*\\*\\*](http://dx.doi.org/10.4236/jep.2016.2016****)

Wang, L.; L. Wang, W. Tao, R.C. Smardon, Z.X. Shi & X. Lu. 2016. Characteristics, sources and health risk of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in urban surface dust; a case study of the city of Xi'an in Northwest China. **Environmental Science Pollution Research** doi 10.1007/s11356-016-6528-1

Smardon, R.C. 2018. John H. Perkins. Changing Energy: the transition to a sustainable future. **Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences** <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13412-018-0472-y> book review

Smardon, R.C. 2018. Malcolm Cooper, Ablik Cakraborty and Shamik Chakraborty. Rivers and Society; landscapes, governance and livelihoods. **Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences** <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13412-018-0485-6> book review

#### **Significant Non-Peer Reviewed Reports and Conference Publications**

Smardon, R.C., M. Hunter, J. Resue and M. Zoelling. 1982. **Our National Landscape: annotated bibliography and expertise index**. Special Publication 3279, Agricultural Sciences Publications, University of California, Berkeley, CA, 193 p. Available at <http://www.esf.edu/via>

Palmer, J.F., R.C. Smardon and J. Arany. 1984. Summary of the Landscape Architecture Research Needs Survey. **Agora**, winter (1984): 17-19.

R. Davis, R. Heeron, C. Kiker, M. Reed, R. Smardon, J. Stierna and R. Johnson, 1986. Cultural/Recreational Economic Workgroup Report, pp. 123-155. In J. E. Roelk, G. T. Auble, D. B. Hamilton, G. C. Horak, R. J. Johnson and C. A. Segelquist, **Results of a Workshop Concerning Impacts of Various Activities on the Functions of Bottomland Hardwoods**: Office of Federal Activities, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, D.C.

Smardon, R.C., J.F. Palmer, A. Knopf, K. Grinde, J.E. Henderson, and L.D. Peyman-Dove. 1988. **Visual Resources Assessment Procedure for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**. Instruction Report EI-88-1, Environmental Laboratory, U.S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, Mississippi, 71 p. plus appendices. Available at <http://www.esf.edu/via>



Smardon, R.C., K. R. Thau, (Eds.) 1988. **Proceedings of Conference on Government and the Grass Roots: Strengthening Environmental Protection through Community-Agency partnership** (Blue Mountain Lake, New York, August 23-25, 1987), Institute for Environmental Policy and Planning, ESF-EIPP-88-1.

Smardon, R.C., and S. Drake, R. Kalinoski. 1989. **Report to the City of Syracuse on the Oil City Remediation Workshop**. Institute for Environmental Policy and Planning ESF-EIPP-89-1.

Smardon, R. C. 1990. Community control versus the elitist landscape. In Paul Growth (Ed.) **Vision Culture and Landscape; Working Papers from Berkeley Symposium on Cultural Landscape Interpretation**. Dept. of Landscape Architecture, University of California, pp. 133-156.

Smardon, R. C. and C. Shiyam. 1991. **Wetland Heritage Assessment: Methodology and Literature Review as part of Wetland Evaluation**. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Institute for Environmental Policy and Planning Report #90-004.

Kusler, J. and R. C. Smardon (Eds.) 1992. **Wetlands of the Great Lakes: Protection and Restoration Policies; Status of the Science** (Niagara Falls, NY, May 16-18, 1990). Association of Wetland Managers, Berne, NY, 335p.

Smardon, R. C., J. P. Felleman and S. Senecah. 1996. **Protecting Floodplain Resources: A Guidebook for Communities**. The Federal Interagency management Task Force, USGPO FEMA 268, 41p.

Smardon, R.C. 2003. Impacts to Aesthetics and Quality of Life. In R. Kely and S. Bliven (Eds.), **Environmental and Aesthetic Impacts of Small Docks and Piers, Workshop Report: Developing a Science-Based Decision Support Tool for Small Dock Management, Phase 1: Status of the Science**. NOAA Coastal Ocean Program Decision Analysis Series No. 22, NOAA Coastal Program, Silver Spring Maryland, pp. 41-46.

Smardon, R.C. 1998-2007. **Annual Reports for the Randolph G. Pack Environmental Institute**. SUNY/ESF, Syracuse, NY.

Manno, J. P., R. Smardon, K. Barnhill and HR Na. 2008. **Assessment of New York's Capacity to Implement the Recommendations of the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Strategy: A report to NY Great Lakes Basin Advisory Council & NY Sea Grant's Great Lakes Leaders Group**. SUNY/ESF, Department of Environmental Studies.

Manno, J; R. Smardon, J. DePinto, E. T. Cloyd and S. Del Granado. 2008. **The Use of Models in Great Lakes Decision Making: An Interdisciplinary Synthesis**, Randolph G. Pack Environmental Institute SUNY/ESF Occasional Paper 16, 95pp. Available at <http://www.esf.edu/es/pack/>

Owusu-Ansuh, F. and R.C. Smardon. 2009. **Best Management Practices for Water Quality Improvement in central New York; A Review**. Syracuse University Environmental Finance Center, 40pp.

Great Lakes Basin Advisory Council (R. Smardon Chair). 2010. **Our Great Lakes Water Resources; Conserving and Protecting Our Water Today for Use Tomorrow**, Great Lakes Basin Advisory Council and NYSDEC, Albany, 88pp available at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/56095.html>

Briggs, R and R.C. Smardon (Co-PI's) 2011. **Central NY Watersheds Program Final Report**. Submitted to US EPA under cooperative agreement #CR830828, SUNY/ESF, 230+ pp.

Pasi, N. and R.C. Smardon 2011. **Urban and Rural Treatment Wetlands Manual; A New Old Green Infrastructure**, Syracuse University Environmental Finance Center, 38pp.

Moran, S.; M. Perreault and R. Smardon. 2013. Finding our way: Urban waterway restoration and participation programs. In J. Gy Fabos, M. S. Lindhult, R. L. Ryan and M. Jacknin (eds.) **Proceedings; Fabos Conference on Landscape and Greenway Planning**, University of Massachusetts April 12-13, 2013. ISSN: 2326-9936, pp. 20-35.

Smardon, R.C. 2013. Visual impact assessment: Where have we come from and where are we going? **Conference Proceedings; Walk the Talk NAEP/AEP Joint Conference** Los Angeles CA.

Smardon, R.C. 2014. Who's jurisdiction is this? Renewable energy development and landscape conflict. **Conference Proceedings: 39<sup>th</sup> Annual NAEP Conference: Changing Tides and Shifting Sands**, April 7-10 St. Petersburg Florida.

Smardon, R.C. 2015. International Wetlands Policy and Management Issues. **National Wetlands Newsletter** 37(3): 10-16.

Smardon R.C. and S. Moran. 2016. Revitalizing urban waterways: Streams of environmental justice. In S. Jombach, I. Valanszki, K. Filep-Kovacs, J. GY Fabos, R. L. Ryan, M. S. Lindhult and L. Kollanyi (eds.) **Landscapes and Greenways of Resilience: Proceedings of the 5<sup>th</sup> Fabos Conference on Landscape and Greenway Planning** Budapest July 1, 2016, pp. 215-222.

Gobster P. H. and Smardon R.C. (eds.) 2018. **Visual Resource Stewardship conference proceedings: Landscape and Seascapes Management in a Time of Change**. USDA Forest Service Gen. Tech. Rep. NRS-183, Newton Square PA [on line] <https://doi.org/10.2737/NRS-GTR-P-183>

Hoffman R. and Smardon R. (eds.) 2019. **Visual Resource Stewardship Conference: Seeking 20/20 Vision for Landscape Futures 1** [online] <https://digitalcommons.esf.edu/vrconference/1>

#### **Thesis and Dissertation**

Smardon, R.C. 1973. **Assessing visual-cultural values of inland wetlands in Massachusetts**. Unpublished Master's Thesis: Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 295 p. including 32 plates, NTIS call number PB-233-687/3WU.

Smardon, R.C. 1982. **An organizational analysis of Federal agency visual resource management systems**. Ph.D. Dissertation: Environmental Planning Program at the College of Environmental Design, University of California, Berkeley, CA, 330 p. Available from International Microfilms, Ann Arbor, MI.

#### **RESEARCH AND GRANT ACTIVITY**

##### **Department of Landscape Architecture, University of California and USDA, Forest Service Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, January 1977-August 1979**

Project Manager-Landscape Planning Methodology Research for Range, Timber and Energy  
**Producing Wildlands: Visual Contrast Rating Research**-Multi-investigator research to assess the reliability and validity of visual impact assessment methods and procedures-Budget \$60,000 for two years from USDI, Bureau of Land Management, Washington, DC.

Co-organizer-**Our National Landscape: A Conference on Applied Techniques for Analysis and Management of the Visual Resource**-Budget \$98,000 from U.S. Forest Service, BLM, SCS and conference registrations.

##### **Faculty (Dept.) of Landscape Architecture, SUNY College of Environmental Science and SUNY Research Foundation September 1979 to 1986**

Primary Investigator (with R. S. Hawks)-**Feasibility Study Guidebook: Availability of Wood for Use as an Industrial Boiler Fuel**-major responsibilities were overseeing production of mapped data covering the continental United States-Sub- for the Solar Energy Research Institute, Golden, CO.

Primary Investigator-**Forests in the Visual Landscape**-produced general visual landscape classification of New York State-for the Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Lands and Forests, Albany, NY.

Primary Investigator (with D. Sundquist)-**Visual Impact Assessment of Corps Project on Cape Hatteras**-Preparation of Report on visual and recreational impact of Corps jetties on Oregon Inlet- for the National Park Service, Southeast Region, Atlanta, GA.

Primary Investigator-**Landscape Development Concept of New Village, Uniontown, PA**-Faculty sponsor for graduate student intern with the New Village who did landscape and site analysis, recreation planning and environmental review- for the Institute for Man and Science, Rensselaerville, NY.

Primary Investigator-**Visual Analysis Annotated Bibliography and Expertise Index**-compile, edit and prepare final manuscript and index, 192 pages, 569 annotated citations- for the Forestry Extension, University of California, Berkeley, CA. Available at <http://www.esf.edu/via>

Primary Investigator-**Development of Generic Visual Impact Checklist and Training Manual**-Culmination of multi-year testing project on visual impact assessment method improvement- for the USDI, Bureau of Land Management, Washington, DC.

Primary Investigator-**Development of Alternative Futures Annotated Bibliography and Primer**- for the U.S. Geological Survey, Reston, VA.

Primary Investigator-**Clayton Image Assessment and Waterfront Redevelopment Study**-Supervision of graduate student who did study and slide tape - various sponsors.

Primary Investigator (with R. S. Hawks and D. Sundquist)-**Thruway Entrance and Commercial Strip Redevelopment Study**-coordination and supervision of two undergraduate students, two graduate students and several faculty- for the Northern Chautauqua Community Council, Fredonia, NY.

Co-Principal Investigator (with J.F. Palmer)-**Investigation of the Utility of Using Neighborhood Stands as a Management Unit for Urban Forestry**-Individual cognitive mapping and identification of neighborhoods and sampling what city residents' perception is of urban outdoor space and their attitudes toward urban Vegetation- for the Consortium for Environmental Forestry (U.S. Forest Service), Milford, PA.

Principal Investigator-**St. Lawrence River Scenic Access Study**-Photography and mapping of public views of the St. Lawrence River from a road running through 6 towns, investigation of critical views and legal means of view protection- for St. Lawrence-Eastern Ontario Commission, Watertown, NY.

Principal Investigator (with T. Day and J.F. Palmer)-**Simulating Visual Management Alternatives for Blue Ridge Parkway Scenic Overlooks**-Production of color photographic simulations of vegetative management options, study of historic vegetation management practices and management recommendations- for the National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, Atlanta, GA.

Principal Investigator (with M. Gratzner)-**Perceptual Differences Towards Attributes of the Beach**-Support for Ph.D. student to gather and analyze differences between the perceptions of recreation users and those of management staffs on four state beaches on Lake Ontario gathered by survey instruments and video tape. For National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Sea Grant, Albany, NY.

Principal Investigator-**Village of North Syracuse Main Street Study**-Visual inventory and assessment of the image of the Rouge 11 corridor in the village utilizing social survey techniques and video imagery- alternatives were simulated with modelscope and scale models-public response was solicited with photoquestionnaire- for the Village of North Syracuse, NY.

Principal Investigator-**Aesthetic Resources: Identification, Analysis and Evaluation**-development and delivery (with J.P. Felleman, R. S. Hawks, R. A. Lambe & J.F. Palmer) of two National short courses at Fort Belvoir, VA- for the U.S. Corps of Engineers, Washington, DC and Huntsville, AL.

Co-Investigator (with J.F. Palmer)-**Convergence Analysis Approach for a National Landscape Architecture Research Agenda** - use of convergence analysis and national surveys to develop a National Research Agenda for the profession of landscape architecture- for the Landscape Architecture Foundation, Washington, DC.

Co-Principal Investigator (with J.F. Palmer)-**Development of Visual Impact Assessment Methodology for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**-for three years from U. S. Army Corps, Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, MS.

Principal Investigator-**Study of the Seaway Trail Signage System**-assessment of existing signage along the trail, development of standards and specifications for signs, sign placement, information kiosks and loops, and general recommendations for signage system development-for the St. Lawrence-Eastern Ontario Commission, Watertown, NY.

Principal Investigator-**Aesthetic Resources: Identification, Analysis and Evaluation**-development and delivery (with J.P. Felleman, R. S. Hawks & J.F. Palmer) of national short course at San Francisco, CA for the U.S. Corps of Engineers, Washington, DC and Huntsville, AL.

Principal Investigator-**Aesthetic Resources: Identification, Analysis and Evaluation**-development and delivery (with T. Day, J.P. Felleman, R. S. Hawks & J.F. Palmer) of a national short course at Fort Belvoir, VA. For the U. S. Corps of Engineers, Washington, DC and Huntsville, AL.

Principal Investigator (with A.R. Lewis) - **Review of Planning and Legal Measures Related to Strip Development in the Fort Drum Impact Area** - Production of written report and slide tape on strip development for New York State Temporary State Commission on Tug Hill.

Smardon, R.C. and J.F. Palmer - **Testing for Explanatory Variables for Assessing Change in Perceived Visual Quality Due to Introduction of Development Activity in Natural/Rural Landscapes**. Funded by the Landscape Research Group (United Kingdom). One graduate assistantship supported for one year - perception testing using photographic stimulus in seven countries and statistical analysis of data.

Smardon, R.C. and J.F. Palmer - **Socio-cultural Assessment of Wetland Values for Land Use Planning in Juneau, AK**. Funded by the City/Bureau of Juneau, AK. Two-graduate assistantships in summer 1986 - involves setting up and running workshops in Juneau, as well as fieldwork, then developing mail survey to elicit response to socio-economic values of wetlands and analyzing data.

Smardon, R.C. - **Study of Wetland Values and Management in Onondaga County**. Funded by Physical Facilities Planning Department from Fisher-Guide Division, General Motors. One Ph.D. student graduate assistantship for 1-2 years to access values and functions of freshwater wetlands in Onondaga County, as well as development of a priority-based management plan.

Smardon, R.C. - **Production Writing of Scenic Roads Program Handbook for New York Department of Environmental Conservation**. Funded by Department of Environmental Conservation. One summer graduate assistantship - writing and some research on scenic roads program - layout and camera-ready manuscript production on computer.

#### **Research with the Faculty (Dept.) of Environmental Studies SUNY/ESF 1986-2015**

Smardon, R.C. - **Assessing Existence and Quality of Coastal Zone Data for 10 West Coast African Countries**. Funded by AID through USDI, National Park Service, International Affairs Office - work was done by Ph.D. student during summer 1986.

Smardon, R.C. & R.G. Werner, PI's, **Great Lakes Research Consortium** - operating budgets for fiscal years 1987-1988, 1988-1989, 1989-1990, 1990-1991, 1991, 1992-2004 Responsible with Jack Manno for basic direction and program development seminar exchange, research workshop, small grants programs and statewide Great Lakes science policy development. Budget varied from \$50,000 to \$200,000 per year

Smardon, R. C. **Scenic Road Management Plans for the Towns of Red Hook and Rhinebeck, New York.** Funded by Department of Environmental Conservation. Graduate assistantship to develop scenic road management plans for both towns.

Smardon, R.C. **Research Development in Environmental Studies** – unfunded development of two master's ecotourism project in Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico.

Smardon, R. C., **Des Plaines Wetlands Interpretation and Public Use Plan** - Wetland Research, Inc. Graduate assistantship to develop interpretative program, trail, and center concepts for Des Plaines River Experimental Wetlands.

Smardon, R. C., et al. \$106,000 - Great Lakes Research Consortium **Summer Practicum for Applied Environmental Problem Solving - New Approaches and Techniques for Undergraduate Faculty.** National Science Foundation - first multi-campus GLRC research grant funded.

Smardon, R. C. **Preemptive Remediation Workshop**, sponsored by the City of Syracuse. Included development of geographic information system and interactive mitigation workshop held in Syracuse. And supported one MS graduate student.

Smardon, R. C. **U. S. Nigeria Dissertation Improvement Research on Barriers to Coastal Environmental Information Transfer: A Case Study in Nigeria.** National Science Foundation Dissertation Support Grant.

Smardon, R. C. with J. Manno **Conversations in the Disciplines - The Role of Ecosystem Health Indicators: Lake Ontario Study** with SUNY Research Foundation funding.

Smardon, R. C. (with D. Reuter) **A Guidebook to Landowner's for Wetland Enforcement.** NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. Color booklet writing and production for positive development options for wetland owners.

Smardon, R. C. Development of a **Community Information Program for Onondaga Lake. Onondaga Lake Advisory Committee.** Development of 28-minute video and static/movable displays focused on Onondaga Lake cleanup strategies. And supported one MS graduate student.

Smardon, R.C., P1 with Jack Manno. **Contested Lakes: Public Involvement in Shaping the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement and Implications for Canada-U.S. Relations.** Canadian Consulate. And supported one MS graduate student.

Smardon, R.C. P1 (with others) **Undergraduate Faculty Enhancement Grant for Environmental Problem Solving from National Science Foundation** (\$98,000 second grant from NSF).

Smardon, R.C, Co-P1 with J. Felleman. **Development of A Guidebook for Managing Natural Resources in the Floodplain.** For USEPA Wetlands Policy and Local Government, Wash., DC and supported one MS graduate student.

Smardon, R.C. **National Urban Forestry Technology Transfer.** US Forest Service Coop Agreement Award number 01-CA-11242343-080. Sept. 1, 2001, thru Sept. 30, 2002, and supported a PhD student.

Smardon, R. C. **National GIS Database for Asian Longhorned Beetle Assessment.** US Forest Service Coop. Award Number 01-CA-11242343-045 May 14, 2001, thru May 13, 2002, and supported a PhD student.

Smardon, R.C. and John Ferrante. **Urban Stormwater Treatment Wetland Project.** USEPA Demonstration Grant with Atlantic States Legal Foundation and Randolph G. Pack Environmental Institute; \$57,000, 11/2000 to 12/2001 (renewed to Sept. 2002) and supported two MS graduate students.

Smardon, R.C. **Canastota Wetland Enhancement Project**. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and supported one MS graduate student.

Smardon, R.C. and S. Thering. **Benefits of Multidisciplinary/Participatory Approaches to Community Decision-Making as Indicators of Community Capacity**. Department of Housing and Urban Development. \$30,000 - resubmitted for 2001-2002 and funded to support a PhD student.

Smardon, R.C. **Analyzing Urban Forests in Morgantown, WV**. US Forest Service Coop Agreement submitted April 28, 2002, and supported PhD student.

Smardon, R.C. **Tree and Impervious Cover Mapping for the Northeastern US**. US Forest Service Coop. Agreement Amendment. Submitted May 1, 2003, for \$98,000 extended to Dec. 2004 to support two graduate students.

Smardon, R.C. **Proposal to Create a New York State Energy Research Consortium**. Submitted March 15th to SUNY Conversations in the Discipline Program, Albany, \$4000.

Smardon, R. C. and B. Faust. **Project to Develop Interactive Tools for Community Empowerment in Resource Management**. EnSpire Seed Grant Proposal with CINVESTAV. Merida, Mexico; Syracuse University and SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, May 2004 -\$24,000 to support faculty and graduate student international exchange.

Smardon, R.C. and others. **Onondaga Creek Sub-basin Conceptual Revitalization Study**. Submitted thru Onondaga Lake Partnership to USEPA. Sept. 1, 2004, thru Dec. 2005, \$275,000- SUNY/ESF portion addressed creation of a Citizen Advisory Committee and public participation plan for creek revitalization. Supported two graduate students.

Smardon, R.C. **Harbor Brook Treatment Wetland Monitoring**. Submitted to USEPA, proposed start dates 10/01/05 thru 9/28/2009, \$125,000. Second year of funding at \$125,000 has been awarded thru 2008 for a total of \$250,000, as part of Central NY Watersheds project with Russ Briggs. Supported two graduate students.

M. Hall and D. Nowak. Ultra Grant; **“Positioning Rust Belt Cities for a Sustainable Future; A systems approach to enhancing urban quality of life”**, \$300,000 2-year grant from NSF and US Forest Service. Working with B. Nordenstam on social science portion of assessing urban residents’ reactions to proposed green infrastructure \$35,000 used to fund two Ph.D. students

Smardon, R.C. PI. **SUNY Senate Sustainability Research Development** project funded by SUNY Senate and SUNY Research Foundation for workshop in May 2012 plus subsequent webinars

Smardon, R.C. and Wendong Tao, Co-PIs. **Harbor Brook CSO 018 Treatment Wetland** with CH2MHILL and Onondaga County to monitor treatment wetland complex. Budget is \$226,477 for 2-year project to run from September 2014 to December 2016. Includes support of four graduate students.

L. Quackenbush and R.C. Smardon, Co-Pi’s **Great Lakes Coastal Wetlands Restoration Strategy** - October 2016 to September 2018. Work included development of strategy and prioritization web based geographic information system for NYS coastal wetland restoration with budget of \$34, 500.

## **CURRENT COMMUNITY & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Board member of Central NY Land Trust since 1985 and past governing board chair

Member and Chair of the Great Lakes Basin Advisory Council (1989 to now) advises the NYS Governor and legislature on Great Lakes policy issues

National Association of Environmental Professionals – Past Educational and Research working group chair plus track coordinator for NAEP conferences for over 10 years.

Founding Member of Scenic Resources Working Group –created in 2012 to promote best professional practice in visual resources management and visual impact assessment

David Putman  
Gail Putman  
5 Race Fast Ln.  
North Creek, NY 12853

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
JUN 01 2023

5/30//2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

RE: Barton Mines Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which is critical to extend the life of the company's operations in North River and Indian Lake.

Barton has been a responsible neighbor of ours for decades and provides critical jobs and tax base to our community. If I'm not mistaken Barton is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest employer in the area, second only to ORDA employees at Gore Mountain, which unfortunately many of those jobs are seasonal and not full year like the jobs at Barton.

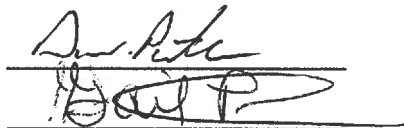
We live just down the road and not immediately in North River. However, we spend considerable time in the Garnet Hill area enjoying 13<sup>th</sup> lake, hiking, and mountain biking. We have never seen a negative impact by any of Barton's operations and find the company to be a good corporate neighbor. Company employees are actively involved in community events and Barton is a generous supporter of the local non-profit entities.

Barton's contributions to this community are paramount and cannot be replaced. We strongly urge you to approve the company's permit application so that Barton can continue to provide community benefits for decades to come.

Thank you,

David Putman

Gail Putman

Handwritten signatures of David Putman and Gail Putman, each followed by a horizontal line.



James Randazzo  
5897 NY Rt.30  
Indian Lake, NY 12842

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 05 2023

31 May 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

**Do NOT approve!**  
Note: letter from Barton on  
reverse side.

✓ David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Pay Brook, NY 12977

**Re: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

As a town resident, homeowner, and taxpayer in Indian Lake New York, I am writing to you to **NOT SUPPORT** and **NOT APPROVE** Barton Mines' permit modification application – and **NOT** extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations.

Mining operations here and everywhere are **not** managed in a safe and responsible manner. They always cause a huge detrimental impact on the community, the animals and plants, the land, the water, and air.

The Adirondack Park does **NOT** need any mining company to keep local people employed. The natural attractions in the park draw tourists from near and far to stimulate the economy. The Park, its wildlife, animals and their habitats, plants, and beautiful scenery will be destroyed – forever!!! **Mining**, simply stated, **ruins the environment**.

The Adirondack Park does **NOT** need a mining company like Barton to keep local people employed or our community thriving!

The Adirondack Park has its own resource managers and doesn't need Barton to self-proclaim itself as one. I urge you to **NOT APPROVE** Barton's permit application as it provides absolutely **no benefits** for the Adirondack Park, the people who live here, or the animals and plants that inhabit it - now and in the future.

Thank you,



## SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER

[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

*Do Not approve*

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

### **RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

*[PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CUSTOMIZE YOUR PERSONAL MESSAGE HERE.]*

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

[YOUR NAME AND SIGNATURE]

Lyudmyla Randazzo  
5897 NY Rt.30  
Indian Lake, NY 12842

31 May 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

**Do NOT approve!**  
Note: letter from Barton on  
reverse side.

✓ David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Pay Brook, NY 12977

**Re: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

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Thank you,

*Lyudmyla Randazzo*

**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

*[PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CUSTOMIZE YOUR PERSONAL MESSAGE HERE.]*

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

[YOUR NAME AND SIGNATURE]

Do Not approve

May 24, 2023

From: William Rawson  
Susan Rawson  
P. O. Box 98  
197 Main Street,  
North Creek, NY 12853

To: Mr. David J. Plante,  
Deputy Director – Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

MAY 30 2023

Copy To: Ms. Beth Magee,  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885-1172

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

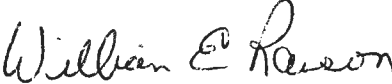
Mr. David J. Plante,


We are writing in support of the Barton Mines' mine permit modification application. We believe that the changes requested in the application will allow Barton Mines to continue to provide a substantial number of jobs which are necessary for the local economy as well as to eliminate the late-night truck trips which can understandably have a negative impact on nearby residents. The employment in the facilities located in the Towns of Johnsburg and Indian Lake are better paying than those offered by the tourist industry in the local area and are year-round not seasonal as those in tourism.

In addition to providing important jobs in the area Barton Mines has also been a philanthropic partner with the Towns of Johnsburg and Indian Lake. An example is their support of local fire companies which is a benefit to all residents.

For the above reasons we urge you to approve the company's mine permit application as it is to the benefit of the region.

Thank you for your consideration,

  
William E. Rawson

  
Susan P. Rawson

**From:** [Andrew Harvey](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Monday, May 29, 2023 12:00:57 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from andyh52@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations-providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

I am a native of Warren County, a retired attorney, reside in Queensbury and a property owner in Johnsburg.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Andy Harvey

71 West Berry Way

Queensbury, NY 12804

**From:** [horsestock@frontier.com](mailto:horsestock@frontier.com)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Re: support for Barton Mines permit modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 31, 2023 8:20:54 AM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from horsestock@frontier.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

On Wednesday, May 31, 2023 at 08:07:42 AM EDT, horsestock@frontier.com  
<horsestock@frontier.com> wrote:

Ms. Magee. I write this letter in support of Barton Mines permit modification. Not only is Bartons the largest taxpayer in Johnsbury, but they are also one of the largest employers in Johnsbury. They are the only company of any size that pays a living wage in our tourist dominated economy Their lost would cripple Johnsbury economy. The trickledown effect would hurt Johnsbury and surrounding communities.

I worked for Bartons for 15 years as maintenance supervisor. Bartons was careful to follow all DEC regulations put forth. They went above and beyond, putting in extra catch ponds and changing out below ground tanks to safer above ground tanks.They have always worked with their neighbors keeping disturbances minimum.

Thank You

Bruce Ashline Johnsbury, N.Y.



**From:** [Alan Belenz](#)  
**To:** [dec.sm.DEP.R5](#); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#); [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#); [Staab, Sarah A \(APA\)](#)  
**Subject:** Recent Barton Mine Noise Sampling  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 2, 2022 9:56:05 AM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from belenz8@msn.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Staab and Ms. Magee,

I write concerned about Barton Mine's failure to adhere to the noise sampling protocols required in APA's November 16, 2021 Notice of Incomplete Permit Application. APA clearly states Barton should provide "noise measurement during ambient conditions (i.e. without the Mill, excavation activities, equipment, or other noise generating activities.)"

On behalf of Barton, H2H in a letter dated May 13, 2022, Proposed Phase Three Sound Study Scope of Work, rejects this request claiming "Barton is currently, and has been since early operations, permitted to operate the Mill 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The proposed permit modification involves no change to Mill operations and given the permitted operating hours the Mill operations will be classified as ambient (background) conditions."

In a letter dated June 17, 2022, Response Letter to APA's June 3, 2022 Comment Letter, H2H again rejects measuring a true ambient baseline, stating they will only measure ambient baseline while the mill and associated outdoor processes are operating. H2H also states they will use NYSDEC Assessing and Mitigating Noise Impacts Table B (below) to determine potential impacts to receptors.

The H2H approach is fundamentally flawed for the following reasons:

1. As required by APA, Ambient Baseline measurements should exclude any noise from mine operations.
2. Barton's Operational 24-hour Baseline, if relevant, should be based on historical sound levels (the 35-year Quiet Period), not the current, much higher sound levels. If helpful, we can provide affidavits from residents attesting to how the recent increase in noise is above the historical baseline. Every permittee would love it, if prior to renewing a permit they were allowed to establish a new, higher baseline for air emissions, water discharges, noise levels, etc.
3. There is no assurance that the few Operational 24-hour Baseline measurements obtained

by H2H represent worst case, or even average conditions at the mine. Mine noise varies based on location of mobile noise sources, including dump trucks, jack hammers, and conveyers used to spread tailings. It also varies depending upon specific equipment and processes being used, and under what loads the equipment are being operated. Just as regulators require specific sampling conditions for stack testing for air pollution or for sampling water discharges from a point source, ambient noise measurements require controlled conditions as well.

The study design also does not address the variability of noise levels observed in the community due to differing atmospheric conditions. Residents have informed Barton officials that noise levels in the community and surrounding wilderness areas often change daily, even hourly, based on the presence of temperature inversions, heavy cloud cover and other meteorological phenomena.

4. NYSDEC Assessing and Mitigating Noise Impacts Guidance and Table 2 referenced by H2H is not applicable to permit renewals for existing facilities.
5. Table 2 is not applicable when sound from a facility is currently resulting in baseline nuisance conditions.

Barton Mine should mitigate noise to levels consistent with the first 35-years of mine operation, notably, a period during which the Mine thrived. The recent increase in community noise must be a result of changes with equipment, or changes to landforms that were blocking the noise and/or that are now amplifying the noise. Barton needs to figure it out and fix the problem before they expand operations. It's not that complicated. Let's just fix it.

Thank you for consideration of these comments and your dedication to public service.

Alan Belenz

Trena and Rob Riedinger  
315 Edwards Hill RD  
Bakers Mills, NY 12811

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 01 2023

May 30, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course RD  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
APA  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

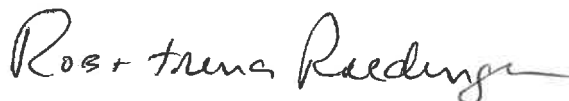
Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' permit modification application, which must be approved in order to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations—which provides critically important jobs and economic benefits to our area and to future generations.

We have inspected Barton's plans to extend their permit, and feel it is not only important, but essential, that they be given the opportunity to continue their work. They provide year round, fulltime jobs with benefits, locally, in an area that cannot offer this. They are a major taxpayer to our area, as well.

The Adirondack Park needs more companies like this, and our hope is that their modification plan will be approved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rob + Trena Riedinger".

Robert Lore, Deputy Director For Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
SEP 02 2022

Dear Mr. Lore,

My name is Andrew Robbins. My parents purchased land and built a home on Garnet Hill almost 50 years ago and I have been coming up here as a child and an adult since the 1970's. I am writing this letter in response to the application by Barton Mines to expand their operations. I don't mind the mines operating or being close to me but their expansion has caused me concern.

When I drive up 13th lake road I can now see a mountain of tailings on the horizon that used to be trees. When I sit on my porch I can hear the rumble of machinery and have found excessive dust on my deck from the mining operation.

I am asking that some controls be put into place so that Barton Mines and Garnet Hill residents can co-exist peacefully. I would like to suggest that limitations be put on mine operations on the weekends in the summer and fall when people are at their homes enjoying the outdoors. A closure on major holidays such as memorial day, labor day, veterans day etc.

The visibility of the tailings piles should be addressed so that they are hidden and don't spoil the views from the mountain tops.

A reduction of noise from the machinery so we can enjoy the peacefulness of the mountain.

The mine should stay open but it is imperative that the APA and DEC thoroughly examine Barton Mine's application, current operations and future plans with environmental impact in mind. It is my hope that a comprehensive analysis will result in a sensible approach to minimizing the current and future effects of Barton Mine.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Andrew Robbins

917-597-1461  
ap robbins15@gmail.com

Caren Lynn Roeder  
1006 Fort Hunter Rd. Schenectady, NY 12303

May 26, 2023

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 01 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

RE:Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations-providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

My family has maintained a life-long residence in the Town of Indian Lake dating back to the 1920's. We still spend our Summers there every year. As a Hamilton County tax payer, I am quite familiar with the importance and value Barton Mines has provided the surrounding towns and villages since 1983. In addition the employment opportunities Barton Mines have extended to local citizens is extremely important to the success of our communities not only today but in perpetuity.

I urge you please to approve Barton Mines' permit application! Help us to secure our communities futures.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Caren Lynn Roeder". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Caren" and last name "Roeder" being more prominent than the middle name "Lynn".

Caren Lynn Roeder

Brian Sabattis  
13 Hayes Road  
North River, NY 12856

May 29, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 01 2023

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

I live in North River and the operations of this business have never affected my or my family's life. The mine must be extremely efficient because I do not recall this mine ever having issues. I know family and friends who work at Barton's and they are a solid company.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,





Amy Sabattis  
13 Hayes Road  
North River, NY 12856

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 01 2023

May 29, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

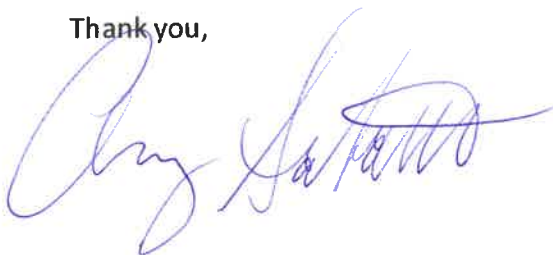
Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I have lived in North River for 54 years. My father worked for Barton Mines which enabled him to provide for our family and it gave my parents the ability to raise their kids in a clean, safe, close-knit community where we were able to thrive. Currently, my brother and brother-in-law work for Barton's Mines combined they have a total of 40 years invested in the company. Like my parents, they too have been able to raise their families in a wonderful part of the country and are able to make a decent wage.

I would like to express my support of the Barton Mines' APA permit modification application. The approval of this project will ensure that the people in our community have a chance to work for a well-established company that provides a living wage, health benefits, and a retirement plan. Many of the companies in the Adirondacks are tourist-based most do not offer benefits and are only seasonal positions. Over 300,000 people left New York last year if Barton's is not able to operate I'm afraid their employees will be bound for other states since it is very expensive to live here.

I also would like to point out the positive contributions that Barton's has given to our community through charitable giving to non-profits, local fire departments, and schools.

Thank you,



Matthew Schwab & Valerie Havas  
99 Old Farm Road  
P.O. Box 66  
North River, NY 12856

September 10, 2022

Mr. Robert Lore ([robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov))  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Ms. Beth Magee ([dep.r5@dec.ny.gov](mailto:dep.r5@dec.ny.gov))  
NYS DEC, Region 5  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

**RE: Barton Mine North River Operations Mines Current Conditions and Proposed Expansion Project**

Dear Mr. Lore and Ms. Magee,

We are writing to comment on the proposed 75-year permit with the Adirondack Park Agency for continued operation and expansion of the Barton Mine in the Hamlet of North River, Johnsburg, NY. The Barton Mine is located immediately adjacent to the Siamese Pond Wilderness, an expanse of over 114,000 acres of forest and lakes in Warren and Hamilton Counties. We are residents of North River and are writing to express our significant concerns regarding the proposed application to expand the Barton Mine.

The rich history of the Town of Johnsburg and the Siamese Ponds Wilderness is intertwined with the garnet industry, and mining operations played a big part in the early settlement of the area. Since area mining operations began in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, local commercial and residential uses have co-existed in very close proximity to mining operations. Barton has generally been a good neighbor, and for the most part, Barton's current operations on Ruby Mountain are compatible with adjoining land uses. However, that history of co-existence is threatened by recent changes to Barton's operations, as well as by the proposed mine expansion detailed in the application.

It is apparent that recent changes (in the last five years) to Barton's operations, in particular with regard to the elevation of mining activities, have resulted in increased noise and visual impacts that are clearly evident to local residents and visitors. Barton's proposed expansion (above current levels of operation) as described in their application would substantially increase the areal extent of the mine and the overall scope of mining and processing

operations, potentially increasing noise, visual, water quality and traffic impacts to unacceptable levels.

It is imperative that the APA and DEC thoroughly evaluate these potential impacts as part of the permit review process. Barton should be required to provide additional information detailing the scope of their operations over the last 15 years, along with verified studies of noise, visual and other environmental impacts. Understanding the current level operations and resulting impacts is necessary before any consideration for further expansion is permitted.

In particular, a bright line should be drawn to ensure that visual and noise impacts from expanded Barton operations do not result in any increased impacts to the wilderness character of Thirteenth Lake and the entire Siamese Ponds Wilderness. This area provides thousands of New Yorkers and other visitors an unparalleled wilderness experience in the southeastern corner of the Adirondack Park, and continued protection of the unique natural character of the wilderness is of the utmost importance.

Barton should be required to mitigate current and future impacts from the mine. In particular, we are concerned with the following specific impacts:

Noise levels and duration – The noise levels associated with mine operations, particularly as operations move further up the mountain with extended hours of operation, are not compatible with the “Forever Wild” provision in the NYS constitution. Noise impacts that are evident to local residents and recreational visitors to Thirteenth Lake should be mitigated to the maximum extent possible. Where noise impacts cannot be mitigated by best practices, limits on the location and duration of mining and processing operations should be built into any new permit issued.

Visibility – With recent expansion, the tailings piles are now visible from wilderness areas as well as from local roads and residences. As discussed above, expanded operations as detailed in Barton’s own application will increase these impacts if operations expand as proposed. Any new permit should constrain Barton operations to eliminate increased visual impacts.

Dust – Dust plumes from the tailings piles cause health and safety concerns as well as domestic nuisance. The dust impacts of current and future operations should be carefully assessed, so that potential impacts on wildlife and local residents are fully mitigated.

Light pollution – 24-hour lighting impacts local residents and visitors alike, and is incompatible with the area’s wilderness character. Lighting impacts should be carefully evaluated and mitigated to the maximum extent possible.

In conclusion, Barton’s current application to increase its mining and processing operations, as described in the application, would increase impacts on both local residents and visitors to this unique area. Barton should be required to mitigate current and future impacts from the mine to maintain compatibility with the region’s wilderness character. Agency review should

aggressively evaluate the impacts associated with current operations, as a baseline to evaluate any future expansion. It is our hope that a comprehensive analysis, with input from all stakeholders, will result in a sensible approach to minimizing the current and future effects of the Barton Mine.

Thanks in advance for your close attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Matthew Schwab  
[Mschwab205@gmail.com](mailto:Mschwab205@gmail.com)

Valerie Havas  
[vchavas@gmail.com](mailto:vchavas@gmail.com)

cc:

Barbara Rice, Executive Director, NYS APA ([terry.martino@apa.ny.gov](mailto:terry.martino@apa.ny.gov))  
Joseph Zalewski, Regional Director NYS DEC, Region 5, ([joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov))  
Matthew Simpson, NY State Assemblyman, ([SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov](mailto:SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov))  
Daniel G. Stec, NY State Senator, ([stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov))  
Andrea Hogan, Supervisor, Town of Johnsbury, ([supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com))  
Friends of Siamese Ponds Wilderness, ([friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com))

June 3, 2023

David Plante

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99

Ray Brook, NY 12977

Re: Barton Mines DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Mr. Plante:

We are writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations. Barton Mines provides critically important job opportunities and economic benefits for present and future generations of Adirondack residents.

As part time residents ourselves we have seen the economic downturn of the Town of Indian Lake in just the last 25 years. Loss of good paying job opportunities for residents, especially younger generations, will result in those residents leaving the area in search of opportunities elsewhere. We cannot afford this loss economically and we certainly can't lose the population of the future. We often wonder where our future volunteer fireman, EMTs, church and meals-on-wheels volunteers and school board members will come from if our communities can't offer decent employment to maintain our population. As we witnessed during the Covid pandemic, our economy in the Adirondacks cannot rely solely on tourism.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and we have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important tax payer and a customer to many other area businesses. Barton mines and processes a much-needed industrial product that is sourced in the USA unlike many products that are sourced or processed in/by China.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local communities thriving. We urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



Robert and Deborah Schwarting

9 Prospect Point Lane

Clifton Park, NY 12065

[rdschwarting@gmail.com](mailto:rdschwarting@gmail.com)

(518) 877-7602

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 05 2023

**Ron and Nancy Shaw**  
**P.O. Box 67**  
**Minerva, New York 12851**

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
JUN 05 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Plante:

We are writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

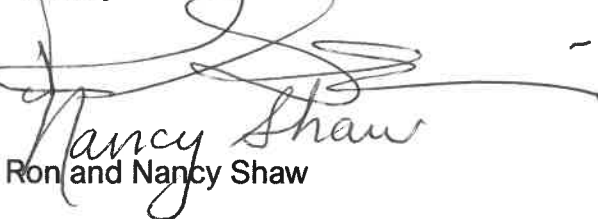
Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983. I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving.

I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you.



Nancy Shaw  
Ron and Nancy Shaw

Harold M. Silverman  
846 Thirteenth Lake Road  
PO Box 206  
North River, NY 12856  
HalSilverman@aol.com

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

✓ AUG 31 2022

August 28, 2022

Robert Lore, Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook,  
NY 12977

Beth Magee, Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC Region  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY12885

Dear Mr. Lore and Ms. Magee:

My wife and I have a home in North River. We came here in 1987. We, and our many neighbors, fell in love with the beauty and peacefulness of the Garnet Hill area. It lies on the border of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness. As you know, that is celebrated as a Forever Wild Area, undisturbed by the noise of jet skis and snow mobiles.

When we came here, The Barton Mine was operated at times, and in a manner that respected its residential neighbors. So it is most troubling to find out that the mine is now seeking a permit renewal that will allow it to greatly expand its operations at the present site.

I am writing to request that your agencies study the environmental impact this will have on noise levels, air-breathing quality, ground-water purity and local truck traffic density.



Will the proposed permit increase the visibility of the mine's tailings pile which can already be seen from 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road and from various hiking trails?

Will the new permit require the mine to regularly test the safety of our drinking water from mine waste run-off?

Will the mine's working lights increase their present intrusion of the once-clear night sky?

Will current restrictions on frequency and intensity of blasting and operating noise be lifted to startle and annoy North River residents?

Will garnet dust increase to coat our outdoor surroundings not-to-mention increasing the danger of cancer-causing silicosis?

I urgently hope the APA and DEC will consider, and deal with, the importance of all these issues to the quality of life and quality of health of me and my North River community friends.

Thank you,

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'H. Silverman', with a stylized, flowing script.

Harold M. Silverman

cc: Barbara Rice, Executive Director NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
Joseph Zalewski, Regional Director, NYS Department of  
Environmental Conservation, Region 5, Friends of the Siamese  
Ponds Wilderness

PO Box334  
29 East Holcomb Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

MAR 20 2023

3/13/2023

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,



**Thomas & Vickie Smith**  
**Both Former employees at Barton Mines**

JUN 05 2023

Angela Smith  
338 Hudson Street  
Johnsburg NY 12843

5/24/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:


I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Angela Smith  


5-30-2023

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 01 2023

To: **John M. Burt, NYS APA**

From: Ann E. Snow

Subject: Saranac Lake Marine

PO Box 962 SLK. NY 12983

I, 100%, support the Saranac Lake Marina. Over the past 10 years, I have written many letters and attended many meetings in support of the marina. SLM purchased a neglected, dilapidated 100-year-old marina, which was dangerous for, both the people using it and the environment. SLM has built environmentally safe floating state of the art docks, which meet or exceed, all the requests of the APA and DEC. It is time to cover the slips and move on.

Once again the APA is abusing its power by subjecting SLM to additional changes, requirements, legal loops and prolonged litigation. Enough! A zillion more studies could be done with a little or no change in the long term outcome. It appears that common sense no longer exists, when one lakefront property owner can use the courts to hold SLM and its customers, hostage.

SLM deserves utmost credit for its years of trying to comply with every request made by the APA, DEC, and the courts. It is time to move on, stop the harassment, legal delays and expense.

The vast majority of the boat slips are rented by local Adirondack residents who can remember the old marina and appreciate the vast improvements. This marina provides a safe, environmentally sound access to the lake, for many who would not otherwise be able to enjoy these waterways.

I do not want our voices to be continually be ignored. It is time for the leaders to listen to our voices. We have been patient, written letters, attended meetings and expressed our frustration. Now the courts, APA, DEC and the powers to be, need to listen to the PEOPLE.

The opportunity is here to put this harassment to rest. Please Support the SLM and the vast number of people who want this marina to succeed.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Ann E. Snow

Ann E. Snow

Saranac Lake, NY.

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
INTERNET AND TECHNOLOGY

COMMITTEES  
EDUCATION  
HEALTH  
RULES  
VETERANS, HOMELAND SECURITY  
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

EMAIL:  
STEC@NYSENATE.GOV

**THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK**



**DANIEL G. STEC**  
SENATOR, 45TH DISTRICT

ALBANY OFFICE:  
408 LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BLDG  
ALBANY, NY 12247  
(T) (518) 455-2811  
(F) (518) 426-6873

DISTRICT OFFICE  
5 WARREN STREET, STE. 3  
GLENS FALLS, NY 12801  
(T) (518) 743-0968  
(F) (518) 743-0336

SATELLITE OFFICE:  
48 COURT STREET, STE. 846  
CANTON, NY 13617  
(T) (315) 229-3195

May 2, 2023

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

MAY 12 2023

Beth Magee, Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

David Plante, Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante,

Please accept this letter as my support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983. Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 jobs and their plans will have minimal impact on the surrounding environment and neighbors.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving.

I fully support this application and thank you for consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "DGST", written in a cursive, stylized script.

Daniel G. Stec  
Senator, 45<sup>th</sup> District

Stanley Steyer  
5 Queens Lane  
Queensbury, NY  
12804

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 01 2023

May 28, 2023

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations - providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approx. 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible

natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Stanley Greer



MAY 08 2023

**THE BOARD**

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Arietta

**Phillip C. Snyder**  
Benson

**Steven M. Tomlinson**  
Hope

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Indian Lake

**John Frey**  
Inlet

**County Attorney**  
Charles R. Getty, Jr.  
Lake Pleasant



**Clerk**  
Laura A. Abrams  
Arietta

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Wells

**SUPERVISOR'S CHAMBERS**

P.O. BOX 205, 102 COUNTY VIEW DR.  
LAKE PLEASANT, NEW YORK 12108  
Phone (518) 548-6651 Fax (518) 548-7608

May 4, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE: BARTON MINES APA/DEC MINE PERMIT MODIFICATION

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations- providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

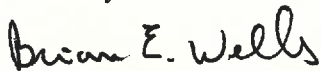
As a former employee of Barton Mines, I know first-hand the commitment the Barton Mines Corporation and the Barton family have to the surrounding communities and to the environment of the Adirondacks. Their approach to sustainable mining and responsible environmental protection is evident with the transparency of their expansion plans.

Barton Mines Corporation has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since moving from Gore Mountain in 1983. This was during my time of employment with Barton Mines, and it was a once in a lifetime experience being involved in the transition.

Barton is a major employer in many communities surrounding the North River area. It is a taxpayer, customer to area businesses and philanthropist to many local organizations.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local communities thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to continue its legacy of community support and environmental stewardship.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian E. Wells". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "B" and "W".

Brian E. Wells, Chairman  
Hamilton County Board of Supervisors

2/9/2023

Mr. Robert Lore-Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

**FEB 13 2023**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton Mines is an integral part of the community of Johnsburg and our only Primary economic driver. As the Adirondack park has matured over the last century we have seen a loss of jobs in the primary (raw materials) and secondary (manufacturing) part of our economy and a shift to the tertiary (service) sector of the economy. This shift has caused a loss of good paying jobs in the area and the robustness that can lead to economic sustainability in a community. Tourism alone can not sustain a community and without Primary and second act economic drivers a community is soon to die. For this reason alone Barton Mines and its continued vitality is vital to our region.

The interesting fact that escapes many is that the Garnet Hill Homeowners association that is opposed to Barton Mines would not exist if not for the mine. Barton Mines has been in existence since 1878, before the park was even formed. Its location up at the top of 13th Lake road currently, and at the top of Barton's mine road previously, is very difficult to get to and the development of roads and the running of power to its location would not have occurred had Barton Mines not been there. In fact one could argue that this land would have been classified much different and quite possibly acquired by the state as forever wild. If had remained privately owned the subdivision of the density of the Garnet Lake Homeowners association would not have taken place. The very existence of the opposition is a direct result of the mine being there.

The history and importance of Barton Mines was such that as a small coffee roaster celebrating the natural beauty and history of the Upper Hudson River area I named a Medium roast coffee after its founder H.H.Barton. I have included some for you to try.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jim Williams", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jim Williams-Upper Hudson Coffee

~~SAMPLE~~ SUPPORT LETTER – ~~SAMPLE~~ SUPPORT LETTER

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

WILLIAM D. & BARBARA A. DOUGLASS  
SUMMIT AT FORE MTN, 9 FREEBORN ROAD, NORTH CREEK, NY

[DATE] 6/20/2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

*[PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CUSTOMIZE YOUR PERSONAL MESSAGE HERE.]*

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

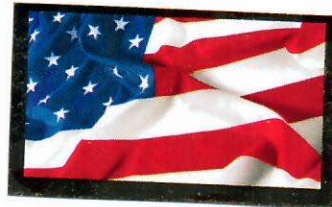
Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

William D. Douglass

[YOUR NAME AND SIGNATURE]





Cindy Baker  
Windy Baker  
6/17/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 GOLF Course Road  
Warrensburg, N.Y. 12885

David Plante  
Deputy Director For Regulatory Programs  
ADIRONDACK Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, N.Y. 12977

I'm writing to you in support of  
Barton Mines mine permit application.  
Barton Mines has been a great asset to  
our community & has provided good paying  
jobs for many years. We need to keep  
Bartons running now & in the future!  
It would be a great loss to our  
community. They provide 125 jobs!

Please renew the permit application  
Sincerely, Cindy & Windy Baker

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Samantha Washburn  
245 Lane Road, North Creek NY 12853

[DATE] 5/23/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,





[YOUR NAME] *Kate Brown*  
[YOUR ADDRESS] *68 Casterline Rd*  
*North River, NY 12856*  
[DATE] *5/23/23*

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpccomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpccomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

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Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

*Kate Brown*



[YOUR NAME] Marianna S. Balser  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 22 Wilber Hitchcocks RD

[DATE] 5/22/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

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Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Marianna S. Balser

[YOUR NAME] Brandon Baker  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 22 Wilber Hitcock Rd. Bakers Mills, NY.  
[DATE] May 22, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

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The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Brandon C. Baker

[YOUR NAME] Duane Baker  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 22 Wilber Hitchcock Rd Bakers Mills, NY.  
[DATE] May 22, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

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Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,





[YOUR NAME] Shane French  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 22 Wilber Hitchcock Rd. Bakers Mills NY  
[DATE] May 22, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rppcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rppcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

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Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Shane French

[YOUR NAME] Letitia Williams  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE] 5/25/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

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Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Letitia Williams', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.



**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER – SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER**

[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

5-25-2013

Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

NYSDEC

232 Golf Course Rd.

Warrensburg, NY 12885

Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99

Ray Brook, NY 12977

rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

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*[PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CUSTOMIZE YOUR PERSONAL MESSAGE HERE.]*

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The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

[YOUR NAME AND SIGNATURE]

Judy Dunkley  
Judy Dunkley (Alec Kotula)  
PO Box 115  
North River, NY 12856

*Christopher D Aldous*  
6326 NYS Route 30  
Indian Lake NY 12842

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUL 03 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application; I have been an employee of Barton for going on 27 years now. I think I have an insight into the mine and this company that many may not, although many things have changed the core values have not. It is a family company and as an employee I have been with Barton through good years and bad and one thing remained constant, which is their care for their employees. It starts with safety, a determination to ensure everyone goes home the same way they came in. They have been there when employees go through tough times, fundraisers for sick family members or when an employee lost their home in a fire or even flowers on a loved one's coffin. In the tough times they would give additional days off with pay, in the good times the employees received a bonus and contributions to their retirement. The community cannot lose an employer like this, they contribute generously to the local community and the loss of revenue to these small towns would be enormous.

Thank you,  
Christopher D Aldous



TPGER TINDERSON  
Dolores ANDERSON  
31 CRANE MT. RD.  
JOHNSBURG, NY. 12843

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 14 2023

June 11, 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency

RE: Barton Mines A.P.A./D.E.C. Mine Permit  
Modification

Dear Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the Company's Adirondack operations - providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Without this company, there would be many more people dependent on the system (collecting welfare etc.). These jobs are more important than many people realize.

The workers have a real sense of pride when asked, "Where do you work?"

This job brings security and much more to the families who have held jobs with Barton Mines throughout generations.

It would be a real catastrophe to take this away from those

who depend on Barton Mines for their living.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mt. operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983 and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving.

I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank You

Dolores Anderson

ROGER ANDERSON

Dolores Anderson

Ref. 11



Larry and Suzann Andrews

123 Fawn Ridge Rd

Indian lake Ny 12842

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 16 2023

Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

NYSDEC

232 Golf Course Rd.

Warrensburg, NY 12885

[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99

Ray Brook, NY 12977

[rppcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rppcomments@apa.ny.gov)


RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante: I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations - providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

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Thank you,

Lawrence Andrews



Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
JUN 20 2023

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

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Thank you,



DICK + MILLIE ANZALONE  
P.O. BOX 538  
INDIAN LAKE, NY 12842

Janet Austin

---

Post Office Box 405, Indian Lake, New York 12842

June 27, 2023

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
JUL 03 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
New York State Department of Conservation  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, New York 12885  
[Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov)

✓ David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
Post Office Box 99  
Ray Brook, New York 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines DEC/APA Mine Permit Modification**

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Sincerely,



Janet Austin

# Joseph Austin

---

Post Office Box 405, Indian Lake, New York 12842

June 27, 2023

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUL 03 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
New York State Department of Conservation  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, New York 12885  
[Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov)

✓ David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
Post Office Box 99  
Ray Brook, New York 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines DEC/APA Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

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The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Sincerely,



Joseph Austin

**From:** [tom.meusel@gmail.com](mailto:tom.meusel@gmail.com)  
**To:** [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#); [dec.sm.DEP.R5](#); [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Magee, Corrie \(APA\)](#); [Zalewski, Joseph M \(DEC\)](#); [SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov](mailto:SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov); [stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov); [supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com); [Kate.Smith@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Kate.Smith@dec.ny.gov)  
**Subject:** Barton Mine APA/DEC permit modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 6, 2023 2:22:24 PM

---

**ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.**

Robert Lore, Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs, NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
Beth Magee, Permit Administrator, NYSDEC Region 5

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante,

As a resident of North River I recently received a request from Barton Mines to send you a letter of support for Barton's mine permit modification application. Having owned a home near the mine since 2006 and witnessed Barton's blatant disregard for the wilderness areas surrounding the mine, the Adirondack Park's requirements for operation as well as the negative impact on the local community I cannot think of something I oppose more than Barton's request for expansion.

Barton's sample letter, much like their permit modification application, lacks transparency and detail relative to their claims of minimizing impact on the local community, providing good jobs and taxes in the towns where the mine operates. They've yet to provide the details behind those claims as they operate from their "green" office in Glens Falls.

More importantly they fail to mention the jobs that will be negatively impacted or eliminated by their request in the service industry like wait staff, kitchen help, local outdoor and recreation activities that rely on tourism. Tourism that will be negatively impacted as they scrape away the landscape near 13th Lake and replace it with a tailings pile that will soon be 400+ feet high, more than 10x its originally anticipated height.

They also fail to mention their disregard for operating the mine 24/7 outside of what their current permit allows; creating noise, dust, light, and water pollution. They have ignored those requirements and have grown unchecked, destroying the wildlife and nature of the wilderness areas that surround the mine today. They have not operated in a responsible manner since 1983 and have purposefully taken advantage of a lack of oversight by the APA to negatively impact the area and the local community.

Barton is not operating the mine responsibly today, nor are they operating within their current permit, therefore their permit modification application should be rejected.

I appreciate your willingness to hear from residents like me and sincerely hope the APA will prioritize protecting the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area and Thirteenth Lake over the desires of a big corporation with little regard for the beauty, nature and wildlife of the Adirondack Park.

Thank you and regards,



Tom Meusel  
North River, NY

**From:** [Amy Garrahan](#)  
**To:** [RALBANO@BARTON.COM](mailto:RALBANO@BARTON.COM)  
**Cc:** [friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#); [Zalewski, Joseph M \(DEC\)](#); [5dep.r5@dec.ny.gov](mailto:5dep.r5@dec.ny.gov); [davia.plante@apa.ny.gov](mailto:davia.plante@apa.ny.gov)  
**Subject:** Barton Mine Noise  
**Date:** Monday, June 19, 2023 6:18:05 PM

---

Some people who received this message don't often get email from amygarrahan@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Hello Mr. Albano,

It has come to my attention that you would like to hear when the noise at the Barton Ruby Mountain Mine is intrusive. I'd like to inform you that the noise this weekend was absurdly loud, as usual!

Five years ago, when my husband and I first contacted you about our noise concerns it was annoying. Since then the noise has only become more of a nuisance —more persistent and louder.

From Friday night through Sunday the whining noise from the mine was incessant. At 3:00 a.m. both Sat and Sun, I could hear the whining drone noise. Windows we're all closed! This is NOT "white noise" —a calming regular sound, like a fan. This noise seems to be consistent in volume but cyclical in pitch. It whines around in a very unsettling manner.

This noise was not audible in:

- 1977, when the Garnet Hill community was incorporated.
- 1980, when the mine opened.
- 2016, when we moved to North River.

Please do away with this nuisance and return the natural sounds of the wilderness.

Sincerely,  
Amy Treistman  
96 Ruby Mountain View Dr.  
North River, NY 12856

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [Chandler, David](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mine Permit letter of importance  
**Date:** Monday, June 12, 2023 6:22:01 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[Barton Mine Permit letter of importance.docx](#)

---

Some people who received this message don't often get email from dchandler@barton.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.**

Thank you

**David Chandler**  
**Regional Sales Manager**

**BARTON**

Mobile: 678-882-2243  
Email: [dchandler@barton.com](mailto:dchandler@barton.com)  
Web: [www.barton.com](http://www.barton.com)  
Store: <https://store.barton.com>

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David Chandler  
19 S. Ivy Ridge Rd. SE  
Rome, GA 30161  
6/8/2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts. Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses. The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,  
David Chandler

**From:** [Chellsea Benway](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Saturday, June 17, 2023 6:02:18 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Chellsea Benway  
cbenway94@gmail.com  
8 Foote St Mineville, NY 12956

**From:** [Kaitlyn Ashline](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 5:55:57 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Kaitlyn Ashline  
nkab6318@icloud.com  
233 Williams Road Fort Edward, NY 12828

**From:** [Clara Barnhart](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 11:55:49 AM

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Clara Barnhart  
clara.barnhart@gmail.com  
17500 County Highway 23 Sidney, NY 13838



**From:** [Karen Carey](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\): APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 8:31:23 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Karen Carey  
justcarey5@yahoo.com  
65 Greenfield Ave Ballston Spa, NY 12020

**From:** [Jilian Caza](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Saturday, June 17, 2023 5:50:28 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Jilian Caza  
caza.j913@gmail.com  
69 Wonderview North Hudson, Ny 12855

**From:** [Kathleen Rybicki](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 9:01:21 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from glenmore32@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Kathleen Rybicki  
glenmore32@yahoo.com  
32 Glenmore Avenue Saratoga Springs, New York 12866

**From:** [Brittney Forbes](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Saturday, June 17, 2023 5:57:26 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from bforbes62113@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Brittney Forbes  
bforbes62113@yahoo.com  
187 nys rt 74 Schroon lake, New York 12870

**From:** [Thomas Forbes](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Saturday, June 17, 2023 7:45:09 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Thomas Forbes  
tforbes82507@yahoo.com  
187 nys Route 74 Schroon lake, Ny 12870

**From:** [Chris Franke](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Friday, June 16, 2023 12:10:03 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from cfrnke27@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Chris Franke  
cfrnke27@hotmail.com  
891 Franklin Dept Rd Sidney Center, Ny 13839

**From:** [Jamie Gentili](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 8:36:35 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from jamiegentili@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Jamie Gentili  
jamiegentili@yahoo.com  
P.O. Box 2501 Malta, NY 12020



**From:** [Perry Gezzi](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 7, 2023 5:29:29 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from perry.gezzi@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Perry Gezzi  
perry.gezzi@gmail.com  
46 Fairview Ave North Creek, New York 12853

**From:** [Brian Hammond](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 6, 2023 5:53:20 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from bhammond@barton.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Brian Hammond  
bhammond@barton.com  
30 Stage Coach RD Chestertown, NY 12817

**From:** [Mark Hammond](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Saturday, June 17, 2023 10:27:10 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from markhammond8376@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Mark Hammond  
markhammond8376@gmail.com  
453 Johnson rd Adirondack, Ny 12808

**From:** [Steven Hammond](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Saturday, June 17, 2023 4:24:35 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from hammonds71@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Steven Hammond  
hammonds71@yahoo.com  
12 Helen Street Hudson falls, NY 12839

**From:** [gjhphila@gmail.com](mailto:gjhphila@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Monday, June 12, 2023 11:06:00 AM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mine's permit modification application which when granted will extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations.

Barton is a major employer in the Adirondacks and has been so for nearly 150 years. They provide roughly 125 jobs annually which are sorely needed in the area, they pay taxes, and they a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible employers and resource managers such as Barton who has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner for 40 years. We can expect that Barton will continue to operate all its operations including Ruby Mine with minimum community impact, and we should support Barton's efforts to provide community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Gail Hauptfuhrer  
313 Gaskill Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19147  
[gjhphila@gmail.com](mailto:gjhphila@gmail.com)  
(m) 215-519-7346

**From:** [Roberta Dunlavey](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 9:12:35 PM

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Roberta Dunlavey  
campqueen58@yahoo.com  
740 Arnold Street Ballston Spa, NY 12020

**From:** [Louisa Heffernan](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 8:09:12 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Louisa Heffernan  
mheffer1@nycap.rr.com  
777 Arnold Street Ballston Spa, NY 12020



**From:** [Michael Heffernan](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 8:11:00 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from mheff1986@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Michael Heffernan  
mheff1986@gmail.com  
777 Arnold St. Ballston Spa, NY 12020

**From:** [Ed Kelley](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 21, 2023 9:37:35 AM

---

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Ed Kelley  
[ekelley2@nycap.rr.com](mailto:ekelley2@nycap.rr.com)  
32 Glenmore Avenue Saratoga Springs, New York 12866

**From:** [janet konis](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Friday, June 9, 2023 7:21:11 AM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from jmp57@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- janet konis  
jmp57@hotmail.com  
86 Ridge st North Creek, NY 12853

**From:** [Beverly LaBarge](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Friday, June 16, 2023 10:56:07 AM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from bcl@spa.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Beverly LaBarge  
bcl@spa.net  
183 Lake Avenue SaratogaSprings, New York 12866

**From:** [John LaPointe](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Thursday, June 15, 2023 11:36:09 AM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- John LaPointe  
john.lapointe@sylvamo.com  
25 Montcalm Street Ticonderoga, New York 12883

**From:** [Jason Lemery](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 6, 2023 3:34:49 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

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Thank you,

-- Jason Lemery  
jlemery@barton.com  
1241 Barton Mines Rd. North River, NY 12856

**From:** James Levey  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Sunday, June 11, 2023 10:36:36 AM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

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Thank you,

-- James Levey  
leveyjim6@gmail.com  
10 Park Ave Croton On Hudson, NY 10520



**From:** [Miles, James](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#)  
**Cc:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 9:36:16 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[Summary.pdf](#)  
[Jim Miles.docx.pdf](#)

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Beth and David,

Please see the attached documents for your consideration.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Jim

Jim Miles  
Great Lakes Regional Sales Manager



Barton International

P 248-390-2490

F 518-798-5728

[jmiles@barton.com](mailto:jmiles@barton.com)

**Certificate Of Completion**

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Catherine Miles

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catherinem@higmi.com

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James Miles

jmiles@barton.com

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Signed: 6/13/2023 4:45:11 PM

**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:**

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From time to time, High Street Insurance (we, us or Company) may be required by law to provide to you certain written notices or disclosures. Described below are the terms and conditions for providing to you such notices and disclosures electronically through the DocuSign system. Please read the information below carefully and thoroughly, and if you can access this information electronically to your satisfaction and agree to this Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure (ERSD), please confirm your agreement by selecting the check-box next to 'I agree to use electronic records and signatures' before clicking 'CONTINUE' within the DocuSign system.

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Unless you tell us otherwise in accordance with the procedures described herein, we will provide electronically to you through the DocuSign system all required notices, disclosures, authorizations, acknowledgements, and other documents that are required to be provided or made available to you during the course of our relationship with you. To reduce the chance of you inadvertently not receiving any notice or disclosure, we prefer to provide all of the required notices and disclosures to you by the same method and to the same address that you have given us. Thus, you can receive all the disclosures and notices electronically or in paper format through the paper mail delivery system. If you do not agree with this process, please let us know as described below. Please also see the paragraph immediately above that describes the consequences of your electing not to receive delivery of the notices and disclosures electronically from us.

### **How to contact High Street Insurance:**

You may contact us to let us know of your changes as to how we may contact you electronically, to request paper copies of certain information from us, and to withdraw your prior consent to receive notices and disclosures electronically as follows:

To contact us by email send messages to: [mvigil@highstreetpartners.com](mailto:mvigil@highstreetpartners.com)

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To let us know of a change in your email address where we should send notices and disclosures electronically to you, you must send an email message to us at [mvigil@highstreetpartners.com](mailto:mvigil@highstreetpartners.com) and in the body of such request you must state: your previous email address, your new email address. We do not require any other information from you to change your email address.

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### **To request paper copies from High Street Insurance**

To request delivery from us of paper copies of the notices and disclosures previously provided by us to you electronically, you must send us an email to [mvigil@highstreetpartners.com](mailto:mvigil@highstreetpartners.com) and in the body of such request you must state your email address, full name, mailing address, and telephone number. We will bill you for any fees at that time, if any.

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- ii. send us an email to [mvigil@highstreetpartners.com](mailto:mvigil@highstreetpartners.com) and in the body of such request you must state your email, full name, mailing address, and telephone number. We do not need any other information from you to withdraw consent.. The consequences of your withdrawing consent for online documents will be that transactions may take a longer time to process..

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- Until or unless you notify High Street Insurance as described above, you consent to receive exclusively through electronic means all notices, disclosures, authorizations, acknowledgements, and other documents that are required to be provided or made available to you by High Street Insurance during the course of your relationship with High Street Insurance.

*Jim Miles*  
3835 Red Root Rd.  
Lake Orion, MI 48360

6/13/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

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Thank you,  
DocuSigned by:

*James Miles*

F3080BC23B124C5...  
*Jim Miles*

**From:** [Alycia Mitchell](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 6:29:39 AM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

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Thank you,

-- Alycia Mitchell  
almitch0814@gmail.com  
Lower Allen St Hudson Falls, NY 12839



**From:** [Carla Mitchell](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Saturday, June 17, 2023 5:52:20 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

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Thank you,

-- Carla Mitchell  
ctmitchell0726@gmail.com  
Lower Allen St Hudson Falls, Ny 12839

**From:** [Jesse Mitchell](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 6:27:41 AM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

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Thank you,

-- Jesse Mitchell  
jcmitch1206@gmail.com  
Lower Allen St Hudson Falls, NY 12839

**From:** [Madalyn Mitchell](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 6:28:29 AM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

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Thank you,

-- Madalyn Mitchell  
mrmitch0615@gmail.com  
Lower Allen St Hudson Falls, NY 12839

**From:** [Naomi Mitchell](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 9:18:37 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

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Thank you,

-- Naomi Mitchell  
nananaomi2@yahoo.com  
1 Edgewood Dr South Glens Falls, NY 12803

**From:** Victoria Pigott  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 12:29:01 PM

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Thank you,

-- Victoria Pigott  
pigott.victoria@gmail.com  
78 Prescott ave Staten Island, NY 10306

**From:** [Kim Powers](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Monday, June 19, 2023 9:37:11 AM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

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Thank you,

-- Kim Powers  
kim@upstaterecordsny.com  
4 Sherwood Dr Queensbury, New York 12804

**From:** [Mindy Preuninger](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Monday, June 26, 2023 10:37:11 AM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Mines APA-DEC Mine Permit Letter - Mindy P.pdf](#)

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Ms Magee and Mr. Plante -

I respectfully submit my attached letter for your review & consideration regarding the Permit Modification application of Barton Mines.

Kind Regards,

**- Mindy Preuninger**  
Committee Chair  
**Community Fund for the Gore Mountain Region**



***Mindy Preuninger***  
**21 Stewart Road, Johnsbury NY 12843**  
[Mindy.Preuninger@gmail.com](mailto:Mindy.Preuninger@gmail.com)  
**518-586-6557 c**

**Beth Magee**

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

**David Plante**

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante,

Please accept my letter of full support for the permit modification and continued operation of Barton Mines. I write to you as a resident of Minerva & Johnsbury for 30 years, an involved volunteer with area nonprofits, and as a former owner of Garnet Hill Lodge.

Barton Mines is a generous donor in our area and the organizations that provide many basic services for the most vulnerable members of our community (children & senior citizens), would suffer if their contributions were to cease. Our rural communities in the Adirondack park have an average of 18.9% of children living in poverty (U.S. average is 12%) and an aging population with limited access to services. I have been a member of the advisory committee of the Community Fund for the Gore Mountain Region (hereafter, CFGMR) since 2009 and the chairperson since 2016. The CFGMR, established in 2006, is one of over 290 charitable funds at Adirondack Foundation, a nonprofit community foundation that proudly serves as a philanthropic hub for the Adirondacks. CFGMR responds on an annual basis to rising needs across the 5 towns of Minerva, Chester, Horicon, Johnsbury and Schroon Lake, providing over \$244,000 in funds to local nonprofits and municipalities that by application, request funding from our Community Fund. Fund donations reached \$900,000 in 2023 and Barton Mines is our 3<sup>rd</sup> largest donor to CFGMR and additionally, they are a direct donor to many of the individual nonprofits supported by our fund.

Prior to purchasing Garnet Hill, I was a very frequent guest of the lodge, enjoying the extensive trails on cross-country skis or hiking, dining, attending events and many overnight stays there since my very first year in the Adirondacks, 1993. My husband and I owned and directly managed Garnet Hill Lodge from 2011 thru 2016. At Garnet Hill Lodge, my primary role was managing all guest services, our restaurant & bar, all events, and Garnet Hill Homeowner Association (GHOA) interactions. Throughout my 5 years, I never had a guest or GHOA resident

make a complaint or negative comment regarding Barton Mines operations, and never heard reference to noise level. I personally never heard any mine operation sounds during any of my everyday outdoor activities in the area over all of these years. Barton Mines was a very good neighbor to the Garnet Hill Lodge and their operations were never an issue for us, our staff or our guests. Garnet Hill Lodge benefitted from Barton Mines North River location as host to their overnight business guests, corporate and company dinners. It also contributed to the fulfillment of our staffing needs with spouses and children of their employees living locally.

~~In fact~~ Barton Mines was a very good neighbor to the Garnet Hill Lodge and their operations were never an issue for us, our staff or our guests. As owners, we highlighted to our guests the history of mining in the area in our guest information and engaged them with history tours of Hooper Mine and evening history talks ~~about the~~ logging, trapping and mining industries so instrumental to the development of commerce in the Gore Mountain region. Our guests were fascinated and excited to find that the garnet found here in the Adirondacks in the late 1800's continues to contribute to the economic stability of the region today.

I strongly urge you to approve the renewal of the Barton Mines permit modification. The year-round employment Barton Mines provides is critical to the sustainability of their employees, as well as the nonprofits serving the un-employed or under-employed full-time community that seasonal businesses cannot.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind Regards,

*Mindy Preuninger*

Mindy Preuninger

[Mindy.Preuninger@gmail.com](mailto:Mindy.Preuninger@gmail.com)

518-586-6557 c

**From:** [Thomas Provoncha](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Saturday, June 17, 2023 5:55:34 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

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Thank you,

-- Thomas Provoncha  
tpp81388@yahoo.com  
Foot Mineville, Ny 12956

**From:** [Brandon Reed](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 11:53:45 AM

---

Some people who received this message don't often get email from breedo\_012@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Brandon Reed  
breedo\_012@yahoo.com  
37 Nantucket Street Cohoes, NY 12047

**From:** [Holly O'Leary](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Mike Rozell](#); [njohnson@barton.com](mailto:njohnson@barton.com)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Monday, June 19, 2023 8:09:13 AM  
**Attachments:** [SKM\\_458e23061908100.pdf](#)

---

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Please see the attached letters regarding Barton Mines Permits.

Thanks you,

**Holly A. Brenneisen** | *Accounts Payable Administrator/Union Payroll*



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June 19, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Rozell".

Michael J. Rozell  
Secretary



June 19, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Rozell".

Michael J. Rozell  
Secretary



**From:** [Bessie Savage](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Thursday, June 15, 2023 9:11:42 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Bessie Savage  
1726appleb@frontiernet.net  
8738 NYS RTE 30 Blue Mountain Lake, NY 12812

**From:** [Stine, Jeremy](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\): APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 6, 2023 3:05:07 PM

---

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

I retired from DuPont in Richmond, VA after 28 yrs. of service to work at Barton. In making that commitment, I thoroughly researched where I will be finishing up my career. Through my research and visit to Barton, I relocated in July 2019. The area is beautiful, peaceful and relaxing. Barton makes every effort to keep it that way.

I am the maintenance planner and have a lot to do with improvements that we are making so the Mine can stay in business long after I am gone. I have no regrets about the move I have made to relocate and work for Barton. I absolutely enjoy the job, area and people I work with. My intentions are to eventually retire and stay in the area that I now call home.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

**Thank You,**

**Jeremy Stine**  
**Maintenance Process Flow Leader**  
Barton International  
P: 518.251.2296 ext.382

C: 518.683.5588  
[JStine@Barton.com](mailto:JStine@Barton.com)  
[www.Barton.com](http://www.Barton.com)

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**From:** [Loren Swears](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 7, 2023 10:36:08 AM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Mines APADEC Mine Permit Modification.msg](#)

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Loren A. Swears  
Technical Sales  
Slack Chemical Co. Inc  
21 grande Blvd.  
Saratoga Springs, NY. 12866

6/7/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante

As an employee of Slack Chemical Co. Inc, a long time resident of the area, and winter 46r I am writing in support of Barton Mines 'APA mine permit modification application.

The Adirondack Park has been a wonderful and important part of my life. The experiences I have had in the high peaks wilderness, on Lake Gorge, Lake Champlain, and at Gore Mt. Have made a profound impact on my life and the life of my family. The Foresight to make a state park of this magnitude is truly unique.

The management of the natural resources within the park should allow for a balance between the spectacle of nature and the conscientious use of needed materials. Barton Mines has struck this balance for years while not only providing good paying jobs for residents of the park but also supporting local businesses like Slack Chemical.

We at Slack Chemical provide environmental and production chemistry too many businesses and municipalities in the park. Barton Mines has been a valued and consistent partner as both of our business have grown.

Barton's proposal will continue to allow local allied companies such as Slack Chemical to provide good paying jobs to local upstate residents while protecting the park that we all enjoy.

Sincerely,  
Loren A. Swears

Slack Chemical Co. Inc  
518 209-6123  
lswears@slackchem.com

**From:** [Jan Talarico](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Saturday, June 17, 2023 5:50:11 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Jan Talarico  
talarico81@yahoo.com  
34 Liberty Rd North Hudson, NY 12855



**From:** [Alfred Tennyson](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Thursday, June 15, 2023 12:52:07 PM

---

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Alfred Tennyson  
atennyson@barton.com  
664 Bird Pond rd North Creek, NY 12853

**From:** [Adam venner](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Saturday, June 17, 2023 5:54:56 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

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Thank you,

-- Adam venner  
adamvenner123@yahoo.com  
3653 us route 9 North hudson, New york 12855

**From:** [Jessica Venner](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Saturday, June 17, 2023 5:52:54 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from jbshorty83@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

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The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Jessica Venner  
jbshorty83@yahoo.com  
3653 US-9 North Hudson, Ny 12855

**From:** [Joyce Wolf](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 4:25:06 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

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The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Joyce Wolf  
jwolf@barton.com  
10 Bog Meadow Run Saratoga Springs, US 12866

**From:** [Quinn Barnhart](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 12:00:02 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Quinn Barnhart  
quinn3@yahoo.com  
221 Main St Unadilla, NY 13849

**From:** [Susan Barnhart](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Saturday, June 17, 2023 6:10:09 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

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Thank you,

-- Susan Barnhart  
peterbarns@twc.com  
221 Main St Unadilla, NY 13849

**From:** [Eric Bentley](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Thursday, June 15, 2023 1:02:30 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

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Thank you,

-- Eric Bentley  
ericjbentley1979@hotmail.com  
3678 State RT 8 Johnsbury, NY 12843



**From:** [Natasha M Gadway](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines DEC/APA Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Friday, June 16, 2023 2:38:38 PM  
**Attachments:** [001\\_1034.pdf](#)

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Thank you,  
Ben Gadway  
President – Johnsburg Fish & Game Club

# Johnsburg Fish and Game Club

---

Post Office Box 164, Johnsburg, New York 12843

email: [johnsburgfishgameclub@frontiernet.net](mailto:johnsburgfishgameclub@frontiernet.net)

June 15, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
New York State Department of Conservation  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, New York 12885  
[Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
Post Office Box 99  
Ray Brook, New York 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines DEC/APA Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Sincerely,



Ben Gadway  
President

**From:** [Reginald Freebern](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines Mine Permit Modification Support Letter  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 6, 2023 7:03:08 PM  
**Attachments:** [img010.pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High

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Attached please find our letter of support for Barton Mines Mine Permit Modification Application.

Thank you,  
Reginald & Roxanna Freebern

---

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<https://www.oeclassic.com/>

Reginald & Roxanna Freebern  
PO Box 94  
North River, NY 12856

06/06/2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

We are writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations - providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

We have had at least 3 generations of our family who have worked for Barton Mines. We live on Shields road in North River and have always found Barton Mines to be a good neighbor. As well as all the jobs they provide and being a large tax payer for the town, they are very philanthropic by donating to this community.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and we have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts as they have for years.

Barton is a major employer for this area providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important tax payer to our town, and a customer to many other local businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. We urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



Reginald J Freebern



Roxanna L. Freebern

**From:** [Sherry Williams](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Saturday, June 10, 2023 11:39:51 AM

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June 10, 2023

David Plante

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99

Ray Brook, NY 12977

Re: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Mr. Plante:

Barton Mines has been a friend of the hamlet of North River and the towns of Indian Lake and Johnsburg for many years. It has in the past, and remains today, a large employer for the area that, in addition to the employment, puts many thousands of dollars into the economies of the towns, both in taxes and directly to local businesses.

Barton's provides some very unique products to the world. Its abrasives are currently being used to refurbish ships for the United States Navy. Their garnet was also used as an abrasive in cutting and shaping the sleds for the 2022 Olympic Gold winning US Luge team. We need to be proud of this local resource.

Their request for enlargement of the areas used for their operation does not constitute additional lands, only an expansion of the usage of their existing property. Our local economy needs Barton Mines. The Adirondack Park needs more responsible employers of their magnitude to support our local economies.

I urge the Adirondack Park Agency and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation to approve the permit application for Barton Mines, enabling them to continue to be a responsible and very needed part of our communities.

Thank You.

Sherry Williams

502 Big Brook Rd

Indian Lake, NY 12842

**From:** [Steven Ovitt](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines permit modification support letter  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 4:06:01 PM  
**Attachments:** [\( Barton Permit modification 2023.pdf](#)  
[PastedGraphic-4.tiff](#)  
[PastedGraphic-5.tiff](#)

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Please find a letter of support for Barton Mines' permit application attached.

Steve Ovitt

[wpmtrails@gmail.com](mailto:wpmtrails@gmail.com)

[www.WildernessPropertyManagementent.com](http://www.WildernessPropertyManagementent.com)

Wilderness Property Management Inc. / WPM Trails

3999 State Rt. 8  
Wevertown, NY 12886

Steve Ovitt 518 683-2005  
Sylvia Ovitt 518 321-5204

Steve

[wpmtrails@gmail.com](mailto:wpmtrails@gmail.com)

[www.WildernessPropertyManagementent.com](http://www.WildernessPropertyManagementent.com)

Wilderness Property Management Inc. / WPM Trails

3999 State Rt. 8  
Wevertown, NY 12886

Steve Ovitt 518 683-2005  
Sylvia Ovitt 518 321-5204

Steven Ovitt  
3999 State Rt. 8  
Wevertown, NY 12886

June 20, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director of Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

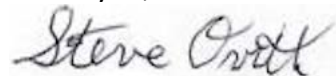
I am writing in strong support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application. Barton Mines' is critically important to the communities in the southern and central Adirondacks. They provide quality jobs with good pay and benefits to their employees, which is a rarity in the Adirondacks. They have proven to be an outstanding member of their local community.

I have personally had the opportunity to interact with Barton Mines' as a professional (enforcement & forest preserve protection) for 23 years. On all occasions Barton Mines' was responsive and took actions that were appropriate. On multiple occasions they aided the state on forest preserve projects. Their record demonstrates and I believe that they will adhere to their permit conditions and strive to meet the highest standards that can be achieved.

We are lucky to have responsible natural resource managers like Barton in the Adirondack Park.

As a Town of Johnsburg resident of 35 years and an environmental professional I strongly urge you to approve the company's permit application.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Steve Ovitt", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Steve Ovitt



**From:** [Voorhees Jon](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 2:20:59 PM  
**Attachments:** [Barton permit.docx](#)

---

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Camp Driftwood

124

Driftwood Trail

Indian Lake NY 12842

June

14, 2023

Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

NYSDEC

232 Golf Course Road

Warrensburg NY 12885

David Plante

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99

Ray Brook NY 12977

RE: Barton Mines Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante,

I'm writing to urge you to approve the Barton Mines application.

Barton Mines is critical to our fragile local economy. The loss of this industry would be a severe blow to life here in Indian Lake, North Creek and the surrounding area.

It appears that Barton has done everything necessary to make their activity as benign as possible to the environment and to their neighbors.

It's also worth asking: how many complaining neighbors are second home owners, and whether their residency commenced while Barton Mines was already in operation.

Furthermore, if these Barton Mine jobs are removed from our local economy, one must wonder whether this would precipitate a kind of economic and demographic death spiral, which would eventually deprive second home owners and all interested parties, including the State of New York, of volunteer firemen, ambulance and plow drivers, and all the other necessary workers that allow society to exist here.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Voorhees

Camp Driftwood  
124 Driftwood Trail  
Indian Lake NY 12842  
June 14, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg NY 12885

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook NY 12977  
RE: Barton Mines Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante,

I'm writing to urge you to approve the Barton Mines application.

Barton Mines is critical to our fragile local economy. The loss of this industry would be a severe blow to life here in Indian Lake, North Creek and the surrounding area.

It appears that Barton has done everything necessary to make their activity as benign as possible to the environment and to their neighbors.

It's also worth asking: how many complaining neighbors are second home owners, and whether their residency commenced while Barton Mines was already in operation.

Furthermore, if these Barton Mine jobs are removed from our local economy, one must wonder whether this would precipitate a kind of economic and demographic death spiral, which would

eventually deprive second home owners and all interested parties, including the State of New York, of volunteer firemen, ambulance and plow drivers, and all the other necessary workers that allow society to exist here.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Voorhees

**From:** [Bracken, Charles](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines Permit Modification  
**Date:** Monday, June 26, 2023 3:31:54 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[CHB Mine Permit Support Letter 2023.docx](#)

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**ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plant,

Please see the attached support letter for the Barton Mines Permit Modification.

Thanks,  
Charles Bracken

**Charles H. Bracken Jr.**  
**The Barton Group**  
**PO Box 4296**  
**156 Ridgeview Road**  
**Hidden Valley, PA 15502**  
**P 412.638.2802**  
[chbracken@barton.com](mailto:chbracken@barton.com)  
[www.barton.com](http://www.barton.com)

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**The Barton Group, Six Warren Street, Glens Falls, NY 12801, [www.barton.com](http://www.barton.com)**

Charles Bracken  
PO Box 4296  
Hidden Valley, PA 15502

June 26, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am now retired after spending 35 years in various roles at Barton Mines Corporation. My most recent role was Chairman and CEO since 2001. I am a proud 5<sup>th</sup> generation Barton Family member. My pride is a result of Barton's board of directors, management, employees, and family shareholders strictly adhering to our core values during the many challenging times over the past 22 years. We understand the value of our 125 loyal and hard-working employees and so we treat them through pay and benefits as our most important asset. We also focus on employee safety and health which are very important aspects of our employee culture. Our environmental stewardship continues as we search for ways to develop green energy to support our mining operations. We continue to reach out to our local communities to make sure that we are being a good neighbor by listening to and trying to find solutions for their concerns.

Over all the years that I have been affiliated with Barton there has always been a focus on all of its stakeholders. This includes Barton employees, local communities, company vendors and customers, and company shareholders. These are very large groups that will continue to derive significant benefits from the operation of Barton's Ruby Mountain Operation.

I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to continue to provide all of its stakeholders the significant value it has provided over its 145-year history.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Bracken', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Charles Bracken

**From:** [Paul Huchro](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines Permit  
**Date:** Monday, June 19, 2023 11:53:12 AM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from pjhuchro@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante,

Greetings. My family has lived in the Adirondacks for over 100 years. They made their livelihood in the woods and waters. My uncle Richard Brennan was one of Gore Mtn's original architects and the first Director of the mountain. I grew up in Glens Falls and lived there for 23 years before moving downstate to Westchester for the last 37 years. During my time in Glens Falls I was fortunate enough to meet and work with people like Robert Flacke and Ned Harkness. They both instilled in me a deep appreciation for the Adirondack Park and the wide ranging benefits it delivers to so many residents and visitors. I recently retired from a 30 year career on Wall St so a large part of my summers are once again spent in the Lake George area with friends and family.

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations. It will provide important jobs and economic benefits for future generations. Barton is a major employer providing over 100 jobs. Not only are they a good taxpayer, but also a philanthropic business.

I trust this family business to manage our natural resources.

I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits into the future. They have been responsible for mining the world's finest garnet since 1878.

Best,

Paul J Huchro  
100 Tower Hill Rd  
Scarborough NY 10510  
914-772-1729

**From:** [Pete Burns](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 28, 2023 8:28:06 AM  
**Attachments:** [Barton's Letter.docx](#)

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from [pete@beaverbrook.net](mailto:pete@beaverbrook.net). [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

I have attached our letter of support for Barton Mines. Do not hesitate to contact us with questions or additional information.

Regards,

Pete Burns

Beaver Brook Outfitters  
518-251-3394  
[www.beaverbrook.net](http://www.beaverbrook.net)





Pete & Diana Burns  
P.O. Box 31  
190 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Rd  
North River, NY 12856

6/15/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee & Mr. Plante,

We are writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations so that the mine can continue to provide critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

We currently live in North River at 190 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Rd. Pete is a multi-generational Adirondack native who has lived in the Adirondacks for 59 of his 61 years and Diana has been a resident for 35 years. We live two houses down the road from the house Pete grew up in and we have lived in the house his father grew up in for 20 years now. Pete's father Jim was employed by Barton's for roughly 40 years, providing a stable income and family life for Pete and his sister.

We own and operate Beaver Brook Outfitters, which offers whitewater rafting, guided canoe, kayak, hiking, snowshoe, and fishing trips. Environmental protection, conservation, and pristine wilderness areas are vital to our existence. We have never heard any noise at our house associated with the mine, other than the occasional blast.

As a matter of fact, we do dozens (if not hundreds) of canoe and kayak rentals and guided trips on 13<sup>th</sup> Lake yearly. We have never had a comment from a customer or staff member on noise from the mine. Not once. In fact, we recommend 13<sup>th</sup> lake for its beauty and lack of noise. Pete hikes, skis, snowshoes, hunts and fishes in the 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Siamese Ponds area multiple times a week. Diana hikes, snowshoes, skis and paddles around the 13<sup>th</sup> Lake area frequently. Some of our go-to hikes in the Garnet Hill area are the Old Hooper Mine, William Blake Pond, and Balm of Gilead Mt. Can we hear noise from the mine? Sometimes (not always), but one would have to stop and listen and make a point to hear it. Even from the Old Hooper Mine, which has direct line of sight, it is tough to hear the Ruby Mt. mine. Lately, the most noise is from new construction and renovations going on around the Garnet Hill area. Nail guns, saws, excavators and construction vehicles are more prevalent than mine noise.

In our opinion, the haul truck is a non-issue. The drivers are courteous and drive at a responsible speed. The noise is minimal. As a side note, we have never had to tow a haul truck out of the ditch or give the driver a ride home because they weren't prepared for the conditions. We have towed multiple second homeowners and vacationers out over the years and have given more than one a ride home due to the fact they were unprepared. We don't mind doing this and

are happy to lend a hand, but it's important to note that haul trucks are self-sufficient and don't create difficult situations for themselves or others.

Wildlife, such as deer, black bear, fox, fisher, coyote, osprey, and many other species are prevalent in the area, and other than the footprint of the mine itself, there seems to be little if any impact from our observations. There are a few species that we did not see prior to the mine opening in 1983, but have seen frequently since – including pine martens, bald eagles, moose, and turkey. We've spotted each of these in close proximity to the mine.

Barton Mines has been a cornerstone of the region for almost 150 years. It has provided good, secure jobs as others have come and gone, some repeatedly. We understand that it's a mine and there is impact as a result, however Barton has managed its Ruby Mt. operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983. We see no reason that would not continue with this extension. To lose this would be devastating to the area.

Do not hesitate to contact us with any questions. Home phone: 518-251-3184, Work: 518-251-3394, Email: [pete@beaverbrook.net](mailto:pete@beaverbrook.net).

Sincerely,

Pete & Diana Burns

**From:** [Mitchell Green](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments: Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines  
**Date:** Monday, June 12, 2023 5:30:52 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[Letter of Support Mine Permit 06.12.23.pdf](#)

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Please see attached letter.

*Mitchell*

**Mitchell Green** | Senior Vice President  
*Employee Owner*



88 Gold Ledge Avenue Auburn NH 03032  
O 603 647 0299  
M 603 486 7765  
F 603 647 9770  
[MGreen@mdandb.com](mailto:MGreen@mdandb.com)



---

Mitchell W. Green, Senior Vice President  
MD&B  
88 Gold Ledge Avenue  
Auburn NH 03032

June 12, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Our Company has been a vendor partner with Barton for over 15 years. They have been honest and loyal partners with us. They help to keep the lights on in our NY operations that support their operations. We employ about 100 people in the region and Barton is a business we depend on.

We have found them to be of high integrity when it comes to their commitments in both business and the environment as we also help them with their quarry development.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.



---

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Hatchery, Inc.' followed by a stylized flourish.

**From:** [Trista Tallon](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\): APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 28, 2023 8:14:01 AM

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*Trista M. Tallon*  
*11 Monument Avenue*  
*Glens Falls, NY 12801*

*June 28, 2023*

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rppcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rppcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

There would be negative economic implications should the mine permit modification application not be supported. North Country residents need sound jobs with good companies like Barton. Taking those jobs away essentially takes away the livelihood of these residents. This would be a burdensome outcome of this decision and could potentially increase local dependency on state services and benefits. This in turn would lead to long term negative impacts on the local economy, which already struggles.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an

important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



**From:** [wallyporter wallyporter](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 13, 2023 9:08:31 AM

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Hello,

I am sending this email in support of Barton Mines permit modification application.

As a resident of North River, NY, Town of Johnsburg, I urge you to approve the company's permit application.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Walter Porter, 324 13th Lake Rd, North River, NY



**From:** [Bernice McPhillips](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [niceymac@roadrunner.com](mailto:niceymac@roadrunner.com)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines  
**Date:** Monday, June 26, 2023 3:18:20 PM  
**Attachments:** [Barton mines letter.docx](#)

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Please see the enclosed letter in support of the application of Barton Mines.

**McPhillips Properties LLC  
21 Orchard Drive  
Queensbury, NY 12804**

June 26, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12884  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Raybrook, NY 12977  
[rppcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rppcomments@apa.ny.gov)

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante,

I am corresponding with you to express my support for the mine permit modification application submitted by Barton Mines. It is my understanding that Barton is seeking approval for the modification of their permit to continue and extend their operations. One of the issues is increasing residual mineral storage capacity all on property owned by Barton with minimal impact. Barton has deep roots in the Adirondacks and has been a valuable employer and taxpayer with generational ties to the communities in the north country.

I have viewed some of the details of the permit application and support the application. I respectfully urge you to approve of the company's permit application.

Very truly yours,

Bernice McPhillips  
Managing Member

**From:** [Maggie daSilva](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines  
**Date:** Thursday, June 15, 2023 7:31:53 AM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Mines Signed.pdf](#)

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Hello Beth and David,

Please find attached letters in support of Barton Mines' permit modification.

Thank you,  
Maggie and Norm

Margaret daSilva  
238 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

June 8, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

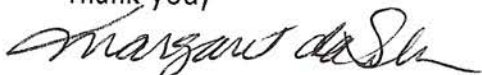
I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations — providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



Margaret daSilva

Norman Albright  
287 Bird Pond Road  
North Creek, NY 12853

June 8, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations — providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



Norman Albright

**From:** [aj.lewis](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton support letter  
**Date:** Monday, June 19, 2023 8:12:19 PM  
**Attachments:** [Barton-Permit-Support-Letter \(1\).docx](#)

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante,

Please find attached my letter in support of Barton Mines' permit modification application.

Thanks,  
AJ Lewis

September 20, 2024

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

I am a lifelong resident of the town of Johnsburg. I have worked for Barton International for over 17 years. What started as a temporary job while I attended college soon turned into a career that I am extremely proud of. As a proud, loyal member of the community I would like to express my support of the Barton Mines' permit modification application.

- I am the 4<sup>th</sup> generation of my family that Barton International has employed. I have a picture of my great grandfather working in the pit on Gore alongside the grandfather of our current haul truck driver.

- Because of Barton's I am lucky enough to work alongside my brother and several of my cousins.
- Barton is a family of its own. Employees take care of each other not only at work but outside of work on a regular basis.
- Without Barton I would be forced to work out of town or worst-case scenario move my family to a location where I could adequately provide for them.
- Johnsburg and Barton are my home. It is where my family, friends, and everything I love is located. I am privileged to drive from the wilderness to the wilderness to make a living.
- Barton means being able to afford to raise my children in one of the most beautiful locations. It means being able to teach them to appreciate a quiet life. It means showing them that it's possible to thrive respectfully in the Adirondacks, as generations before them have.
- There is little other opportunity in the area and few if any employers as positive and family oriented in the country.

Barton has allowed me to provide for my family, and for that I will forever be grateful. I ask you to respectfully consider the positive contributions Barton has made to the local community and approve their mine permit application.

Respectfully,

Andrew J. Lewis

PO Box 115

Bakers Mills NY, 12811



**From:** [Natasha M Gadway](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Baton Mines DEC/APA Mine Permit Mod - Letter of Support  
**Date:** Thursday, June 8, 2023 1:36:15 PM  
**Attachments:** [001\\_1004.pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from ngadway@nycourts.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Thank you,  
Natasha Gadway  
PO Box 154  
Johnsburg, NY 12843

#518-251-5807

# Natasha Muzyka Gadway

---

Post Office Box 154, Johnsburg, New York 12843

Home: 518-251-5807; Mobile: 518-538-7738; email: [natashamg@frontiernet.net](mailto:natashamg@frontiernet.net)

May 31, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
New York State Department of Conservation  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, New York 12885  
[Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
Post Office Box 99  
Ray Brook, New York 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines DEC/APA Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Sincerely,

  
Natasha Gadway

Michael J. Brouthers  
PO Box 192, 267 Coulter Rd  
Johnsburg, NY 12843

June 16, 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
JUN 20 2023  
JUN 20 2023

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Mr. Plante,

I am writing in support of the Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations- providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

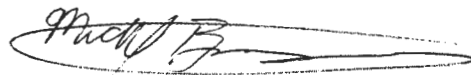
If local communities and their residents are going survive, they need responsible businesses like Barton Mines. During a time when Adirondack communities are finding it difficult to continue, taking a long standing business away would not be beneficial.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



Michael M. Brouthers  
PO Box 192, 267 Coulter Rd  
Johnsburg, NY 12843

June 16, 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 20 2023

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Mr. Plante,

I am writing in support of the Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations- providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

If local communities and their residents are going survive, they need responsible businesses like Barton Mines. During a time when Adirondack communities are finding it difficult to continue, taking a long standing business away would not be beneficial.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Michael



JUN 14 2023

6/9/23

Dear *Beth Magee,*

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

As a resident of the Town of Johnsbury since 1967 when I was first hired by Johnsbury Central School as an elementary teacher to the present day I can attest, with first person knowledge, to the creditability and importance of the Barton Mines Corporation to the fabric of the Town of Johnsbury and the surrounding Adirondack communities. Barton Mines is and always has been a major employer, a major tax payer, a major supporter of all things local, and a sincere friend to the community and surrounding area as well as the Adirondack Mountains in which they operate. Examples abound: the family ownership and management lived here and participated positively in their community, support for the area's needs and activities was and still is a personal matter not a distant corporate obligation, and so much more. I have always felt and believed that in the complicated world of environment and a business using the environment to produce a product they have always been sensitive and reactive to those natural conflicts. They must and deserve to continue that course! There is no place for extreme emotional, personal or theoretical positions to dictate the outcome of this decision. There is most assuredly a balance to be reached to continue this very important presence in our community and the larger community.

The Adirondack Mountain area needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton to keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to continue these types of community and business benefits far into the future. Thank you for your consideration of my input on this matter.

Sincerely,

*Lloyd K. Burch*

Robert E. Byrne  
Gay Gordon-Byrne  
867 13th Lake Road  
North River, NY 12856

June 14, 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

Re: Approval of mining permit for Barton Mines in North River

JUN 20 2023

Dear Mr. Plante,

My Wife and I fully support the renewal permit for Barton Mines as a full-time resident of North River within the Garnet Hill Association. Unlike many of our friends and neighbors in Garnet Hill, we vote here, we work here, and we are engaged in the community.

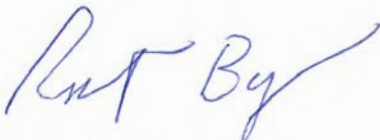
Mining is an essential part of the area. Garnet Hill Lodge is the former mine headquarters and surrounding miners' "Cottages" are still in use as private homes. Popular trails include visiting the Hooper Mine and winding around and through the residual minerals with stunning views of Gore.

The mine is an important part of our community – and without their financial stability much that we enjoy in the area would be impossible. It is one of the few private businesses that operates year-round providing local businesses with customers when seasonal businesses are closed.

Barton has long been a very good neighbor here in North River. We believe that they will continue to be good stewards of the land, as they have been in the past.

We support the extended operation permit.

Sincerely,



Robert Byrne



Gay Gordon-Byrne

June 5, 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
JUN 09 2023

Re: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application. I feel extending the life of the company's Adirondack operations will keep much needed jobs in the area. As a major employer, the company is critical to the local economy. With so many regulations and limitations, it is not easy being a large employer in the Adirondack Park. I feel that Barton Mines has managed existing operations in a safe manner and I have confidence they will continue to do so.

The only concern I have is the increased number of daily allowable trips they are requesting. This does not have to be a negative but would like periodic reviews to see if the area transportation system can handle the increase. I suspect it can but would want the ability for the effect to be evaluated, and changed, if needed.

If this operation is allowed to close, I predict incredible economic disaster to this part of the Adirondacks. Your job is not to close down an important economic driver but to figure out how they can continue to operate safely and responsibly for years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Catherine Carr".

Catherine Carr  
Durant Road  
Blue Mountain Lake, NY 12812

John& Marge Donohue

204 13th Lake Rd

North River N.Y 12856

5-29-23

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 16 2023

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

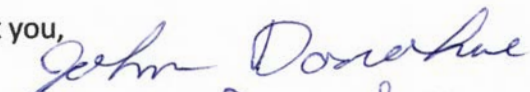

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operation operations critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Rudy Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other are a businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



North River Vol. Fire Auxilliary

2226 13th Lake Rd

North River N.Y 12856

6-3-23

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 16 2023

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operation operations critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

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The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Marge Donohue  
North River Vol. Fire Auxilliary

North River Vol. Fire com .

2226 13th Lake Rd

North River N.Y 12856

6-3-23

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 16 2023

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

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The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

*John Donohue (Chief)*  
*North River Vol. Fire Com.*

Julie Dunkley  
130 Washerhill Road  
Johnsburg, New York 12843

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 16 2023

Dear Mr. Plante,

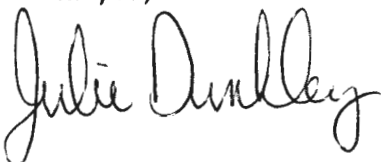
I am writing this letter in support of the Barton's mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations. This approval would provide important jobs, economic benefits for future generations and continue to provide the world with a much-needed natural resource.

I have lived in the Town of Johnsburg my whole life of 56 years. I grew up learning about the balance between taking from the Earth what we need with as little impact as possible by having a sustainable environmental conscious plan. As an elementary teacher of 33 years (just retired), I have taught my students about rocks and minerals from around the world, their importance and our duty to leave behind as little carbon footprint as we can for ourselves and nature. I used Barton's mine as an example each year. We discussed the use of garnet, the mining process, safety with large equipment, teamwork, the process of distribution, different jobs there, products that they bought and their impact on the environment. We would visit the old mine in North River on a class trip and get samples to take home to put in our rock boxes and make sandpaper/emery boards from. Garnet is an important natural resource that is necessary for daily life. Barton's mine was a great example to use with my class because they were and still are an important company that showed how to mine a natural resource with minimal environmental impact while providing jobs and economic benefits to the surrounding communities.

I have family members and relatives that have worked for this company in the past or are presently still working there. They provide a safe environment to work in with a retirement plan that allows people to live and raise a family in one of the surrounding communities. Barton's also is an important taxpayer to the town and local school system and a customer to local businesses. This company is important to all of the surrounding communities that it touches.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who know how to balance mining with environmental impact and that help sustain and keep the local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide jobs, business support and a useful natural resource far into the future.

Thank you,



Nathaniel Dunkley  
130 Washerhill Road  
Johnsburg, New York 12843

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 09 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Plante,

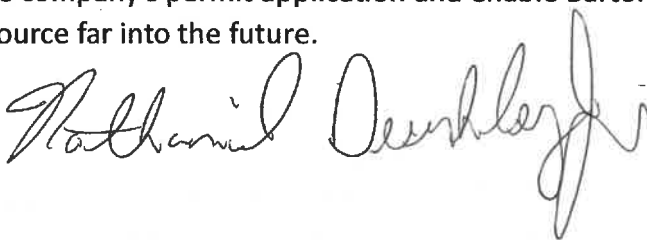
I am writing this letter in support of the Barton's mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations. This approval would provide important jobs, economic benefits for future generations and continue to provide a much-needed natural resource.

I have used Barton's sandblasting products in my car restoration process. They make a great product that works well in automotive sandblasting. I highly recommend their products and feel that the need for this service around the world is vast. Their abrasives are known worldwide and some of the best in the world. I would like to see them continue into the future providing this important product!

I have known many friends and family that have worked for this company in the past or are presently still working there. My uncle worked there for over 40 years and was able to provide for his family and have a good retirement when he left. Barton's provides a safe environment to work in with a retirement plan that allows people to live and raise a family in one of the surrounding communities. Barton's also is an important taxpayer to the town and local school system. They support the local businesses by buying materials from them. This company is important to all of the surrounding communities.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who know how to balance mining with environmental impact and that help sustain and keep the local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide jobs, business support and a useful natural resource far into the future.

Thank you,



Kevin C. Elkin  
P.O. Box 31  
Indian Lake, NY 12842  
(518) 648-6487

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
JUN 26 2023

June 23, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

**RE: Barton Mines APA/ DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of the Barton Mine's mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations- providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Since moving to Indian Lake in 2001 I have watched the population of our community bleed. Young people are leaving in droves. Our town is dying. In large part I attribute this to the lack of quality private sector jobs. There are precious few opportunities for young people to make a good living here. Barton does provide that opportunity. For five years I was a landlord. One of my tenants was a Barton employee. He works hard and is paid well. He now has been able to move from a terribly small cabin to a home he purchased, improving the quality of life for his wife and daughter. In short, that is the American dream. Still available to some local people. Please help sustain such opportunities.

Barton has managed it's Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community alive. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin C. Elkin

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kevin C. Elkin". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Christine Flack  
1621 S. Johnsburg Rd PO Box 18  
Johnsburg, NY 12843

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 09 2023

Dear Mr. Plante:

I am writing in regards to the Barton Mines mine permit application (modification) which must be approved to extend the life and future of the company's Adk operation.

I have watched how the company has provided needed jobs for the people in this area and how they have supported families throughout their 145 year history. Their support of community educational and artistic enhancement is also well documented.

My husband and I bought property here twenty years ago and have always felt that the local generational voices should be the prominent ones. After all, it is their past generations who have learned how to adapt and thrive in these hard to make a living mountains.

I urge to approve the company's mine modification permit application.

Yours truly,  
Christine Flack

Beth Mcgee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYDEC Warrensburg NY

Gary Fiszegon  
North Creek NY  
June 7 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
APA - Ray Brook

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 14 2023

RE: Barton's Mines Permit:

I am writing in support of Barton Mine permit application to extend the company's Adirondack operations providing numerous important jobs and critical community support.

I have lived in the area for over 40 years with almost 20 years on 13th Lake Rd. I worked for over 15 years seasonally at Garnet Hill Lodge. I am a member of the North River Methodist Church and a long time volunteer with the North River Fire Co. I have hunted, fished and camped in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness since 1970. I know the area well.

Barton's has been a major employer, a great community supporter and a good steward forever. Jobs, taxes, and donations to organizations have allowed this area to grow and prosper for generations. Barton's should certainly continue to operate.

Any opposition to Barton's existence is not based on science but politics. If there

is a concern for the environment of 13th Lake and the Siemese Ponds Wilderness it is not Bartons mines, but the expansion of the Garnet Hill complex. More and more. Bigger and bigger. Roads and infrastructure. Plowing, sanding, salting. Construction vehicles. Delivery vehicles. Lights. Noise. Septic.

Campers in the wilderness wonder about the lights and music from the development.

Has there been a thorough environmental impact study regarding the development? How many homes, septic systems and road drainage before pollutants effect the lake? Does the community need its own wastewater treatment facility?

Bartons Mine is not in the watershed of the lake. It is below the lake.

The true friends of 13th Lake are a silent majority comprised of hundreds of families and sportsmen who have camped, hiked, hunted and fished in the area for decades. Not the elite homeowners of Garnet Hill who treat it like their own private lake.

Keep Barton's going - Keep an eye on Garnet Hill.

Gary Flanagan



RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 23 2023

Heather Flanagan  
PO Box 64  
North Creek, NY 12853

June 20, 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines permit to continue operation providing critically important jobs and community support.

I am a lifelong resident of North Creek and have known many people and families employed by Barton Mines over the years. I, myself, worked at Barton's Mineral shop for eight summer seasons in the shop and mines on Gore Mountain.

I recently had the pleasure of working with Bartons to create and build an outdoor classroom at Johnsbury Central School where I am the principal. Bartons has always supported our community with donations to the school, fire companies and many other good causes.

Please grant Barton Mines the permits needed to continue operating for many more years to come.

Thank you,



Heather Flanagan  
Building Principal  
Johnsbury Central School

Dear Mr. Plante

Just a note to express  
my appreciation of the  
Barlow Mines' application  
for extension of their  
mining permits in  
the Adirondacks. The  
mines have been beneficial  
to the economy and  
employment in this  
area.

Sincerely,  
Janne Trucke

121 Backtrail Rd  
Indian Lake  
NY 12842



RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 09 2023

**From:** [Cangemi, Mario](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#); [Magee, Corrie \(APA\)](#); [Petith, Stephanie L \(APA\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: my support letter.  
**Date:** Thursday, June 22, 2023 8:01:39 AM

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Good morning all,

Below is an email letter of support that I received from one of our employees, Jeremy Mottram. He asked me if I could send it to the APA and DEC on his behalf.

Please let me know if this an acceptable way to send a letter of support to both agencies.

Thank you and have a great day!

Mario

---

**From:** Mottram, Jeremy <jmottram@barton.com>  
**Date:** Thursday, June 15, 2023 at 11:22 PM  
**To:** Cangemi, Mario <mcangemi@barton.com>  
**Subject:** my support letter.

Good day and greetings

My name is Jeremy Mottram, a 17 year employee of Barton mines. I am writing this email in place of a formal letter. I am not the most eloquent when

It comes to writing, but I wanted this to mean something. I have worked for this company since I was merely an apprentice and moved my way up through all aspects of this operation except in the crusher driving equipment. I have done repairs on every piece of equipment and helped with residual minerals and the

Main feed being sent in. before I moved up here to get married to the woman I love and want to start a family, I didn't even know that there was an active mine anywhere in New York. My wife is the resident and told me about this facility when I was about to loose my job in retail in aviation mall. I worked at the mall for 13 + years. I opened the retail location I worked in and closed it when they went out of business. All I ever wanted to do was make enough to give my love an nice wedding and be a father. After I moved up here and was needing a new job so I could make my life happen, my wife told me about Barton mines and I applied hoping this would allow me to be the man I wanted to be. It hasn't let me down yet. I am now a crew leader and have been able to provide well for my family.

Living up here is serene and peaceful , I am able to hunt, target shoot, and hike, bike and fish. I love archery and I have all this up here. Without my job at Barton I would have none of this. I would be living in glens falls, trying to make ends meet working in retail or food services.

I have worked here during rough times and great times, like everything it has its ups and downs, but I have always been treated like family, which is something this company has always said about

their employees. I have seen this company go ABOVE and Beyond to not only keep a low visible and audible footprint, but also not leave a environmental one. This company is so strict about discharge water, visibility of piles and noise, that it actually hinders our ability to effectively work at times. And I have always said....I have lived in New York all my life, and never knew there was an active mine anywhere around here. I think that is the definition of not leaving any footprints or environmental issues. A strong company that has provided jobs, community support, taxes, and given people the ability to provide and develop family and community is something that needs to be supported, and kept. If this company is not able to keep going there will be no end to the losses that this area will come under. Just think of the taxes that will be re distributed to the community.

I am already seeing the next generation looking to start in the work force seeing the starting wages and the potential to learn trades that are transferable and necessary, like welding mechanical work and engineering and design.

People that have moved into this community without knowing about us, really have no right to judge us. I say us as a member of the Barton family.

Most just hear Mine and think stripping everything and leaving nothing. We separate minerals and replace the ones we don't really need. People do that when they go on nature walks and take something out with them. We just do it on a larger scale, and we replant and replace after. I have never seen or heard of ANY other mining company seeding and planting, especially so that tourists can have a pretty view from their seasonal vacation homes. Our efforts to reduce noise has gone above and beyond also. If we were smack dab in the middle of a city, nobody would say anything. In short, I am proud to work here, am so grateful, this company has given me the ability to provide, support, and become a member of a community. Not just a part time resident. Barton Mines should be allowed to keep doing what they need to do and have their permit modified. Mainly so others can prosper like I have, but also feel what its like to work for a company that cares, not only for the people who help keep it going, but for the community it helps to prosper.

The last thing this community needs is to turn into a ghost town because of lack of jobs and no people to living here due to moving to where there is work.

I hope this will actually be read, and not just counted as another for the support pile. People need to be heard, not just counted.

Thank you for hearing me

Jeremy L. Mottram



June 12, 2023

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 16 2023

Mark Smith  
Supervisor, Town of Johnsburg  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853  
[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Town of Johnsburg Board  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853  
[arsenault.gene@gmail.com](mailto:arsenault.gene@gmail.com)  
[jimgonyo@hcandpm.com](mailto:jimgonyo@hcandpm.com)  
[hoskins@johnsburgny.com](mailto:hoskins@johnsburgny.com)  
[ajkc2fli@frontiernet.net](mailto:ajkc2fli@frontiernet.net)

I am writing this letter in response to discussions in the town about the Barton Mines permit modification application for its Ruby Mountain operations and as owner of the Garnet Hill Lodge.

Garnet Hill Lodge has a long history in North River that pre-dates the establishment of the Ruby Mountain mine. The Lodge was built in 1936 by mine owner Frank Hooper and has been operating as a lodging facility since that time. Today the Lodge is a nationally renowned cross country ski center as well as a year round resort and wedding destination. We host guests from around the country and around the world, a considerable number of whom have been returning to the Lodge on a frequent basis over many years. During the course of the year, we host approximately 6,000 out of area guests who provide business not only to us, but also to local restaurants, stores and outfitters. Most guests who stay at the Lodge come to enjoy the outdoor activities that the area offers and they appreciate the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area adjacent to the Lodge, that includes beautiful 13th Lake.

In peak summer and winter months we employ approximately 35 staff at the Lodge. While less staff are employed in the off seasons, during the course of a year approximately 55 individuals are on the payroll for varying periods, the vast majority of whom are local residents.

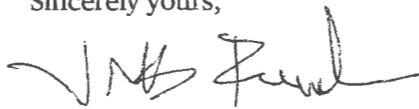
From Garnet Hill Lodge there is a line of sight to the Ruby Mountain mine approximately 1.5 miles away, that is currently blocked in summer by trees but partially visible through the trees in winter.

As local business owners, my wife and I believe that the Town should be actively encouraging a diverse range of local businesses to drive the local economy. We therefore fully support the continuation of the Ruby Mountain mine and its permit application. The mine has a 40 year history and is an important local employer.

However, the Town should bear in mind that the mine is not the only employer in the area. Our business like many others in the Town of Johnsbury, is dependent on the tourists who visit the area and we need to remember that those visitors have alternative areas both within the Adirondacks and in other areas of the country that like the Town of Johnsbury offer natural beauty and excellent opportunities for outdoor recreation. Most of us have visited and enjoyed some of those places.

We encourage the Town to support the Barton Mines permit application provided that measures are taken to limit the impact that the mine has on the local environment particularly with regard to the visual, sound and dust consequences. The Town should ask that the APA and DEC include measurable controls in each of these areas in the permit approval. In our meetings with Barton they have made clear to us that they are and intend to remain good neighbors to the local community. Acting as good neighbors should include a willingness to accept some reasonable costs of mitigation to ensure that the Wilderness Areas in our Town are maintained for the enjoyment of future generations.

Sincerely yours,



Jim Rucker

Copied to:

David Plante  
Deputy Director of Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 5  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12977  
[beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

Peter Gilbertson  
58 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 28 2023

June 23, 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Plante,

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

I'd like to let you know that I support Barton Mines' permit modification application. The operation of this business is critical for the economic stability of this region.

As a local school teacher for twenty five years I have seen how generations of families rely on Barton as one of the few major, stable employers in the area. While the aesthetic concerns for the park are certainly relevant, I would hope that careful crafting of the permit modification would insure continued operation of the mine while also stipulating that Barton continue their mitigation efforts.

Thank-you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter', followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line that extends to the right.

Peter Gilbertson

**Petith, Stephanie L (APA)**

---

**From:** jerrygrecsek@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Monday, June 12, 2023 1:42 PM  
**To:** APA Regulatory Programs Comments  
**Subject:** Barton Mines Permit Application

Some people who received this message don't often get email from jerrygrecsek@verizon.net. Learn why this is important <<https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Dear David,

I am writing to strongly support the above application for continued operations. BM has a proven record of leadership, compliance and environmental stewardship. Local production is not only key to economy and jobs but reflects national priority of supply independence. I am a retired R&D Director with a PhD in Physical Chemistry and our family enjoys the Adirondacks at our second residence there.

Sincerely,  
J.Grecsek

Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS

<<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fapps.apple.com%2Fus%2Fapp%2Faol-news-email-weather-video%2Fid646100661&data=05%7C01%7Crpcomments%40apa.ny.gov%7Ca8465cebfdc44e8369d708db6b6c5798%7Cf46cb8ea79004d108ceb80e8c1c81ee7%7C0%7C0%7C638221885308995557%7CUnknown%7CTWFPbGZsb3d8eyJWljoimC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQljoiv2luMzliLCJBTil6lk1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=7WNpALnZBD5gDrdqSHrtY3yfk3wBpRDNytM9oAJlhDE%3D&reserved=0>>



RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 07 2023

**The Smithy  
3 McKinley Street  
Rowayton CT 06853**

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg NY 12885

June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook NY 12977

Dear Ms Magee and Mr Plante,

**Re: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

My wife and I are writing to support Barton Mines' application for mine permit modification, which is required to extend the life of the company's operations. The operations and business activities of Barton Mines provide important employment, financial and other benefits for approximately 125 people and contributes significantly to the economy of the Adirondack Region.

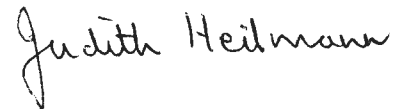
Our family has owned property along the shoreline of Blue Mountain Lake for 38 years – most of which was placed under a New York State permanent conservation easement 35 years ago. We write with clear understanding of, and sensitivity to, the role and importance of conservation measures, while also appreciating the imperatives of maintaining and promoting a sustainable and responsible economy in the region. In this context, it is to be noted that Barton's business generates significant tax revenues, and income opportunities for other local or regional businesses. The Adirondack Region depends on solid, responsible enterprises like Barton Mines.

We strongly urge you to approve the company's permit modification.

Sincerely,



C. Flemming Heilmann



Judith L Heilmann

Jane Persons Henty  
2380 Sutton Rd.  
York, PA 17403

June 26, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUL 03 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations-providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

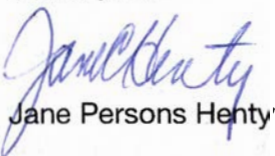
My grandfather, Gordon L. Persons Sr. and my father, Gordon L. Persons Jr. were life long employees of Barton. They rose thru the ranks due to the support of the owners. They were always proud of their association with this company and its interest in its employees as well as the community at large. As a child, I lived in company housing up on the mountain until about 5th grade. It was a great place and has provided my long term memories of the Barton family.

Barton had managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer and customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



Jane Persons Henty

GORDON R. HERSEY  
79 Cedar Court  
Queensbury, NY 12804  
June 13,2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
JUN 16 2023

Dear Ms. Magee:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations - providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations. As a retiree of Barton, I can state emphatically to this. I know from experience that high on Barton's list of priorities is the phrase: "Be a Good Neighbor"

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts (Be a Good Neighbor!).

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer of many other area businesses (Be a Good Neighbor!).

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Chris Jay

47 Casterline Road

North River, N.Y., 12856

RECEIVED

ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
JUL 03 2023

6-25-23

Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

NYSDEC

232 Golf Course Rd.

David Plante

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99

Ray, Brook NY 12977

Re: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

I'm a close neighbor to the Ruby Mtn. mining venue. I was employed there when we built it back in the eighties. I'm directly downwind from the property and can hear some of the operations. It is not any kind of nuisance, and I don't see any dust at my house. Barton's has been a good neighbor and always appears to be very conscious of the environment. I support

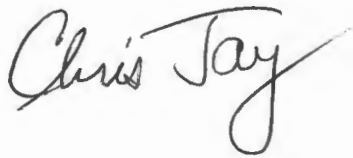
them wholeheartedly. Barton Mines is very community conscious and is a large contributor to many local community events.

Barton has managed its' Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and out local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chris Jay". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the "Thank you" line.

*James F. Jennings*  
101 MINNIE BENNETT RD.  
SCHUYLERVILLE, N.Y. 12871

CAMP  
122 SAUNDERS RD.  
IND. LK. N.Y.  
12842

[DATE] 6/5/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 09 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

*RESPECTFUL OF COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORS*

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

*James F. Jennings*

Nicolette Keown  
P.O. Box 1513  
Campton, NH

June 28, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpccomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpccomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations — providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

I feel very fortunate to be a member of the Barton family with the opportunity to take part in meetings and reunions. I'm reminded of how important the business values community each time I've visited North Creek and toured the facilities. Growing up within this family was also my inspiration for pursuing a career in natural resource management with a federal agency.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately one hundred twenty-five good jobs. The company is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other businesses in the area.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Nicolette Keown



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ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
JUL 03 2023

Janice B. Keown  
P.O. Box 120  
Holderness, NH 03245

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUL 03 2023

June 28, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

As a fifth-generation member of the Barton family, I just want to say I have seen a lot of positive changes over the years. After recently touring and seeing all the improvements of the mines, I felt that the employees take pride in being part of the Barton mines operation. I believe good management and environmental awareness has had a very beneficial impact on the North Creek community.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Janice Barton Keown





JUN 16 2023

**Daniel J. / Catherine M. Kuhn**  
**18 Banker Avenue N. Troy, NY 12182**  
(518) 237-2514 / 518-281-5252 / 518-248-3086

Seasonal Residence Location 397 Harvey Road, North River, NY 12856  
June 13, 2023

David Plante, Deputy Director of Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Mr. Plante:

We are writing in complete support of the Barton Mines' mine permit application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack Operations which provides critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

As our family had direct ties to the Barton Mines Operation with Catherine's late father, (James D. Harvey) was a dedicated employee of the mines for thirty three (33) years until the time of his retirement in 1983. Jim was born and raised in North River and with his surviving wife Veronica raised five children on the family farm on Harvey Rd. in North River. Barton Mines was the largest employer in the Town of Johnsburg and as a company was concerned for the residents of the town and it's company employees. Barton Mines was instrumental with their dedicated commitment and financial support for the creation of the following community services, North Creek Volunteer Ambulance Corps., the Fire Departments of North Creek and North River. They were always concerned for the environment and was a leader in conservation having assisted with the creation and development of the North Creek Ski Bowl, (Little Gore Mtn.) and the Gore Mountain Ski Area providing necessary equipment and services for the construction of those locations. Additionally, they were instrumental in their support for the reclamation of Thirteenth Lake to become a pristine body of water for all to enjoy.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 jobs of varying classifications. They are also an important major corporate taxpayer thus reducing residents tax payer costs. Directly and Indirectly they have a positive affect on many of the other business's in the community. Their employee residents purchase their necessities in the Town.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. We urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits continuing into the future and in support of future generations. Thank you for your support of this endeavor as well.

Sincerely yours,



Daniel J. & Catherine M. Kuhn

JUN 12 2023

Nancy Persons Kulikowski  
43 Shields Road  
North River, NY  
6 June 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Mr. Plante

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations- providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

My family is the Shields/Persons family of North River. Our family's homestead there dates back to the mid 1800s when the Shields Family settled the side hill there now known as Shields Road and Christian Hill. The members of our family are historically proud supporters as well as long term beneficiaries of Barton Mines. And the contributions Barton Mines has made to our Adirondack community as employers and as economic partners are paramount.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

  
Nancy Persons Kulikowski

Sylvia Lawrence  
52 Main Street  
North Creek, New York 12843

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 16 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Plante,

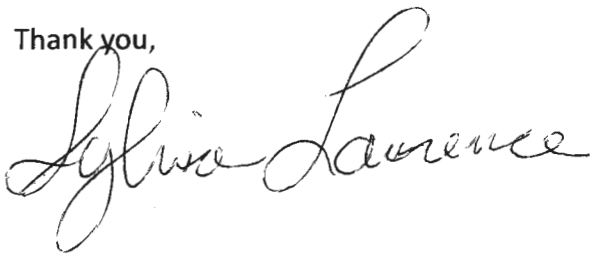
I am writing this letter in support of the Barton's mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations. This approval would provide important jobs, economic benefits for future generations and continue to provide the world with a much-needed natural resource.

Barton's Mines has been a part of my family employing my husband and uncle, as well as many friends for years. The company provides local jobs with benefits and supports the local community in many ways. This business is an asset to the local region by providing needed employment for future generations to come. The North country needs places for people to work that provide a wage that they can live on and a retirement for their future. It is very important that Barton's continues its mining process for the livelihood of the region.

Barton's also is an important taxpayer to the town and local school system and a customer to local businesses. This company is important to all of the surrounding communities that it touches.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who know how to balance mining with environmental impact and that help sustain and keep the local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide jobs, business support and a useful natural resource far into the future.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sylvia Lawrence". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the "Thank you," text.

**From:** [Judith Garrison](#)  
**To:** [beth.maggee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:beth.maggee@dec.ny.gov); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Charles W. Harrington](#); [Davina Winemiller](#); [tylerm@westelcom.com](mailto:tylerm@westelcom.com); [supervisor@lewistownhall.com](mailto:supervisor@lewistownhall.com); [supervisor1@townofkeeney.ny.gov](mailto:supervisor1@townofkeeney.ny.gov); [Roy Holzer](#); [supervisor@townofwillsborony.gov](mailto:supervisor@townofwillsborony.gov); [supervisor@townofnorthhudsonny.gov](mailto:supervisor@townofnorthhudsonny.gov); [minerva.supervisor@frontiernet.net](mailto:minerva.supervisor@frontiernet.net); [supervisor@westportny.net](mailto:supervisor@westportny.net); [supervisor@townofmoriahny.gov](mailto:supervisor@townofmoriahny.gov); [Kenneth Hughes](#); [townofchesterfield@gmail.com](mailto:townofchesterfield@gmail.com); [supervisor@townofjayny.gov](mailto:supervisor@townofjayny.gov); [Margaret Wood](#); [Derek Doty](#); [supervisor@townofticonderoga.org](mailto:supervisor@townofticonderoga.org); [Robin Deloria](#); [Noel Merrihew](#)  
**Subject:** Letter Barton Mines  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 27, 2023 10:25:40 AM  
**Attachments:** [letter DEC APA.pdf](#)

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*Judy Garrison, Clerk of the Board  
Essex County Board of Supervisors  
7551 Court Street, P.O. Box 217  
Elizabethtown, NY 12932  
(518) 873-3350 / (518) 873-3353  
(518) 873-3356 Fax*

**\*\* Please note new email address \*\* [Judith.Garrison@essexcountyny.gov](mailto:Judith.Garrison@essexcountyny.gov)**

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# Essex County Board of Supervisors

P.O. Box 217, 7551 Court Street  
Elizabethtown, NY 12932

Telephone: (518) 873-3350

Fax: (518) 873-3356

June 23, 2023

**Shaun Gilliland,**  
Chairman  
Chairman@essexcountyny.gov

**James Monty,**  
Vice-Chairman

**Judith A. Garrison,**  
Clerk of the Board  
Judith.Garrison@essexcountyny.gov

**Clayton Barber**  
Chesterfield

**Charles Harrington**  
Crown Point

**Noel H. Merrihew, III**  
Elizabethtown

**Kenneth Hughes**  
Essex

**Matthew Stanley**  
Jay

**Joe Pete Wilson**  
Keene

**James W. Monty**  
Lewis

**Stephen McNally**  
Minerva

**Thomas R. Scozzafava**  
Moriah

**Robin DeLoria**  
Newcomb

**Derek Doty**  
North Elba

**Stephanie DeZalia**  
North Hudson

**Meg Wood**  
Schroon

**Davina Winemiller**  
St. Armand

**Mark Wright**  
Ticonderoga

**Michael K. Tyler**  
Westport

**Shaun Gilliland**  
Willsboro

**Roy Holzer**  
Wilmington

Beth Magee, Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante, Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you.

Shaun Gilliland, Chairman  
Essex County Board of Supervisors

Cc: Board of Supervisors

**From:** [Jim Rucker](#)  
**To:** [supervisor@johnsburgny.com](#); [arsenault.gene@gmail.com](#); [jmgonyo@hcandpm.com](#); [hoskins@johnsburgny.com](#); [ajkc2fli@frontiernet.net](#)  
**Cc:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#); [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Letter Regarding Barton Mines Permit Modification Application  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 13, 2023 10:31:36 AM  
**Attachments:** [Letter to TOJ Board.pdf](#)

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[Some people who received this message don't often get email from jrucker@garnet-hill.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Please find attached a letter to the Town of Johnsburg Board and Town Supervisor regarding the Barton Mines permit application.

Regards  
Jim Rucker  
Garnet Hill Lodge



June 12, 2023

Mark Smith  
Supervisor, Town of Johnsbury  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853  
[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Town of Johnsbury Board  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853  
[arsenault.gene@gmail.com](mailto:arsenault.gene@gmail.com)  
[jmgonyo@hcandpm.com](mailto:jmgonyo@hcandpm.com)  
[hoskins@johnsburgny.com](mailto:hoskins@johnsburgny.com)  
[ajkc2fli@frontiernet.net](mailto:ajkc2fli@frontiernet.net)

I am writing this letter in response to discussions in the town about the Barton Mines permit modification application for its Ruby Mountain operations and as owner of the Garnet Hill Lodge.

Garnet Hill Lodge has a long history in North River that pre-dates the establishment of the Ruby Mountain mine. The Lodge was built in 1936 by mine owner Frank Hooper and has been operating as a lodging facility since that time. Today the Lodge is a nationally renowned cross country ski center as well as a year round resort and wedding destination. We host guests from around the country and around the world, a considerable number of whom have been returning to the Lodge on a frequent basis over many years. During the course of the year, we host approximately 6,000 out of area guests who provide business not only to us, but also to local restaurants, stores and outfitters. Most guests who stay at the Lodge come to enjoy the outdoor activities that the area offers and they appreciate the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area adjacent to the Lodge, that includes beautiful 13th Lake.

In peak summer and winter months we employ approximately 35 staff at the Lodge. While less staff are employed in the off seasons, during the course of a year approximately 55 individuals are on the payroll for varying periods, the vast majority of whom are local residents.

From Garnet Hill Lodge there is a line of sight to the Ruby Mountain mine approximately 1.5 miles away, that is currently blocked in summer by trees but partially visible through the trees in winter.



As local business owners, my wife and I believe that the Town should be actively encouraging a diverse range of local businesses to drive the local economy. We therefore fully support the continuation of the Ruby Mountain mine and its permit application. The mine has a 40 year history and is an important local employer.

However, the Town should bear in mind that the mine is not the only employer in the area. Our business like many others in the Town of Johnsbury, is dependent on the tourists who visit the area and we need to remember that those visitors have alternative areas both within the Adirondacks and in other areas of the country that like the Town of Johnsbury offer natural beauty and excellent opportunities for outdoor recreation. Most of us have visited and enjoyed some of those places.

We encourage the Town to support the Barton Mines permit application provided that measures are taken to limit the impact that the mine has on the local environment particularly with regard to the visual, sound and dust consequences. The Town should ask that the APA and DEC include measurable controls in each of these areas in the permit approval. In our meetings with Barton they have made clear to us that they are and intend to remain good neighbors to the local community. Acting as good neighbors should include a willingness to accept some reasonable costs of mitigation to ensure that the Wilderness Areas in our Town are maintained for the enjoyment of future generations.

Sincerely yours,



Jim Rucker

Copied to:

David Plante  
Deputy Director of Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 5  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12977  
[beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)



RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 23 2023

104 Franks Way  
Indian Lake, NY 12842

16 Jun 2023

**Beth Magee**  
**Deputy Regional Permit Administrator**  
**NYSDEC**  
**232 Golf Course Rd.**  
**Warrensburg, NY 12885**

**David Plante**  
**Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs**  
**Adirondack Park Agency**  
**PO Box 99**  
**Ray Brook, NY 12977**

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations, and providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for the area.

We are supportive of Barton Mines as a substantial employer in the area, aspiring to manage its operations in a responsible and eco-friendly manner.

Companies such as Barton, who have a deep understanding and respect for the Adirondack Park, and its inhabitants, are essential to a healthy and economically diverse future in the Park.

We ask you to approve the company's permit application in the spirit of conservationism and partnership between the responsible agencies and industry.

Sincerely,



Kevin and Barb Loughran  
Lake Adirondack

John G. Madonia  
61 Orchard Ave. C1  
Rye, NY 10580  
Jgm8971@gmail.com/917.584.2539

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
JUN 12 2023

June 8, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Director  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante ✓  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rppcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rppcomments@apa.ny.gov)

Re: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

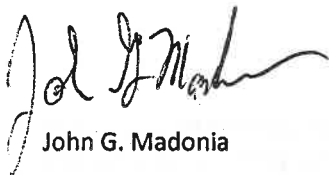
We are writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations-providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Our family has owned a house in Wevertown, for over 50 years. I have visited Barton Mines, several times, and am well aware of the positive impact that Barton Mines has for the region.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and the local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



John G. Madonia

Cc: Randy Rapple  
CEO, Barton

June 19, 2023

Dayna Mazzarelli  
178 Durant Rd.  
Blue Mountain Lake, NY 12812

To:  
Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd. Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977 rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

Re: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing to support Barton Mine's mining permit modification application, which must be approved in order to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations. Barton has long provided important jobs and economic benefits to the area and extending the life of the operation will continue to provide these benefits for future generations.

As long time Blue Mountain Lake residents we perceive a need to preserve the business in existence and protect the tax base. I have visited this mine in the past and believe that it's existence is important to the area.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I believe that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing over 100 jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve

the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Dayna Mazzarelli

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Dayna Mazzarelli", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dayna" and last name "Mazzarelli" clearly legible.

Geoffrey Merrett  
4659 State Rt 28  
P.O. Box 293  
North River, NY 12856

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 07 2023

David Platte  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Mr. Platte

---

I am writing in support of Barton Mined' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

I am a resident of Johnsburg, Ny for nearly 30 years, currently over 15 years at the corner of 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Rd and St Rt 28 where the Barton's haul truck travels between the mine and the Hudson plant. Both these roads see plenty of commercial, residential and tourism related traffic and personally do not notice Barton's Haul truck over the rest of the heavy duty traffic. As a small local business, employing 10- 20 seasonal employee's I recognize the importance of jobs in our community, many of my friends and neighbors support their families by working at Barton's, one of the only larger companies in the area after the State owned Gore Mountain Ski Area.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since its opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts, As a volunteer local Firefighter and I have been to both the mining operation and the plant for mutual safety planning meetings and can personally attest to their dedication.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many area businesses.

---

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank You,



Geoffrey Merrett

[YOUR NAME] JOHN C MONROE  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 470 HARVEY ROAD, NORTH RIVER  
[DATE] JUNE 10/23 NY 12856

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 16 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



V. Joyce Monzhony  
35 Shields Rd.  
North River, N.Y. 12856

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ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 23 2023

June 21, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

*I am very much in favor of Barton's mines expanding their operations. My Dad worked 35 years at Barton, my husband retired as power foreman and Barton is now paying my health insurance.*  
Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

V. Joyce Monzhony - 92 years old  
Thank you Bartons.

**From:** [office@mountainpetroleum.com](mailto:office@mountainpetroleum.com)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** MOUNTAIN PETROLEUM RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT, BARTON MINES PERMIT MODIFICATION  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 8:51:57 AM  
**Attachments:** [APA LETTER PERMIT MODIFICATION.BARTON MINES.pdf](#)

---

Some people who received this message don't often get email from office@mountainpetroleum.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Mr. Plante,

Please see attached letter of support.

Thank you.

Diane for Tim Vander Wiele  
Mountain Petroleum  
P.O. Box 778  
40 Industrial Drive  
Schroon Lake, NY 12870  
Office 518-532-7968  
Fax 518-532-7443





**Division of KTD Enterprises Inc.**

P.O. Box 778, Schroon Lake, New York 12870

Phone: (518) 532-7968 (800) 888-0284 Fax: (518) 532-7443

June 14, 2023

Ms. Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Sincerely,

*Timothy E. Vander Wiele*  
Timothy E. Vander Wiele  
Treasurer

Will & Arlene Ordway  
PO Box 32  
Bakers Mills, NY 12811

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 30 2023

June 27, 2023

David Plante  
Deputy director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE: Barton Mines DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Mr. Plante:

We are writing in support of Barton Mines' permit application.

Since we are both natives of North Creek, we were here when Barton Mines moved its operations to Ruby Mountain and years before when they operated from the original mines. Over the years we have known many friends that have supported a family from Barton Mines employment. They have and continue to be one of the few larger employers in our area and maybe the only large private employer. Without Barton Mines this area would have lost many more young people than we already have to other more lucrative areas.

Barton Mines has contributed to this community in other ways such as being the major sponsor for events like the Bluegrass Festival that ran for 10 consecutive years at the Ski Bowl in North Creek and have responded to many community needs when called upon.

We have confidence that if this permit modification is approved Barton will continue to minimize community impacts and will continue to operate in a responsible manner as they have in the past.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our community thriving. We urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Sincerely,

*Will Ordway*  
*Arlene Ordway*

Will & Arlene Ordway

ROBERT OSTRANDER  
3105 HARVEY ROAD  
N. RIVER NY  
12856

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK AGENCY

JUN 14 2023

DEAR MR. PLANTE

I AM WRITING IN SUPPORT OF BARTON MINES' MINE PERMIT MODIFICATION APPLICATION. I POSE THIS QUESTION TO YOU TO CONTEMPLATE. WHY WOULD YOU NOT APPROVE THIS APPLICATION TO A COMPANY THAT HAS BEEN A PROVEN FOREST STEWARD AND EMPLOYER FOR YEARS HERE. IF BARTON WERE TO CEASE OPERATIONS WOULD WE SEE MORE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WEEKEND HOMES FOR MORE PEOPLE FROM SOUTHERN STATES THAT CONTINUE TO DISRESPECT OUR NEIGHBORS AND ENVIRONMENT. JUST LOOK AT WHAT HAS HAPPENED HERE IN THE LAST 20 YEARS. IF YOU TRULY CARE ABOUT OUR FOREST AND WATERSHED APPROVE THIS APPLICATION BEFORE IT IS ALL GONE.

SINCERELY  
Robert Ostrander



David Peartree  
3151 State Rte 28  
Blue Mtn Lake, NY 12812

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ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 12 2023

June 5, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Re: Barton Mine APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante,

My wife and I are residents of Indian Lake and are writing in support of Barton Mines' permit modification application.

We are familiar with the Barton mine operation. Before we became property owners in the area, we used to spend summers at Garnett Hill Lodge on Thirteenth Lake. During our stays there, Barton Mines was an unobtrusive and good neighbor.

We fully support their continued operations and their application for a permit modification.

  
David S Peartree

Gary and Julia Piscitelli  
10 Marlyn Terrace  
Budd Lake, NJ 07828

Second Home  
310 Thirteenth Lake Road  
North River, NY 12856

06/10/2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 20 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE: Barton Mines APA/Dec Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms Magee and Mr. Plante

We are writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations-providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Many of our local neighbors in Johnsbury are employed or benefit from Barton Mines. As it stands, there are limited employment opportunities in the area. Many of the younger residents are moving away and the area is feeling the resulting economic impact.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and we have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing 125 good and important jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local neighbors employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you for your attention to this issue,

Gary L. Piscitelli



Julia L. Piscitelli



Donald Preuninger  
21 Stewart Rd. Johnsbury, NY 12843  
[don.preuninger@gmail.com](mailto:don.preuninger@gmail.com) (518) 769-0042

06/14/2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
JUN 20 2023

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing to express my support for the permit modification application of Barton Mines. As the previous owner of Garnet Hill Lodge, (2011-2016), I can attest to the fact that Barton Mines has been a great benefit to our community. Their mining activities are not only environmentally sound, but they also bring much-needed economic strength to our area.

During my time running Garnet Hill Lodge, I never had any issues with Barton Mines' presence in the area. In fact, their operations were always conducted in a responsible and professional manner. In particular, noise was never an issue for either us or our guests at the lodge. In our 5 years of ownership, we never had a single complaint or negative comment from a guest regarding blasting, or any noise from mining operations. For myself, spending a great deal of time outdoors at Garnet Hill, I rarely noticed anything going on at the mine and never heard noise that was intrusively loud, which I will say, I was grateful for, as I'm quite sensitive to that sort of thing.

Therefore, with all the important economic benefits that this company brings, I strongly believe that renewing the permit for Barton Mines is in the best interest of our community and I urge you to consider the positive impact that this company has on our area.

Thank you,

Donald Preuninger

June 2, 2023

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 09 2023

Mr. David Plante

APA Deputy Regulatory Program Administrator

PO Box 99

Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Plante:

This letter is being written in support of Barton Mines permit modification application. Granting this permit will extend the life of the company's operations and provide much needed jobs and economic security for future Adirondack residents.

Barton Mines has been operating for many years in a safe and responsible manner. After reading the literature, I have full confidence that they will continue to serve the area, leaving a minimal footprint while providing employment opportunities in an area that is economically depressed,

I hope you will give this request your serious consideration. Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
James and Nannette Quinn

Indian Lake, NY



**From:** [Natasha M Gadway](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** RE: (From Ben Gadway) Barton Mines DEC/APA Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 11:46:38 AM  
**Attachments:** [001\\_1031.pdf](#)

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Resent due to typo in subject line.

---

**From:** Natasha M Gadway  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 11:46 AM  
**To:** Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov; rpcomments@apa.ny.gov  
**Subject:** (From Ben Gadway) Barton Mones DEC/APA Mine Permit Modification  
**Importance:** High

Thank you,  
Ben Gadway

# Benjamin Alan Gadway

---

Post Office Box 154, Johnsburg, New York 12843

Home: 518-251-5807; Mobile: 518-932-7555; email: [bengadway@gmail.com](mailto:bengadway@gmail.com)

May 31, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
New York State Department of Conservation  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, New York 12885  
[Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
Post Office Box 99  
Ray Brook, New York 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines DEC/APA Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Sincerely,



Benjamin A. Gadway

**From:** [t2jshnck@aol.com](mailto:t2jshnck@aol.com)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\): APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Sunday, June 11, 2023 9:19:30 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from [t2jshnck@aol.com](mailto:t2jshnck@aol.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

**ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines permit modification. I am a 3rd generation seasonal property owner in the

Indian Lake area, enjoying our family cottage for almost 60 years. I have been aware of Barton Mines operation, and I believe they have operated in a

safe and environmentally safe manor, and I have not heard or read of any major problems with their operation.

I believe the jobs that Barton Mines provides to the local area are critically important. I'm sure they are one of, if not the largest employer in the

area. Year round stable jobs are few and far between in that area of the Adirondack Park. During my years of vacationing and working summers during

my college years I have seen a steady decline in the economy of the Indian Lake area. Sadly many businesses have closed, and the population has

declined, especially with younger people moving away to find better economic circumstances.

In my lifetime I have seen the implementation of the APA. Although I don't always agree with the intent I do believe the overall result has been

beneficial to the environmental health of the Park. I also believe that a cooperative relationship between Barton Mines, the APA and the DEC is possible

and will keep this important business operating. As a building contractor and in my earlier career working in manufacturing I probably have used some of

the product from Barton Mines. It is great to know that products like theirs can be produced right here in NY.

Thank you for your time,

Joe Hancock  
244 Chamberlain Rd  
Honeoye Falls, NY. 14472

Summer cottage: 122 Farrington Way  
Indian Lake, NY.12842

June 19, 2023

Diane Selin  
178 Durant Rd.  
Blue Mountain Lake, NY 12812

To:  
Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd. Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977 rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

Re: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing to support Barton Mine's mining permit modification application, which must be approved in order to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations. Barton has long provided important jobs and economic benefits to the area and extending the life of the operation will continue to provide these benefits for future generations.

As long time Blue Mountain Lake residents we perceive a need to preserve the business in existence and protect the tax base. I have visited this mine in the past and believe that it's existence is important to the area.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I believe that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

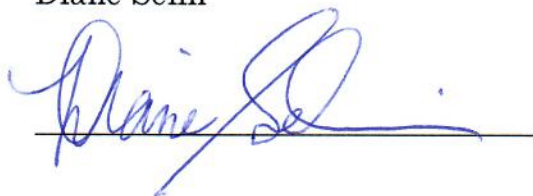
Barton is a major employer, providing over 100 jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve

the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Diane Selin

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Diane Selin", is written over a thin horizontal line. The signature is stylized with cursive-like flourishes.

Arnold Stevens (Town Council Member of the Town of Johnsburg)  
17 The Lane, P.O. Box 47  
Wevertown, Ny, 12886  
June 15,2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
JUN 20 2023

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Mr. Plante:

I am writing today to encourage your approval of the Barton Mines' permit modification application.

As a life-long resident of the Town of Johnsburg as well as a long-time (33 year) member of the Town of Johnsburg Town Council, I fully recognize the benefits that the Barton Mine operation has given to our town and surrounding areas.

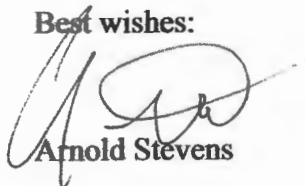
Barton Mine has (and continues) to provide employment, taxes, and is a customer to many area businesses.

Barton Mine has also been a responsible and respectful neighbor throughout its operating history.

In the past, at the present and into the projected future, Barton Mine has (and will continue to be) environmentally responsible in the way their operation runs and is managed.

Thank you for your time and your careful consideration in regards to this request.

Best wishes:

  
Arnold Stevens

May 26, 2023

Richard (Rick) Strain  
224 Samantha Drive  
Fort Edward, NY 12828

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 14 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I would like to express my support for the Barton Mines' APA/DEC mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

I worked a total of 26 years for Barton Mines who afforded me numerous opportunities of working in multiple positions throughout the North Creek Ruby and Hudson River Plant Operations. I thoroughly enjoyed the employee and family oriented work environment and the close management and Barton family interpersonal interactions with employees at all levels of the company.

Barton helped me provide well for my family. I ask that you respectfully consider the positive contributions Barton has made to the local community and the hundreds of local residents who earned a livelihood during the past 100+ years of operations, and approve their mine permit modification application.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and customer to many other businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and the local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



Richard (Rick) Strain  
224 Samantha Drive  
Fort Edward, NY 12828

**From:** [John Golde](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Barton Mines Permit Modification Application  
**Date:** Monday, June 19, 2023 11:44:01 AM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Support - APA.pdf](#)

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from john.golde@goldeengineering.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

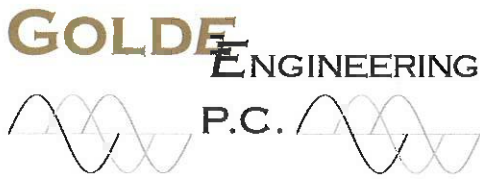
Please forward the attached to Mr. David Plante.

Thank you.

John M. Golde, P.E.  
Golde Engineering, P.C.  
P.O. Box 176  
Greenwich, NY 12834

P: 518-531-4260  
C: 518-744-0159





JOHN M. GOLDE, P.E. PRINCIPAL

June 18, 2023

Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Attn: David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Re: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modifications

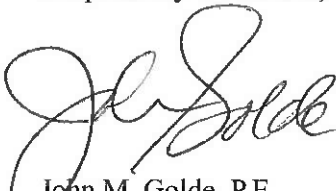
Dera Mr. Plante,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application. My experience working with Barton Mines for the past 13 years has shown the Company to be a good steward of the lands, air and waters of the Adirondacks, a good employer that provides good paying jobs for hard working people of the region, and a good neighbor that supports many worthwhile programs that help many people whose livelihoods have been put in jeopardy as businesses have left the area.

As I mentioned, I have worked with the dedicated people at Barton Mines for many years. I am the only employee of my firm, and I am presently 67 years old and trying my best to retire, so I will not derive a benefit from Barton being granted a modification to their permit. In my opinion Barton is acting in the interest of the North Creek, Indian Lake, Minerva areas as well as themselves by pursuing this modification. After reviewing the facts, I believe the application to be reasonable and fully support it. I ask you to support it with me.

Thank you for your time,

Respectfully Submitted,



John M. Golde, P.E.  
Principal

**From:** [shannon.p](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Support Letter for Barton Mines Permit Application  
**Date:** Friday, June 23, 2023 2:38:15 PM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Permit Support Letter.docx](#)

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from shann137@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Hello,

Attached please find my letter of support for Barton Mines Permit Application.

Thank you,  
Shannon Passino

Shannon Passino  
24 Glenwood Ave  
Queensbury, NY 12804

June 23, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

On a personal note, I would just like to emphasize how grateful I am to work for a company like Barton. Not only are they a responsible business in the way that they operate and conduct business in the community, but they genuinely care for their employees and have created a culture where the employees genuinely care for each other. Having worked for other employers I can confidently say that Barton is a special organization. I hope to see their business ensured for generations to come.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's

permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

*Shannon Passino*

Shannon Passino

**From:** [Cangemi, Mario](#)  
**To:** [Petith, Stephanie L \(APA\)](#); [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#); [Magee, Corrie \(APA\)](#)  
**Subject:** Support Letter Received - DeFillipo  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 28, 2023 8:42:56 AM  
**Attachments:** [DeFillipo Barton Support Lettter.pdf](#)

---

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Good morning all,

We received a hand-written support letter and was asked to pass the letter along to the APA and DEC.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,  
Mario

June 1, 2023

Barton Mines,

Yes, I am a native of the Adirondack Park and thru my 83½ years I've know and respected many "folk" that have been employed by Barton's

Wishing you continued success urging the APA and DEC to approve your permit modification.

Please send copies of this letter on to APA and DEC.

Charlotte Flood DeFilippo

Annelies Taylor

7969 State Rte 30

Blue Mountain Lake, NY 12812

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 09 2023

Jun 5, 2023

David Plante

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99

Ray Brook, NY 12977

Re.: Barton Mines, APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dr. Mr. Plante

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operation – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

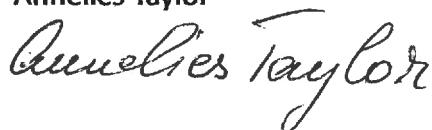
Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983 and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer and a customer to many other area businesses.

I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future

Thank you

Annelies Taylor



Wren Wright  
PO Box 192, 267 Coulter Rd  
Johnsburg, NY 12843

June 16, 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 20 2023

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Mr. Plante,

I am writing in support of the Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations- providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

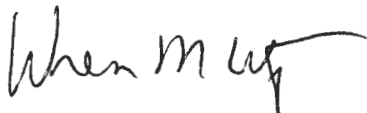
If local communities and their residents are going survive, they need responsible businesses like Barton Mines. During a time when Adirondack communities are finding it difficult to continue, taking a long standing business away would not be beneficial.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wren Wright", with a stylized flourish at the end.



June 11, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUN 14 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

We are writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application that must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations which provides critical jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

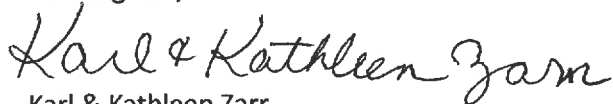
Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983. We strongly believe that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer to this community – providing approximately 125 jobs for all the communities in this region. Barton is also an important taxpayer and customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local communities thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you.

Best regards,



Karl & Kathleen Zarr  
123 Collignon Lane  
Johnsburg, NY 12843

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Alexandra Gaechter  
282 main Street, North Creek, NY  
12853

[DATE] 5/26/2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

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Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Alexandra Gaechter

[YOUR NAME] Kerry Stader  
[YOUR ADDRESS] Fox Run Ln, Johnsbury

[DATE] 5/26/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
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Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Tanya Gaechter  
449 Owen Mtn Rd  
No Creek, NY 12853

[DATE] 5/26/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rppcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rppcomments@apa.ny.gov)

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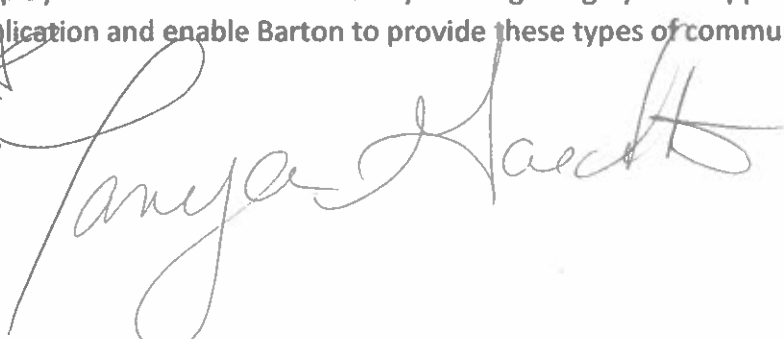
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The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] Steven Gacchter  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 449 Owen Mt. Road  
North Creek, NY 12853  
[DATE] 5-26-23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
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Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



Steven Gacchter

\*[YOUR NAME] Jacob Gaechter  
\*[YOUR ADDRESS] 282 Main Street  
North Creek NY 12853  
\*[DATE] 5/25/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

\* Jacob M. Gaechter



[YOUR NAME] Jennalyn Giles-Golden  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 177 Austin Pond Rd. North Creek, NY.  
[DATE] 5/27/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Erik Golde  
177 Austin Pond Rd  
North Creek, NY

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
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Thank you,





[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Carrie Mason  
837 Bird Pond Rd.  
John North Creek, NY 12853

[DATE]

5/31/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
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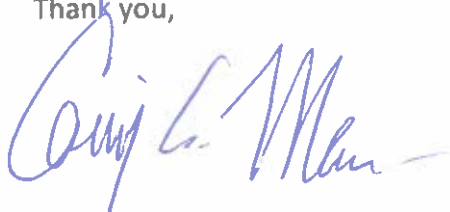
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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] Wendy Deshetskyy  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 56 Morse Memorial Hwy  
Olmstedville N.Y. 12851  
[DATE] 5.31.23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

Wendy W Deshetskyy

[YOUR NAME] Melissa Lashway  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 44 Sodom Cross Rd Johnsbury  
[DATE] 5/25/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Adirondack Park Agency  
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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] Nate Prouty  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 2941 State Route 8  
[DATE] 5/25/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] Linda O'Brien  
[YOUR ADDRESS] Rt 9 Chester Town NY 12817  
[DATE] 5/25/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

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The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

*Linda O'Brien*

[YOUR NAME] Rod Cropsey  
[YOUR ADDRESS] P.O. Box 109 Bakers Mills N.Y. 12811  
[DATE] 5/25/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

Rod Cropsey

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

JoAnne Sutcliffe  
50 Sodom Cross Road  
PO Box 32  
Johnsburg NY 12843

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

JoAnne Sutcliffe

[YOUR NAME]

Kerry Hallisey

[YOUR ADDRESS]

35 Heath Rd

[DATE]

Wevertown, NY 12886

5/26/2023

Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

NYSDEC

232 Golf Course Rd.

Warrensburg, NY 12885

[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

MARK A. SALIS  
807 GOOD Mtn RD  
JOHNSBURG, NY 12843

5/25/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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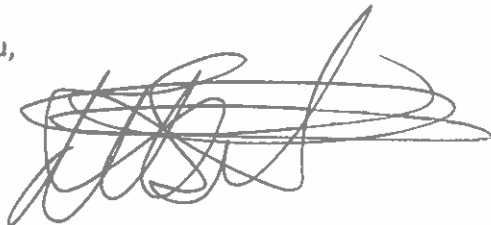
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[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

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232 Golf Course Rd.  
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Thank you,



PAUL HALLISEY  
36 HEATH RD, WEVERTOWN  
12886

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Andrew Jackson  
4267 state Rt. 28  
North Creek, NY 12853

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

Andrew Jackson 5/26/23

[YOUR NAME] *Nick Charbonneau*  
[YOUR ADDRESS] *270 - Delcavalier.*

[DATE] *5/29/29*

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you, *Nick Charbonneau*

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

MARK LADRECQUE  
9 MINERVA LAKE RD  
MINERVA, NY 12851

[DATE] 5-29-23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Eliff Welz  
Schoolhouse 928

[DATE]

5/22/2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] *Sheryl A. Gold.*  
[YOUR ADDRESS] *P.O. Box 113, 2073 Route 28*  
*Waverletown, NY 12886*  
[DATE] *5/22/23*

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

*Sheryl A. Gold*

[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Andrew Jackson

4269 State Rt. 28

N. Creek, NY 12853

5/22/23

Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

NYSDEC

232 Golf Course Rd.

Warrensburg, NY 12885

Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Adirondack Park Agency

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Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you,

Andrew Jackson



[YOUR NAME] Kriston M. Varney  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 10 Milton Ave.  
[DATE] North Creek, NY 12853  
5/22/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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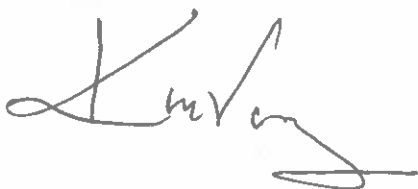
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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] Cassie Dunbar  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE] 5-22-23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Cassie Dunbar", with a long, horizontal flourish extending to the right.

[YOUR NAME] Tina Dumba  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 4139 St. Rt 28 lot 10  
North Creek, NY 12853  
[DATE] 5.22.2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] Logan Hayes  
[YOUR ADDRESS] Johnsbury, NY  
[DATE] 5/22/2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

Logan Hayes

[YOUR NAME] Dan Freebern  
[YOUR ADDRESS] Po Box 113  
North River, NY 12856  
[DATE] 5/22/2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] Jackie Freebern  
[YOUR ADDRESS] PO Box 113  
North River, NY 12856  
[DATE] 5/22/2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



Manger - North Creek Lodge

[YOUR NAME] Melissa Ann Travis - Carroll  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 2999 NY 8 North Creek, NY 12853  
[DATE] 5/22/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

*Melissa Ann Travis - Carroll*

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

David Wright  
PO Box 15  
69 Edwards Hill Rd  
Bakers Mills, NY 12811

[DATE]  
5/22/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
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Thank you,





[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Margaret Welz

[DATE]

154 old schoolhouse Road  
North River, NY 12856

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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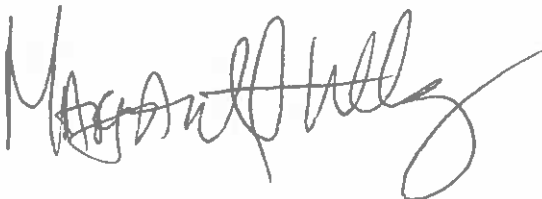
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The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] *James T. Martin*  
[YOUR ADDRESS] *2932 State Rt 28*  
*North Creek NY 12853*  
[DATE] *5/23/23*

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

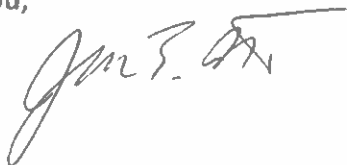
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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

5/22/23

JOHN PETER  
RIDGEST. NORTH CREEK

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] *Tim Elifritz*  
[YOUR ADDRESS] *135 Park Road, Johnsbury, NY*  
[DATE] *5/22/23*

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



Danae Tucker  
1481 State Route 28W  
Minerva, NY 12851  
5122123

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Danae Tucker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "D".

[YOUR NAME] PETE PLUMLEY  
[YOUR ADDRESS] INDIAN LAKE, NY  
[DATE] 5/20/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] Daisy Kelley  
[YOUR ADDRESS] Indian Lake NY  
[DATE] 5/10/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

*D Kelley*

[YOUR NAME] William Trudsoe  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 16 Hill Park Rd  
[DATE] Chestertown, NY 12817

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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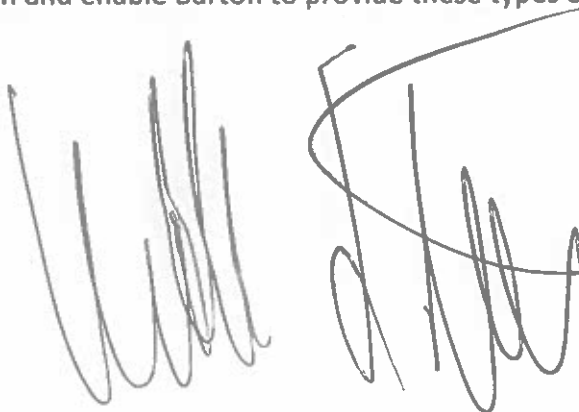
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Thank you,

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is a cursive-style name, possibly 'William Trudsoe'. The signature on the right is a more stylized, loopy cursive signature.



[YOUR NAME] Jack T. Minder

[YOUR ADDRESS] P.O. Box 228

[DATE] 5/24/23 North River N.Y. 12856

Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

NYSDEC

232 Golf Course Rd.

Warrensburg, NY 12885

[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

*Jack T. Minder*

Kent Gregson  
120 Pashley Road, Indian Lake  
[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



Vincent E. Leddick  
1250 County Rte 29  
Olmstedville, N.Y. 12857

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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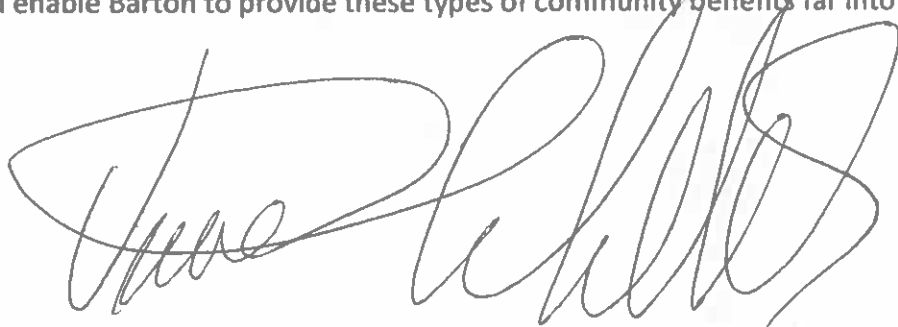
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Thank you,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Vincent E. Leddick, is written over the bottom right portion of the letter. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Michael Quintavalle.  
192 Harrington Rd.  
Weverton, NY. 12886  
5-27-2023.

Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

NYSDEC

232 Golf Course Rd.

Warrensburg, NY 12885

Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Adirondack Park Agency

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Thank you,



North Creek Lodge  
Manager

[YOUR NAME] Jerry Mulvey

[YOUR ADDRESS]

2999 NY 8 North Creek NY 12853

[DATE]

5/22/2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpccomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpccomments@apa.ny.gov)

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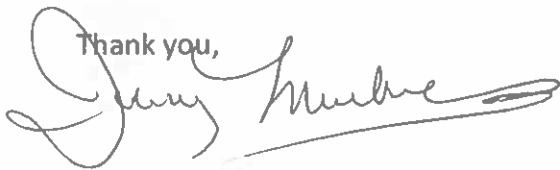
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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] Linda Quintavalle  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 192 Harrington Road. Waverly N.Y.  
[DATE] 5-27-2023 Staten Island, N.Y. 30 Lakeview Terrace.  
10305

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] Rebecca J. Mace  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 4651 State Rt 28 North River NY  
[DATE] 5/22/23 12856

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Ewan Richards  
398 Goodman Rd  
Johnsburg NY 12843  
May 22nd, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,





[YOUR NAME] *Timothy M McGraw*  
[YOUR ADDRESS] *302 MAIN Street North Creek NY 12853*

[DATE] *5/22/23*

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

*Timothy M McGraw*

[YOUR NAME] *Emeline McCarthy*

[YOUR ADDRESS] *83 Centerville Rd North River NY 12856*

[DATE] *5/28/23*

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

*E. McCarthy*

[YOUR NAME] John C Walker  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 1774 Rt 28n  
Minerva, NY 12851  
[DATE] 5/29/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

*John C Walker*

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Daniel K Secor Sr.  
23 main street  
North Creek NY 12853  
5/29/23

Beth Magee  
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NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] *Bob Austin*  
[YOUR ADDRESS] *Bakers Mills NY*

[DATE]

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232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
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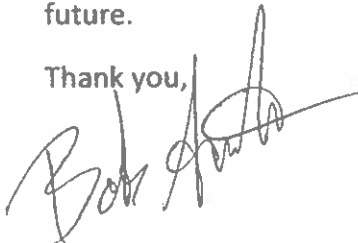
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The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] *Ken Murphy*  
[YOUR ADDRESS] *1231 Friends Lake Rd*  
*Okester Town NY 12817*  
[DATE] *5/30/2020*

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rppcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rppcomments@apa.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

*Ken Murphy*

[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

Daniel Prouty 43 Sodom Cross Rd. North Creek, N.Y. 12853

[DATE]

5/23/23

Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

NYSDEC

232 Golf Course Rd.

Warrensburg, NY 12885

Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99

Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you,

Daniel Prouty

Frederick T. Comstock  
11 Park Rd  
Johnsburg, N.Y. 12843

[DATE] May 24, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,





[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

KEVIN DISCOLL  
MAIN ST.

5/30/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Susan Lintner  
191 Old School Rd  
Pottersville NY  
May 30, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Candace Lomay  
32 Fairview Ave  
North Creek NY  
5-30-23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

Candace Lomay

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Dorothy Swenson  
85 Hemlock Hollow RD  
Chester Town, N.Y. 12817

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

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Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

Leslie Clement  
83 Cemetery Road  
North River  
12856

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

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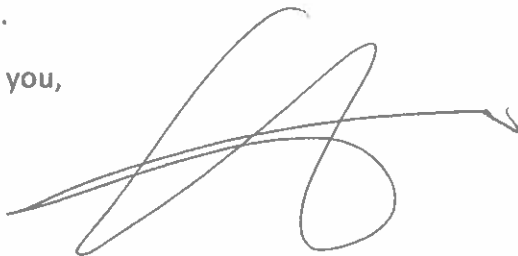
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Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'L' shape with a horizontal line extending to the right and a vertical line curving back down to the left.

[YOUR NAME] Allison A. Ritson  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 1116 CTY RTE 29  
Olmstedville, NY  
[DATE] 5-30-23 12857

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

*Allison Anne Ritson*

[YOUR NAME] Isaac Hyde  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 391 Byrnes road North Creek NY 12853  
[DATE] 5-3-23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] Bill S. Lofgren  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 48 Casterline Rd  
North River 12856

[DATE] 5-30-23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,





[YOUR NAME] § Natasha Wright  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 307 Main Street North Creek NY.  
[DATE] 05/30/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] *Cathleen Bennett*  
[YOUR ADDRESS] *384 Hudson St.*  
[DATE] *5/30/23*  
*Johnsburg NY 12843*

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Dale E Millington

P.O. Box 492

N. Creek, NY 12853

May 29th 2023

Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

NYSDEC

232 Golf Course Rd.

Warrensburg, NY 12885

[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Adirondack Park Agency

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Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you,

Dale E Millington

~~[YOUR NAME]~~  
~~[YOUR ADDRESS]~~

JOHN C McARDLE  
45 RT 28 N  
MOUNT CREEK, NY 12853

~~[DATE]~~ 5/30/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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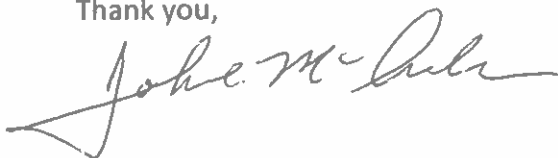
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[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

NYSDEC

232 Golf Course Rd.

Warrensburg, NY 12885

Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99

Ray Brook, NY 12977

rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

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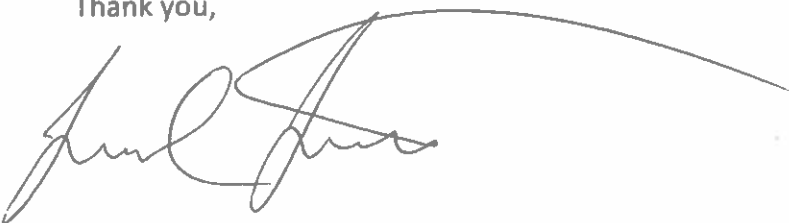
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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] Stephanie Leonard  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 31 ST RT 28n, North Creek, NY 12853  
[DATE] 5/30/2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

*Stephanie Leonard*

[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

Tyler D. Cunningham  
3256 St. Rt. 28, North Creek, NY 12853

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

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Thank you,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, likely belonging to the sender of the letter.

  
32 Garfield St  
Chenango Falls NY  
12801



[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

JACK A. BACCIA  
2225 ST. RT. 8  
BAKERS Mills, N.Y. 12811  
5/30/2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] Lucy Harris  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 8 Bird Pond Rd  
North Creek NY 12853  
[DATE] 5/30/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

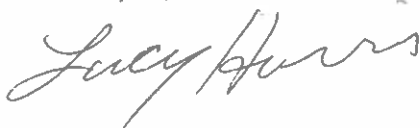
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The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Jamie LaChapelle  
5 Moffitt Drive Weavertown  
05/30/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
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Thank you,

Jamie LaChapelle

[YOUR NAME] Aleesha Washburn  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 563 Harrington Rd, Wevertown NY 12886  
[DATE] 5/30/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Andrea LoVerde  
31 Birch Pond Rd.

[DATE]  
5/30/2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

Andrea LoVerde

[YOUR NAME] Madeline Donohue  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 52 Bartman Rd. Bakers Mills NY

[DATE] 5/30/23

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Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] April Teclin  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 1292 So Johnsbury Rd Johnsbury NY 12843

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



Reginald Fraeborn  
PO Box 94 North River, N.Y. 12856  
[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]  
5-30-23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
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Thank you,





Edwin Beavers

[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

North Creek N.Y.

[DATE]

5-30-2023

Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

NYSDEC

232 Golf Course Rd.

Warrensburg, NY 12885

Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante

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Thank you,

Edwin Beavers

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

MATT THOMAS  
PO Box 222  
North Creek NY 12853

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

MATT THOMAS  


[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

MATTHEW OLDEN  
26 Peacefull Valley RD  
North Creek NY 12853

5/30/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] Monica Millington  
[YOUR ADDRESS] P.O. Box 492  
North Creek, NY 12853

[DATE] May 29 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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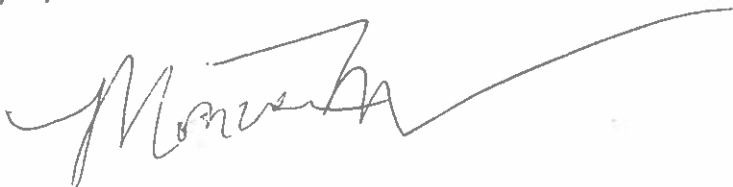
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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

David Van Voorhis  
16 Little Road  
Weverton N.Y.  
12886

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] Jen English  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 93 Buck Mtn Rd  
Crown Point NY  
[DATE] 5/30/23 12928

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] ERNIE DUNKLEY  
[YOUR ADDRESS] PO Box 61 JOHNSBURG  
[DATE] 22 MAY 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] Victoria Knienm  
[YOUR ADDRESS] PO BOX 206  
North Creek, NY 12853  
[DATE] May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] David Smith  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 205 New Vermont Rd  
Bolton Landing, NY 12814

[DATE] 5/22/23  
Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] Bethanie Baker  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 22 Wilbur Hitchcock Rd. Bakers Mills NY.

[DATE] May 22, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

Bethanie M Baker

Joann Morehouse  
559 Goodman Rd  
Johnsburg, NY 12843  
15/02/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] *Mike Dunkley*  
[YOUR ADDRESS] *Goodman Rd.*

[DATE] *5/25/23*

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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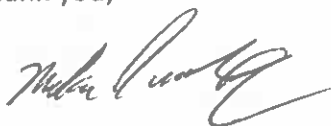
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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Gary Bacon  
Bakers Mills NY

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

Gary Bacon

[YOUR NAME] David ~~11/15~~  
[YOUR ADDRESS] Bakers Mills, NY  
[DATE] 05-23-23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

David ~~11/15~~

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

*Eden Winton*  
54 Sodom CROSS ROAD North Creek NY

[DATE] MAY 23 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rppcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rppcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

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Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

*Eden Winton*

BRIAN LENNEY  
P.O. Box 29  
PISECO, N.Y.  
[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 12139

[DATE] May 22 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

Brian Lenney



[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

May 22, 2023

Eileen Lenney - Lawrence  
P.O. Box 141

Johnsburg, N.Y. 12843

Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

NYSDEC

232 Golf Course Rd.

Warrensburg, NY 12885

Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99

Ray Brook, NY 12977

rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

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Thank you,

Eileen Lenney - Lawrence

[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS]

David Backe (Adirondack Spirits Inc.)  
273 Main St. North Creek

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] Lindsay Olden  
[YOUR ADDRESS] Peaceful Valley Road  
North Creek, NY 12853  
[DATE] 8/22/2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
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Ray Brook, NY 12977  
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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME] Gwendoline Sweet  
[YOUR ADDRESS] 267 St. Rte. 28 warrensburg, NY  
[DATE] 5/22/22

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
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Thank you,



[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Adirondack Park Agency  
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Ray Brook, NY 12977  
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Thank you,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

See D. Kuerin  
PO Box 206  
North Creek, NY 12853

[YOUR NAME] Erin Nelson  
[YOUR ADDRESS] North creek

[DATE] 5-23-23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
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Thank you,

Erin Nelson  


[YOUR NAME] PETER OLESHESKI JR  
[YOUR ADDRESS] PO BOX 96 / 448 HUDSON ST  
JOHNSBURG, NY 12843  
[DATE] 5/23/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

*Peter Olesheski Jr*

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR ADDRESS]

Greg Tombl  
PO Box 1 North Creek 12853

[DATE]

5/20/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,





[YOUR NAME] *Dr. Jacob Calusha*  
[YOUR ADDRESS] *671 Church road Olmstedville NY 12857*

[DATE] *May 26, 2023*

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

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Thank you,

*Jacob T. Calusha*



**Board of Directors**

Charles Clusen  
**Chair**

James McMartin Long  
Michael Wilson  
**Vice-Chairs**

Barbara Rottier  
**Secretary**

David Quinn  
**Treasurer**

Nancy Bernstein  
John Caffry  
Andy Coney  
Dean Cook  
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Sidney Harring  
Dale Jeffers  
Mark Lawton  
John Nemjo  
Peter O'Shea  
Philip Terrie  
Chris Walsh

Peter Bauer  
**Executive Director**

Christopher Amato  
**Conservation Director  
and Counsel**

May 31, 2023

John M. Burth  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Beth Magee  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 5  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

**RE: Comments on Appendix O: Visual Impact Assessment  
APA Project 2021-245: Barton Mines Expansion  
Town of Johnsburg, Warren County**

Dear Mr. Burth and Ms. Magee:

Protect the Adirondacks ("PROTECT") submits these comments concerning the revised Appendix O, Visual Impacts Analysis ("VIA") prepared by H2H Geoscience Engineering, PLLC for the proposed expansion by Barton Mines Corporation, LLC ("Barton") of the Ruby Mountain Mine in the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County. PROTECT's comments on the revised Appendix O are fully set forth in the attached report prepared by Dr. Richard Smardon. As noted in our prior comments on the VIA, Dr. Smardon is a Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse, New York, where he has taught for over 36 years. He is a certified environmental professional with over 40 years of experience in visual impact assessments, and has written three professional reference books on the subject. These comments supplement PROTECT's prior submissions in June 2021, July 2022 and November 2022 concerning the proposed mine expansion.

As set forth in the attached report, the VIA is remains deficient because it (i) fails to include a publicly accessible site on private lands (Garnet Hill Lodge); (ii) fails to consider the industrial machinery and heavy duty motor vehicles that are visible at and near the summit of the residual materials ("RM") pile; (iii) fails to include cross sections and simulations for all mining phases; (iv) fails to quantify the severity or significance of

**Protect the Adirondacks**

PO Box 48, North Creek, NY 12853 · 518.251.2700

[www.protecttheadirondacks.org](http://www.protecttheadirondacks.org) · [info@protectadks.org](mailto:info@protectadks.org)

*Follow Us on Twitter @ProtectAdkPark & Like Us on Facebook*

the visual impacts of the mine expansion; (v) does not adequately detail or explain the proposed measures to mitigate visual impacts; (vi) fails to adequately address the visual impacts from blasting and wind-blown dust; and (vii) fails to evaluate the visual impacts of Barton's proposal to remove approximately 43,000 trees from a 67-acre portion of the mine property.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Protect the Adirondacks, please let me express our gratitude for the opportunity to submit these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Amato", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christopher Amato  
Conservation Director and Counsel  
Protect the Adirondacks! Inc.  
P.O. Box 48  
North Creek, NY 12853  
Office: (518) 251-2700  
Cell: (518) 860-3696

**Supplemental Report on H2H Geoscience Engineering Amended Appendix 0:  
Visual Impact Assessment, Barton Mines  
Town of Johnsbury, Warren County, NY**

**By Richard Smardon MLA PhD CEP**

**Introduction**

Barton Mines Corporation, LLC (Barton) submitted a Visual Impact Assessment (“VIA”) dated June 2021 as part of applications to the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) and the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for the proposed expansion of Barton’s Ruby Mountain Mine located in the Town of Johnsbury, Warren County, New York in the Adirondack Park. The VIA was prepared by H2H Geoscience Engineering, PLLC (“H2H”).<sup>1</sup> I was retained by Protect the Adirondacks! Inc. (“Protect”) to prepare a report evaluating the VIA, and that report was submitted to the APA and DEC under cover of letter dated November 22, 2022 as part of Protect’s comments on the proposed Barton expansion.

Under cover of letter dated May 1, 2023, Barton submitted additional application materials to the APA and DEC, including changes to the VIA which H2H describes as “updates . . . made to Figures associated with minor reclamation geometry changes to RM pile and Quarry.” This supplemental report evaluates the additional materials submitted in support of the VIA.

My original report identified significant deficiencies in the VIA, including that it:

- (i) does not include two publicly accessible viewpoints on Forest Preserve lands and one publicly accessible viewpoint on private lands (Garnet Hill Lodge) with existing views of the mining operations. Two publically accessible viewpoint simulations and cross sections were added in the revised VIA but did not include Garnet Hill Lodge.
- (ii) fails to consider the industrial machinery and heavy duty motor vehicles that are visible at and near the summit of the residual materials (“RM”) pile. The revised VIA still does not address this issue.
- (iii) fails to include key simulations and cross sections to address visual impacts of the proposed mining operation expansion phases. The revised VIA does include additional cross sections and simulations but not for all mining phases.
- (iv) fails to quantify the severity or significance of the visual impacts of the mine expansion as required by agency guidance for assessment of visual impacts. The revised VIA still does not adequately address the severity and significance of visual impacts.

---

<sup>1</sup> H2H Geoscience Engineering, PLLC, Visual Impact Assessment, Barton Mines, Town of Johnsbury Warren County New York, NYS DEC Mine Permit #5-5230-00002/00002 Mine File #50483, APA Permit No. P79-140, P70-356, P87-39, P87-39A, P87-39B, P88-393, P88-393A.

(v) does not adequately detail or explain the proposed measures to mitigate visual impacts. Some additional general language was inserted in the revised VIA but revegetation screening and other mitigation measures are still not adequately documented and

(vi) fails to address the visual impacts from blasting and wind-blown dust. The revised VIA includes some general language about dust occurrence but this is not substantiated.

### **Summary of Changes to the VIA**

The changes to the VIA consist of the addition of six sets of digital simulations from the six viewpoints listed below; an explanation of the methods used in production of the digital simulations; and additional discussion of mitigation measures for dust control and blasting. Specifically, the additional digital simulations include the following:

- DS #1: Peak of Peaked Mountain trail looking back towards the RM pile and quarry;
- DS #2: At the middle of Thirteenth Lake looking back towards the RM pile and quarry;
- DS #3: Peak of Balm of Gilead Mountain trail looking back toward the RM pile and quarry;
- DS #4: At the intersection of Thirteenth Lake Road and Harvey Road looking toward the project area;
- DS #5: At the peak of Moxham Mountain trail looking back toward the RM pile and Quarry; and
- DS #6: Hooper Mine trail looking back towards the RM pile and quarry.

According to H2H, the topographic data for these digital simulations were derived from aerial drone photogrammetric techniques plus LiDAR data for surrounding tree canopy location and height.

### **Analysis of Supplemental Submissions**

The following summarizes my analysis of four of the six additional digital simulations that are problematic and or inaccurate:

DS 3#: *Peak of Balm of Gilead Mountain Trail* looking back toward the RM pile and quarry. The no vegetation visual simulation shows that the proposed RM pile and eastern highwall quarry will be visible from this location. The revised VIA claims, however, that “vegetation around the RM pile and quarry will screen a portion of the project” and “localized vegetation would further screen the project site from this viewpoint” (H2H 2023, p. 19). This is purely speculative and cannot be substantiated without a detailed simulation of vegetative cover that will exist over time at the mine site and to what extent the vegetation will screen the RM pile and quarry when viewed from the Balm of Gilead Mountain observation point.

DS #4: At the *intersection of Thirteenth Lake Road and Harvey Road* looking toward the project area. The no vegetation visual simulation shows that the proposed RM pile and eastern highwall quarry will be visible from this observation point. The revised VIA claims that “Vegetation that will remain after project completion will completely screen 95% of the RM pile” and that vegetation in the area of the intersection runs adjacent to the roadway and is deeply incised in the local tree canopy thus “likely completely screening” (H2H 2023, p. 19) the project site. This

again is purely speculative and cannot be substantiated without detailed simulation of vegetative cover that will exist over time at the mine site and to what extent the vegetation will screen the RM pile from the viewer observation point.

DS #5: At the *peak of Moxham Mountain Trail* looking back toward the RM pile and quarry. The revised VIA states that under the no vegetation condition only the RM pile is visible and under future vegetated conditions the RM pile will be partially screened. The RM is currently visible from this viewpoint and the revised VIA provides no support for its conclusion that a future, greatly increased RM pile footprint will be screened by future vegetated conditions.

DS #6: *Hooper Mine trail* looking back towards the RM pile and quarry. The no vegetation visual simulation shows that the RM pile and quarry will be visible from this observation point. The revised VIA claims that “vegetation that will return after project completion will probably screen the quarry and RM pile” and that local vegetation will screen the proposed project from the observer depending on the viewpoints and location. (H2H, p. 19). This again is purely speculative without detailed simulation of vegetative cover that will exist over time at the mine site and to what extent the vegetation will screen the quarry and RM pile from the viewer observation point.

These added simulations show that the proposed mine expansion will be clearly visible from several publicly accessible viewpoints that are important Forest Preserve destinations for recreationists, including the peaks of Balm of Gilead and Moxham mountains. The conclusory claims that the RM pile and quarry face will be totally or nearly totally screened by vegetation from these important viewpoints are not supported by Barton’s monitoring report on its revegetation testing program, submitted as Exhibit N to the application. In fact, the report documents poor success rates for revegetation, undermining the assumption that the visual impacts of the expanded mining operation will be mitigated by vegetative screening.

In addition, the VIA is flawed because it fails to evaluate the visual impacts of the applicant’s proposal to remove approximately 43,000 trees from a 67-acre portion of the mine property.

**Adequacy of Mitigation Measures-** The revised VIA adds two sections to Mitigation Measures:

1. Under *enhanced dust control measures* the report states that dust occurs only under high wind conditions and does not go beyond the mine property boundary. However, no data is provided regarding wind velocity or wind direction under which windblown dust conditions are expected to occur. In any event, there is a visual impact issue with respect to the presence of dust from conveyer and vehicle operations with or without wind. The proposed mitigation measure of annual placement of biodegradable material on non-reclaimed RM pile faces to bound and capture finer particles and reduce fugitive dust includes no data or examples supporting the effectiveness of this proposed measure.
2. *Blasting*: The revised VIA states that “blasting operations at Barton consist of

small, contained blasts and have not produce [sic] significant visual impacts, nor will they in the future. (H2H 2023, p. 20) but there is no support provided for these conclusions.

The VIA still fails to provide sufficient detail on the phased concurrent reclamation measures, including how the 100-foot lifts are to be constructed and how the proposed vegetation will be planted and maintained for screening effectiveness. This is a particularly significant omission given the poor survivability of plantings documented in Exhibit N. The VIA should also include information on rock residual material weathering to reduce visual color contrast.

Although the VIA states that more natural contours for the RM pile design will be used to mitigate visual impacts, the simulations continue to show only a bench-like final ridgeline shape. The actual ridgeline designs are not shown, and it is therefore unclear how or to what extent they would reduce visual impacts. In addition, as noted in the APA (2021) permit application review, the final RM pile elevation does not account for expansion of the side slope areas to the east and west, which may result in more reduction of ridgeline screening vegetation. To address these issues, alternative RM pile designs should be described, simulated from key viewpoints, and evaluated.

### Key References

Adirondack Mountain Club. Undated. Central Region, Guide to Adirondack trails. The Adirondack Mountain Club Inc.

Adirondack Park Agency. November 16, 2021. Notice of Incomplete Permit Application APA Project Number 2021-0245. Adirondack Park Agency, NY 7pp. especially project description and visual impacts.

Adirondack Park Agency. Undated. Visual Analysis Methodology. Adirondack Park Agency, Ray Brook, NY

H2H Geoscience Engineering, PLLC. 2023. Visual Impact Assessment Barton Mine, Town of Johnsburg Warren County New York, NYS DEC Mine Permit #5-5230-0002/0002 Mine File #50483 by H2H Geoscience Engineering PLLC Troy, NY

NYS DEC. 2000. Assessing and Mitigating Visual Impacts, DEP-00-2 NYS DEC, Albany NY.

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUL 17 2023

**Mark Anderson**  
**Shannon Stone**  
**1687 NYS Rte. 28N**  
**Minerva, NY 12851**

**David Plante**  
**Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs**  
**Adirondack Park Agency**  
**PO Box 99**  
**Ray Brook, NY 12977**

**Dear David:**

**First of all, thanks for taking time to consider this letter in support of Barton Mines permit modification application.**

**I am a retired Gore Mountain Department Supervisor; my wife Shannon is a long time English Teacher at Johnsburg Central School.**

**As you know, Barton Mines and Gore are the main employment providers in northern Warren County. It would be impossible to imagine the effect on the local community and its kids should one of these workplaces cease to exist.**

**Thanks for your consideration.**



**Mark Anderson**



**Shannon Stone**



**From:** [Fran T](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Att: Mr. David Plante, re: Barton Mines Permit Modification Request  
**Date:** Monday, August 12, 2024 6:20:57 PM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Mines permit letter 8-12-24.docx](#)

---

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August 12, 2024

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, New York 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification Request**

Dear Mr. Plante,

It has come to my attention that Barton Mines is in the final process of applying to your agency to extend the life of the Ruby Mountain mining operations. **I support the approval of their application.**

My great, great grandfather, Henry Hudson Barton founded the Barton Mines in North Creek, New York in the 1860s. Mining in that region has been in operation for 146 years and has been a mainstay for employment for many families in the Adirondack region, and many Barton family members. Many of those employees have been with Barton Mines for decades, and some for many generations. Obviously, the company has been an excellent employer and keeps the local economy thriving. Loss of this industry would be a loss for the people of North Creek and the surrounding communities, not to mention those world-wide who depend on Barton garnet for their industrial use.

I urge you to approve the Barton Mines permit application. Barton is a leader in environmental stewardship and community organizations. Their attention to safety at the mines is extraordinary. They are reliable taxpayers and community supporters. The company was recently inducted into the New York State Historic Preservation Registry. The Barton headquarters in Glens Falls is certified by the U.S. Green Building Council as LEED Platinum, the highest ranking.

Thank you,

*Frances B Tate*

Frances B. Tate  
9693 Desert Paint Brush Court, Parker, CO 80134  
coyotefran@hotmail.com

**From:** [Jenks, Rich](#)  
**To:** [rich.jenks](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Letter of Support  
**Date:** Friday, September 6, 2024 4:30:45 PM  
**Attachments:** [Barton-Permit-Support-Letter RJENKS 090624.pdf](#)

---

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Please see attached.

Rich Jenks

Richard G. Jenks, Jr.  
2 Woodcrest Drive  
Queensbury, NY 12804

September 6, 2024

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

In July 2024, I celebrated my 31st employment anniversary with Barton.

Unlike so many other young adults who have moved away and never returned to the area, I took a “flyer” on Barton and relocated my family from Georgia to an old mining house on the top of Gore Mountain. Underlying this radical action were two primary things: 1) a move back to the Adirondacks where both my wife and I grew up and loved; and 2) the integrity of the Barton management team met during the interview process which left an indelible print on us as we considered employment in the area.

That said, I recall convincing my wife that if Barton wasn’t a good career move that my certification as a public accountant and solid experience/education would enable us to find another home in the future. With the confidence I had in Barton management and the belief that another opportunity could be identified, if necessary, we took the leap of faith to relocate over 1,000 miles away. What I didn’t anticipate was that the Company would continue its historical growth patterns generating career opportunities beyond anything that could have been imagined. Such growth enabled our family to stay with Barton and become part of the fabric of integrity that I so admired 31 years ago.

Barton has deep loyalty among its employees, loyalty bred from over 146 years of valuing its employment base and operating with a level of transparency that creates broad trust. In turn,

this has been part of its recipe for success over its many years of operations. The beneficiaries of this success have been generations of employees and Barton family members, their respective families, the customers served by this organization and the local communities in which Barton operates.

The ask related to the extension of the mine permit is disproportionate to and pales in comparison to the extensive, time proven, local/regional/national benefits that accrue to the North Country on account of the operational excellence provided by the Barton organization.

I know both of you have had the privilege of getting to know certain of the Barton managers; to witness operational excellence in real time; and to consider the regulatory requirements necessary to support the Company's mine permit application. I'm hard pressed to comprehend or imagine the existence of any legitimate, material obstacles to permit approval and hopeful that this sentiment will ultimately be shared among your respective agencies.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rich Jenks".

Richard G. Jenks, Jr.

**From:** [supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments: Hall, Amy S \(APA\)](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mine Expansion  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 3:49:18 PM  
**Attachments:** [230718 EXE Plante APA.pdf](#)  
[230718 230620 Resolution 23 113.pdf](#)

---

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Dear Mr. Plante,

Please find attached a letter and board resolution from the Town of Johnsbury expressing support for the expansion of the Barton Mine under conditions your agency finds appropriate. Below is the text of that letter. Attached is a copy of the resolution. I have also sent both by standard mail as hardcopies.

If myself or the Johnsbury Town Board be of any assistance in your diligence, please feel free to reach out to me at this email address or the number below.

Best regards,

Mark

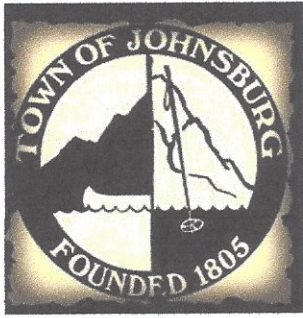
Mark Smith  
Supervisor  
Town of Johnsbury  
supervisor  
518.321.7667

-----  
Dear Mr. Plante:

Please find enclosed the Johnsbury Town Board Resolution 23-113 expressing support for the proposed expansion of Barton Mines.

Barton Mines is an important and valued member of our community providing full-time jobs, contributing significantly to town and school tax levies, and adding to down-stream economies both locally and nationally.

I recently was invited to take a personal tour of the Ruby Mine site and the Hudson River site. I found their balance of economics and environmentalism to be outstanding; their management team gives a great deal of thought not only to what impact an action may have today but also its role in the world of tomorrow. Having spent part of my career in manufacturing, I was impressed on how this organization strives to do what is right even if that means achieving an



# TOWN OF JOHNSBURG

219 Main Street, North Creek, NY 12853  
Phone: (518) 251-2421 ~Fax: (518) 251-9991

**Bakers Mills  
Johnsburg  
Garnet Lake  
North Creek  
North River  
Riparius  
Wevertown**

**Town Supervisor**  
Mark Smith  
(518) 251-2421x4

**Town Council**  
Gene Arsenault  
Arnold Stevens  
Justin Gonyo  
Alexander Hoskins

**Highway Superintendent**  
Fred Comstock  
(518) 251-2113

**Town Clerk**  
Jean Comstock  
(518) 251-2421x3

**Town Assessor**  
Letitia Williams  
(518) 251-2421x6

**Zoning Enforcement**  
Colin Mangan  
518-251-2421x5

July 18, 2023

Mr. David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

**Re: Barton Mines Expansion**

Dear Mr. Plante:

Please find enclosed the Johnsburg Town Board Resolution 23-113 expressing support for the proposed expansion of Barton Mines.

Barton Mines is an important and valued member of our community providing full-time jobs, contributing significantly to town and school tax levies, and adding to down-stream economies both locally and nationally.

I recently was invited to take a personal tour of the Ruby Mine site and the Hudson River site. I found their balance of economics and environmentalism to be outstanding; their management team gives a great deal of thought not only to what impact an action may have today but also its role in the world of tomorrow. Having spent part of my career in manufacturing, I was impressed on how this organization strives to do what is right even if that means achieving an excellence that may ignore profitability and go beyond established regulations and standards.

We ask that you would duly consider granting this application subject to the conditions and limitations of your agency.

Sincerely,

Mark Smith  
Supervisor  
supervisor@johnsburgny.com  
518.321.7667

Resolution #23-113

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF BARTON MINES EXPANSION**

WHEREAS, Barton Mines Corporation, a local business that mines and processes garnet for commercial and industrial use is seeking approval from the New York Department of Environmental Conservation and the Adirondack Park Agency to extend the life of its operations; and

WHEREAS, Barton Mines has continually operated its Ruby Mountain site in the Town of Johnsburg (THE “Town”) since 1983; and

WHEREAS, the effective life of the mine will end in a few years without the modification requested by Barton Mines in its application to the agencies; and

WHEREAS, the mining and processing would occur entirely on Barton property at the existing Ruby Mountain site; and

WHEREAS, Barton Mines provides over one hundred (100) good paying jobs for town residents and for others in our region; and

WHEREAS, Barton Mines is not only a major employer, and taxpayer, but is also active in its support of community life here in Johnsburg and neighboring towns.

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Johnsburg urges both state agencies to approve the application of Barton Mines to allow its operations to continue well into the future, subject to those conditions and limitations as deemed appropriate and reasonable by said agencies.

Ayes 5      Nays 0      Recusals 0



excellence that may ignore profitability and go beyond established regulations and standards.

We ask that you would duly consider granting this application subject to the conditions and limitations of your agency.

Sincerely,

Mark Smith

Supervisor

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

518.321.7667

**From:** [Lemay, Steeve](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mine Permit - Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023 4:03:36 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[Barton Support.pdf](#)

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**ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.**

Good Afternoon,

Please see attached a letter of support for Barton regarding the permit modification.

Best Regards,

*Steeve Lemay*

**Director of Logistics**

**Barton International**

PH: 518.615.2059

Cell: 518.932.8185

FAX 866.430.0242

[slemay@barton.com](mailto:slemay@barton.com)

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Steeve Lemay  
4 Balsam Drive, Apt.3  
Queensbury, NY 12804

8/30/23

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Steeve Lemay



**From:** [mike farrell](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mine  
**Date:** Friday, March 29, 2024 2:16:47 PM

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I am writing in support of Barton Mines' permit to extend the life of its current operations on Ruby Mountain.

I grew up in Indian Lake, and my father worked at Barton for over 20 years, earning the money that helped to put me through college. 125 people currently work at Barton, affording their families the same opportunities I had. Barton is also an important taxpayer and a customer to many area businesses.

Over the years Barton has been a responsible natural resource manager, and I see nothing in their expansion plan to contradict that. We are a Park, but people also live within it and need to make a living in order to provide services for the second home owners and tourists who come to enjoy our beauty.

Barton has been and should continue to be a benefit to the greater North Creek area. Please approve its mine expansion permit application. Mike Farrell, Long Lake

**From:** [Tricia Rogers](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Amanda Blanton](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA /DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Monday, July 29, 2024 11:01:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[David Plante .pdf](#)

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Dear Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Best,  
Tricia



**TRICIA ROGERS**  
**President & CEO**

P: 518.798.1761 E: [TROGERS@ADIRONDACKCHAMBER.ORG](mailto:TROGERS@ADIRONDACKCHAMBER.ORG)  
ADIRONDACK REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
68 WARREN STREET, SUITE 200, GLENS FALLS, NY 12801  
[WWW.ADIRONDACKCHAMBER.ORG](http://WWW.ADIRONDACKCHAMBER.ORG)



*Upcoming ARCC Events: [Nonprofit Chat – July 10<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm @ Glens Falls Area YMCA](#);  
[Everything AI panel discussion – July 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:45 am @ SUNY Adirondack](#); [Ribbon Cutting for Uncle Mario's Garage – July 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am](#); [July Mixer at Common Roots Brewing Co. – July 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm](#); [Chamber 101 – August 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am](#); [August Mixer](#)*

*th*

*“The Trackside Social” – August 14 at 5:00 pm @ The Trackside Grill; ARCC Business Awards – October 3<sup>rd</sup> from 7:30 – 10:00 am @ The Queensbury Hotel - Register for these events at [www.adirondackchamber.org/events!](http://www.adirondackchamber.org/events!)*



## ADIRONDACK REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

July 29, 2024

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

With gratitude,

Tricia Rogers  
President & CEO  
Adirondack Regional Chamber of Commerce

*ARCC Mission: To support our business community through advocacy,  
education, connection, and collaboration.*



**From:** [Tracey Feathers](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#); [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Tracey Feathers](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 8, 2023 8:55:51 PM

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Tracey Feathers  
8706 Highgrove Street  
Charlotte, NC 28277  
[Tracey.feathers@yahoo.com](mailto:Tracey.feathers@yahoo.com)  
(704) 905-6280  
August 8, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

## **RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing this letter to express my wholehearted support for the Barton Mines Corporation, an esteemed establishment that has contributed significantly to the economic growth and development of Glen Falls, New York.

Having observed the positive impact that Barton Mines has had on the local community, I am genuinely impressed by their commitment to sustainable practices, responsible resource management, and the creation of employment opportunities for the residents of Glen Falls. The corporation's dedication to preserving the environment while maintaining a strong industrial presence is commendable and serves as a model for other businesses in the region.

Barton Mines' longstanding reputation for adhering to rigorous safety standards and fostering



a culture of employee well-being further exemplifies their role as a responsible corporate citizen. Their support for community initiatives, educational programs, and local charities underscores their commitment to giving back to the very community that has supported them over the years.

The presence of Barton Mines has undoubtedly contributed to the local economy, attracting skilled professionals and bolstering the area's growth potential. Their efforts in ensuring a positive work environment, fostering innovation, and embracing technological advancements are truly praiseworthy.

I am confident that Barton Mines Corporation will continue to play a pivotal role in Glen Falls' progress, offering both economic stability and social enrichment. I wholeheartedly endorse their endeavors and stand in full support of their continued presence and contributions to the community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Tracey Feathers

**From:** [Robin](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\): APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Saturday, March 30, 2024 10:49:08 AM

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Robin and Curt Harrington  
11 Wolfe Rd.  
Queensbury, NY 12804

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations- providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important tax payer and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,  
Curtis and Robin Harrington

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Paxton Hunt](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification Letter of Support  
**Date:** Friday, July 14, 2023 4:28:50 PM  
**Attachments:** [letter of support.pdf](#)

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Dear Ms Magee and Mr. Plante,

See my attached letter of support.

Thanks,

Paxton Hunt.

Paxton Hunt  
27 Maple Dr.  
Queensbury, NY 12804

July 14, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

I have worked for several industrial companies in the area and have found a home with Barton Mines. Barton's commitment to protecting the environment and safety sets them apart from any other company I have worked for and many other places I have heard of. This permit modification has my full support and understanding. It seems a very logical next step to take in the life of the mine on Ruby Mountain.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

*Paxton Hunt*

Paxton Hunt

**From:** [Elizabeth Cleveland](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Thursday, July 6, 2023 1:25:23 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Elizabeth Cleveland  
buckleberrybridge@yahoo.com  
33 CEMETERY RD North River, NY 12856

**From:** [John Sleckman](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Monday, July 10, 2023 12:41:29 PM

---

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- John Sleckman  
jslec900@yahoo.com  
141 main street North Creek, NY 11710

**From:** [Tammy Monthony](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Monday, July 10, 2023 2:22:09 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Tammy Monthony  
monthony\_tammy@yahoo.com  
4139 State Route 28 Lot 2 North Creek, N.Y. 12853

**From:** [William Hobbins](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 8:30:15 AM

---

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- William Hobbins  
wchobbins50@gmail.com  
161 Blanchard Road Gansevoort, NY 12831



**From:** [chad Lewis](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 8:45:48 AM

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- chad Lewis  
[cranemountain12843@gmail.com](mailto:cranemountain12843@gmail.com)  
269 Barney hill Rd Bakers mills, NY 12811

**From:** [Katherine Halloran](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#); [Katherine Halloran](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 28, 2023 12:19:42 PM

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Dear Ms Magee and Mr. Plante,

I am writing on behalf of the Barton Mines request for a permit modification. They are a long time local family run business.

Barton has always had a good reputation as an employer. When my husband and I first moved to the area in 1969 the word was you were lucky if you were able to get hired at Barton. That is still the opinion of people in the area.

When the mine site was relocating to Ruby Mountain, Barton made a huge effort to assure the local communities that they would be mindful of the environment and not cause an unsightly view for tourists to the Adirondacks. They have lived up to that promise.

As a member of the advisory committee for the Community Fund for the Gore Mountain Region I also know that Barton is a great supporter of community organizations.

I am happy to recommend the changes requested by Barton Mines for continued operation of their facility.

Sincerely,  
Kathy Halloran  
[hallorankathy8@gmail.com](mailto:hallorankathy8@gmail.com)  
518-251-2351

**From:** [Wes Barton](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Monday, July 3, 2023 2:16:53 PM

---

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Wesley K.Barton  
25 Southside Ln.  
Blue Hill Me. 04614

July 2nd, 2023

David Plante  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Application

Dear David,

Recently, I read Thom Randall's article in The Sun Community News concerning Johnsburg's support of this new mining permit. Being a conservationist by nature, as well as a Barton family member, I have looked at this application with much interest. Reading of the towns support of this critically important application, while balancing the various local points of view, I find my self very proud to be part of the 5th generation of such a long standing family enterprise. At 72 years of age, I have visited the inner workings of this operation many times over the years. I have been so impressed by the commitment of preceding generations of both family and dedicated professionals that have made such a business possible.

My generation, and now the family ones that follow (8 strong I understand), are a very caring and devoted group of people who are passionate about environmental issues and the local Adirondack communities. Under the management team this operation has consistently looked to balance all aspects of the enterprise from consistently instituting best mining practices to recently renovating (to LEEDS Platinum standards) a historic office building in Glens Falls. I urge your agency to carefully review and further this application!

Sincerely,

Wesley K Barton  
weskbarton@yahoo.com

Sent from my iPad

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Sandy Lewis](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 14, 2024 1:21:49 PM

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**ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing to you as a dedicated Barton Mines family member. I want to express my heartfelt support for the continuation of mining operations at Barton Mines.

I am 64 years old and for my entire life have observed the impact of Barton Mines on our family and the local community. I can personally attest to the positive influence the company has had. Not only does it provide employment opportunities, but it also contributes significantly to the well-being of the local area.

Since its inception, Barton Mines has supported local families and businesses. The stability and security provided by the mine are invaluable to our family and countless others who rely on it for their livelihoods. The company's commitment to maintaining high standards in environmental management and community engagement further strengthens its positive impact.

In addition to the economic benefits, Barton Mines' involvement in local initiatives and its support for community projects demonstrate a genuine commitment to making a difference. This kind of corporate responsibility is commendable and contributes to the overall quality of life in our region.

I believe it is crucial to continue supporting Barton Mines, as its presence has far-reaching benefits that extend beyond just employment. The company plays a significant role in fostering community spirit and contributing to the local economy, making it an essential asset to our area.

Thank you for considering the support for the continuation of Barton Mines permit. It is through understanding the broader impact of the mine that we can fully appreciate its value to our community.

Sincerely,

Sandra Lewis

5<sup>th</sup> generation Barton family member

Sandy Lewis, MAPP, PCC, SHRM-SCP  
President, Positive Shift Coaching  
(401) 206-0821  
[Positive Shift Coaching](#)  
Schedule Now <https://SandyLewisSchedule.as.me/>

*"Our greatest responsibility is to be good ancestors."*

- *Jonas Salk.*

**From:** [Tracey Feathers](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\): APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Tracey Feathers](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Monday, August 5, 2024 7:04:57 PM

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Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing to express my strong support for Barton's mine permit application. Barton has been a cornerstone of the region's economy and community for 146 years, with a legacy that spans six generations. This impressive longevity speaks not only to their business acumen but also to their unwavering commitment to the region. Barton's economic contributions, totaling approximately \$20 million annually, are vital to the sustainability and growth of the local economy. These funds support jobs, local businesses, and community initiatives, ensuring the continued prosperity of the area.

Beyond their economic contributions, Barton has consistently demonstrated a deep commitment to environmental stewardship. Their recent Easement gift is a testament to their dedication to preserving the natural beauty and ecological health of our region. As a family who values the environment, it is reassuring to know that Barton shares these values and takes concrete actions to protect our shared natural resources.

Moreover, Barton's involvement in the community extends beyond their business operations. They are actively engaged in initiatives that enhance the quality of life for residents, proving themselves to be more than just an employer, but a true community partner. Their commitment to responsible mining practices and sustainable development ensures that our region will continue to thrive for generations to come.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support Barton's mine permit application. Their long-standing presence, economic contributions, and dedication to environmental stewardship make them an invaluable asset to the community. I urge the Adirondack Park Agency and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to approve this permit, allowing Barton to continue its legacy of positive impact on the Adirondack region.

Thank you for considering my perspective on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Tracey Lewis Feathers

**From:** [Doug Raymond](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Thursday, November 2, 2023 1:39:37 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Doug Raymond  
FDRaymond@gmail.com  
605 winsford Road Bryn Mawr, pa 19010



**From:** [Diana Mason](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Thursday, November 2, 2023 9:27:27 AM

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

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Thank you,

-- Diana Mason  
dianamason518@gmail.com  
56 Donnelly Road OLMSTEDVILLE, Essex 12857

**From:** [Ashley Feathers](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 8, 2023 12:34:21 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Ashley Feathers  
ashleyfeathers@ymail.com  
8706 Highgrove St Charlotte, NC 28277

**From:** [Drew Lewis](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Friday, August 25, 2023 4:46:14 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

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The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Drew Lewis  
[ableproperties@comcast.net](mailto:ableproperties@comcast.net)  
49 Elmar Circle Royersford, PA 19468

**From:** [Walter Roll](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 15, 2023 5:52:16 PM

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

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Thank you,

-- Walter Roll  
wrpeapod@optonline.net  
350 Centre Island Rd Oyster Bay, NY 11771

**From:** [Katherine Feathers](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 8, 2023 12:35:18 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

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Thank you,

-- Katherine Feathers  
katiefeathers@ymail.com  
8706 Highgrove St Charlotte, NC 28277

**From:** [Chris Feathers](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 8, 2023 12:35:52 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

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Thank you,

-- Chris Feathers  
[chris.feathers@gmail.com](mailto:chris.feathers@gmail.com)  
8706 Highgrove St Charlotte, NC 28277

**From:** [Nancy Lewis](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 8, 2023 9:21:05 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

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Thank you,

-- Nancy Lewis  
ndlewis9@yahoo.com  
330 Jefferson Ct Royersford, PA 19468

**From:** [James Ordway](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Thursday, July 27, 2023 3:09:11 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

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Thank you,

-- James Ordway  
jordway@barton.com  
1703 s johnsburg road johnsburg, NY 12843



**From:** [Darrin Harr](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 12, 2023 4:25:18 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

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Thank you,

-- Darrin Harr  
darrinharrjr@icloud.com  
6315 NY-30 Indian Lake, New York 12842

**From:** [lbk65@aol.com](mailto:lbk65@aol.com)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\): APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [RALBANO@BARTON.COM](mailto:RALBANO@BARTON.COM)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Friday, November 3, 2023 1:37:49 PM  
**Attachments:** [LetterNov2023GarnetMine.docx](#)

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Letter attached.

Richard and Laura Klinski

24 Brookview Ter.

PO Box 5

North River, NY 12856

November 2, 2023

Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

NYSDEC

232 Golf Course Rd.

Warrensburg, NY 12885

[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99

Ray Brook, NY 12977

[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

Re: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

We are writing to you to give an accurate and clear picture of what it is like living here in North River, New York. We purchased land here at Garnet Hill in 1986. We built our cabin on this land in 1992 and have lived here full time since 2005. We were fully aware of the operations of Barton Mines when we bought our land and built our home. Barton Mines was a good neighbor thirty years ago. Barton is a good neighbor today and we trust Barton will be a good neighbor in the future. Therefore, we support Barton Mines mine permit modification application.

We have not noticed any increase in noise or decrease of air quality coming from the mine during the last five years. Some of our neighbors here at Garnet Hill have said the noise has increased. We asked them to call us so we could hear what they are experiencing. Twice in the last few months we responded to their calls and went to their home. Both times we could hardly hear the mine noise. We also rode around for an hour and stopped several places here in Garnet Hill to listen for the noise

coming from the mine. At every stop the noise was remote, hard to hear and not obtrusive or offensive to us. We are also aware there are many variables when it comes to noise and sound – atmospheric conditions, screening and a person's tolerance level of noise near and far.

We enjoy living at Garnet Hill, a well planned development adjacent to the Siamese Pond Wilderness but not actually part of the Siamese Pond Wilderness. We are also aware of the APA classification of land both public and private. In the 1999 APA Land Use and Development Plan Map, Barton Mines' property is classified for Industrial Use. We think some people here in the Garnet Hill community think they are living in the middle of the wilderness where no man-made noise or activities exist. We trust you will weigh all factual information and not be influenced by manufactured, anecdotal and subjective opinions.

Respectfully,

Richard and Laura Klinski

**From:** [Seddon Beaty](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Sunday, July 23, 2023 9:55:04 AM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

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The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Seddon Beaty  
[seddon@thejbeatys.com](mailto:seddon@thejbeatys.com)  
Seddon Beaty Hague, NY 12836

**From:** [Heather Monroe](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 19, 2023 12:54:13 PM

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

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Thank you,

-- Heather Monroe  
heatherallen42@yahoo.com  
599 white Schoolhouse RD Chestertown, NY 12817

**From:** [Quentin Monroe](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 19, 2023 12:52:16 PM

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

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Thank you,

-- Quentin Monroe  
qmonroe@barton.com  
599 white schoolhouse RD Chestertown, ny 12817

**From:** [Maxine ordway](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Thursday, July 27, 2023 3:17:46 PM

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Maxine ordway  
ordwayje@gmail.com  
1703 south johnsburg road 12843 johnsburg, New york 12843



**From:** [JEFF KOWALSKI](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Sunday, July 16, 2023 1:08:24 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- JEFF KOWALSKI  
ffejski@yahoo.com  
196 Main Street North Creek, NY 12853

**From:** [Kyle Mulligan](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Thursday, July 13, 2023 8:29:22 AM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Kyle Mulligan  
Ifearnothing030515@yahoo.com  
2485 Garnet Lake Rd N. Johnsburg, New York 12843

**From:** [vernon jenks](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Thursday, July 13, 2023 8:32:35 AM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- vernon jenks  
[vjenks@barton.com](mailto:vjenks@barton.com)  
1637cr 28 olmstedville, ny 12857

**From:** [will davis](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 4:26:59 PM

---

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- will davis  
wdavis@barton.com  
13th lake road north river, ny 12856

**From:** [Brian Hammond](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 5:47:37 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Brian Hammond  
bhammond1388@gmail.com  
30 stage coach rd chestertown, NY 12817

**From:** [Nathan Brown](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 12, 2023 1:18:30 PM

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Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

-- Nathan Brown  
bigsumodawg@yahoo.com  
6 Meadow Lark Lane Warrensburg, Ny 12885

**From:** [Linda B Nicholson](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines Inc.  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 7, 2024 8:25:39 PM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Permit Support Letter.pdf](#)

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Please see my attached letter in support of Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification.

Linda B. Nicholson  
2350 Fairway Rd.  
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006  
215-287-2127 (M)

*August 7, 2024*

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Our company has a 146-year history in the region and has shown a commitment to environmental stewardship. Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since the 1980's, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing over 100 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Linda B. Nicholson  
Former Director and Family Trustee



**From:** [Nancy Lewis](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\): APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines Mine Permit Modification  
**Date:** Monday, August 12, 2024 5:30:43 PM

---

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Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rppcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rppcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Barton's mine permit application, drawing from my experiences as someone who has witnessed the substantial impact Barton has had on our community over the years.

For 146 years, Barton has been an integral part of our region, with a legacy that spans six generations. This remarkable history is a testament not only to their business expertise but also to their enduring commitment to our area. Barton's economic contributions, amounting to approximately \$20 million annually, are crucial to maintaining and fostering growth in our local economy. These funds provide essential support for jobs, local businesses, and community programs, ensuring that our region continues to thrive.

In addition to their economic impact, Barton has consistently shown a strong dedication to environmental responsibility. Their recent Easement gift highlights their commitment to preserving the natural beauty and ecological integrity of our region. As someone who deeply values environmental conservation, it is reassuring to see that Barton not only shares these values but also takes meaningful steps to protect our shared environment.

Barton's role in our community goes beyond their business operations. They are actively involved in initiatives that improve the quality of life for residents, demonstrating that they are more than just an employer—they are a genuine community partner. Their adherence to responsible mining practices and sustainable development ensures that our region will remain

prosperous for future generations.

In closing, I fully support Barton's mine permit application. Their long-standing presence, significant economic contributions, and unwavering commitment to environmental stewardship make them an indispensable part of our community. I urge the Adirondack Park Agency and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to approve this permit, allowing Barton to continue making a positive difference in our region.

Thank you for taking my perspective into account on this important issue,

Sincerely,  
Nancy Lewis

**From:** [David Mattison](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines permit modification  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 26, 2023 9:37:48 AM  
**Attachments:** [\[Untitled\].pdf](#)

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Thank you for your consideration

David Mattison | Territory Manager  
United Construction & Forestry, LLC  
Clifton Park, New York  
Direct: (518) 441-1458

Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

NYSDEC

232 Golf Course Rd.

Warrensburg, NY 12885

[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99

Ray Brook, NY 12977

[rppcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rppcomments@apa.ny.gov)

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

I have had the pleasure of working with the team at Barton for more than 20 years and can tell you that their attention to the safety of their employees and to the responsible care of their quarry and woodlands is second to none.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you for supporting Barton Mines and for approving their mine permit modification.

Best regards,



David E. Mattison – Territory Manager

United Construction & Forestry, LLC

20 Deere Lane

Clifton Park, NY 12065

**From:** [Adam Pearsall](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines permit modification  
**Date:** Monday, September 18, 2023 6:01:59 PM

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Dear Mr. Plante,

I do not envy you or any of the people or organizations that are charged with finding the balance between the “wilderness” and the “people”. Barton Mines has been a solid community member and steward of land in the northwest corner of Johnsbury for generations. Classmates of mine, and classmates of my fathers, have worked there. They are one of the few significant non-governmental employers in the area. All of that I suspect you already know though;). As I read it the “asks” in their permit seem both reasonable and significantly less than what another less environmentally and community minded corporation might have asked for, especially if they were located outside The Adirondack Park. I wasn’t surprised by Bartons' community outreach and environmental thoughtfulness; I was surprised by how some in the North River community responded to Bartons outreach efforts. Personally I’d rather have the good corporate neighbor who is thoughtful about their environmental as well as economic impact paying my neighbors living wages (and property taxes!) than more second homes or AirBnB rentals. As such I hope you will approve Barton Mines permit application.

The tension between wilderness and people, and how we share of our resources in different ways whether you are a hiker, hunter, or in this case mining operation is what makes the Adirondacks unique. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of that balance.

Thank you for your time,

Adam Pearsall  
Johnsbury and Queensbury NY

**From:** [Bryan Jay](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines Permit Support Letter  
**Date:** Saturday, March 23, 2024 2:30:10 PM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Permit Support Letter \(1\).docx](#)

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Attached please find my letter in support of the Barton Mines Permit Permit Modification.

Should you have any comments or feedback, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,  
Bryan M. Jay  
Property Owner,  
North River, NY

**Bryan M. Jay**  
**12 Monroe Street**  
**Port Washington, NY 11050**  
**516-316-5113**

March 20, 2024

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rppcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rppcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Bryan M. Jay





**From:** [carl.passino](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mine's support letter  
**Date:** Thursday, July 20, 2023 5:57:15 PM  
**Attachments:** [cpassinosupport.pdf](#)

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Sent from [Outlook](#)

Carl Passino  
24 Glenwood Ave  
Queensbury, NY 12804

July 20, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

My wife has worked at Barton for eight years. It's not just a business, it's a family. They are very generous and have done a lot for my family. Our son was diagnosed with a rare form of brain cancer at the age of 9. Barton and its employees held several events and raised thousands of dollars to help us in that great time of need. They allowed my wife to work whenever she was able to with no questions asked. Our son passed away less than 2 years from diagnosis and Barton and its employees again helped us get through that horrible time in our life.

I am in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's

permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

*Carl Passino*

Carl Passino

**From:** [Joan Lawless](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 28, 2023 10:33:32 AM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Mines.docx](#)

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Please accept this letter as our endorsement of approval of Barton Mines' permit modification application.

Thank you.

Joan Lawless and Kristine Tribou

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpccomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpccomments@apa.ny.gov)

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

Please accept this letter of support for Barton Mines' permit modification request.

We were born and raised in the Adirondacks and know the vital importance of having a thriving, ethical company that provides year-round employment to residents and contributes to the area's tax base.

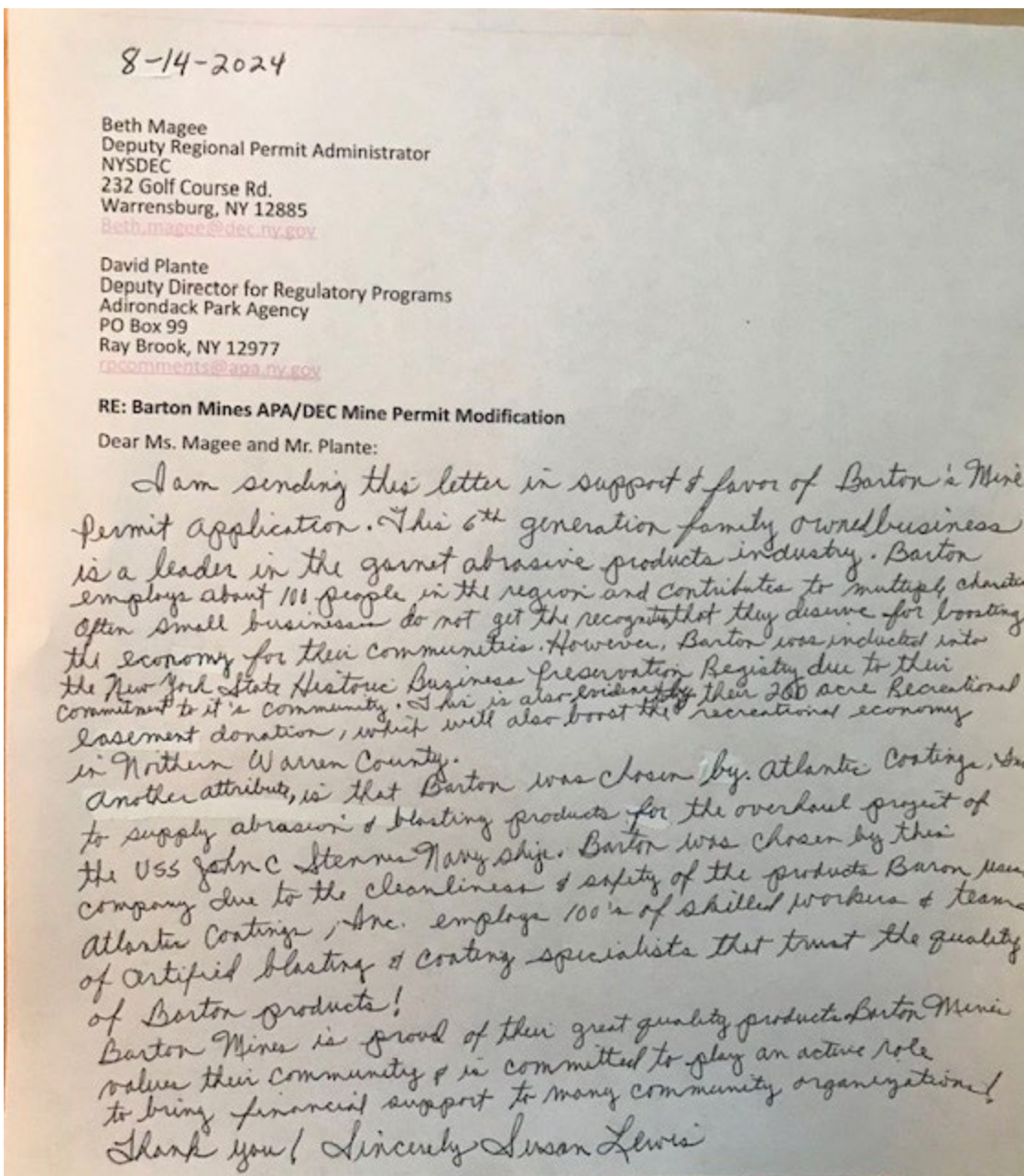
As members of the Community Fund for the Gore Mountain Region, we recognize Barton Mines' commitment to giving back to its surrounding communities. Through grants to local nonprofits, CFGMR assists area residents who are most in need of support, particularly our children and senior populations. Year after year, Barton Mines contributes to CFGMR in a valued and significant way.

We ask that you approve the renewal of Barton Mines' permit modification that will allow the company to continue operations for years to come.

Sincerely,

Kristine Noxon Tribou  
Joan Richardson Lawless

From: Susan Marnien  
To: APA Regulatory Programs Comments  
Subject: Barton Mines  
Date: Wednesday, August 14, 2024 4:38:40 PM



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Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Mariann Rapple](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Support Letter  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 10:41:11 AM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Support Letter.msg](#)

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Mariann H. Rapple  
2346 Black Point Road Ticonderoga, NY. 12883

July 13, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

Dear Members of the APA and the DEC,

My name is Mariann Rapple and my husband has been a member of the Barton *family* for 40 years. By family, I am not referring to the blood running through his veins, although I can assure you its garnet red. Family is a term of endearment that the Barton employees refer to as themselves - a family.

The Barton family have been operating since 1878! They have provided employment to generations of people who have chosen to make the northern mountain region of New York State - later named the Adirondack Park, a permanent home. It is a unique individual that chooses to live in the wilderness. They learned that to survive in that terrain, you must have an appreciation of the natural wonder around them. I can assure you, that each and every one of their employees acts as environmental stewards and takes their jobs very seriously.

Barton has been a wonderful member of the greater Johnsburg community. They have donated thousands of dollars to numerous organizations that serve their region. Their employees also are great friends to the region. They support local businesses with year round, full time support - not just on snowy weekends.

I've been around long enough to see many employees retire and have wonderful lives because of the generous benefit programs that Barton provides to them. That is not the



case for people who work in the service and tourist industries. There are not many waiters, bartenders or chambermaids enjoying financial security during their senior years.

I find it a bit unsettling that renewing a permit for an established business, with a stellar historical track record, one that is vital for the continued success for so many local communities, has become such a daunting task due to the complaints lodged by a small handful of part-time homeowners to the region. Many of these people can't even claim New York to be their state of residence. Barton has been operating at Ruby Mountain long before most of those homes were built. It's a bit like buying a house next to a ski area and complaining about the noise of the snow guns.

Do they realize the interruption that building a home, a driveway, a new road causes their neighbors? There is months of noise, dust, truck traffic, forest destruction, rerouted waterways, leaking septs and once built, light and noise pollution. Do they realize the harm they're causing by driving up the NYS Thruway every Friday with a return trip on Sunday? Oh, and if they use the excuse that they have an EV, it's ok for all those rare earth minerals to be extracted from the earth, as long as it's not nearby.

Did you know that only 66% of businesses make it to the two-year mark and only half of them make it to five years. Despite Wars, depressions, recessions, natural disasters, and a recent pandemic, the Barton Corporation has continued to employ generations of families, supply our armed forces with necessary abrasives to build and maintain their troops and to support their local community. They continue to be the only supplier of world class garnet abrasives!

A company does not stay in business for 150 years without hard work, appreciation for their employees and their safety, embracing innovative ideas, being stewards for their surroundings, caring and supporting the community around them and ALWAYS operating with the highest degree of integrity. It's a shame that not everyone can make that claim.

I respectfully request that you renew the Barton Corporation Mine Permit modification to ensure that Johnsburg and its surrounding communities will be able to provide good opportunities for families to grow and prosper.

Sincerely,

*Mariann H. Rapple*

Mariann H. Rapple - a member of the Barton family since 1983

Wesley K. Barton  
25 Southside Ln.  
Blue Hill Me. 04614

July 2nd, 2023

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUL 07 2023

David Plante  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Application

Dear David,

Recently, I read Thom Randall's article in The Sun Community News concerning Johnsburg's support of this new mining permit. Being a conservationist by nature, as well as a Barton family member, I have looked at this application with much interest. Reading of the towns support of this critically important application, while balancing the various local points of view, I find my self very proud to be part of the 5th generation of such a long standing family enterprise. At 72 years of age, I have visited the inner workings of this operation many times over the years. I have been so impressed by the commitment of preceding generations of both family and dedicated professionals that have made such a business possible.

My generation, and now the family ones that follow (8 strong I understand), are a very caring and devoted group of people who are passionate about environmental issues and the local Adirondack communities. Under the management team this operation has consistently looked to balance all aspects of the enterprise from consistently instituting best mining practices to recently renovating (to LEEDS Platinum standards) a historic office building in Glens Falls. I urge your agency to carefully review and further this application!

Sincerely,



Wesley K Barton

[weskbarton@yahoo.com](mailto:weskbarton@yahoo.com)

*Patty Bell*  
133 Eva Drive  
Lido Beach, NY 11561

*August 12, 2023*

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
SEP 11 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

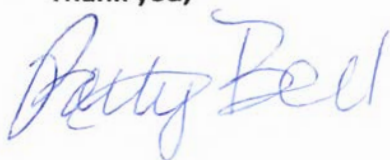
Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

I have been employed by Barton for 13 years. I have witnessed how Barton acts responsibly in all parts of the business. I fully support the permit modification.

Thank you,



Tom Bell  
PO Box 2547  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

August 12, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
SEP 11 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

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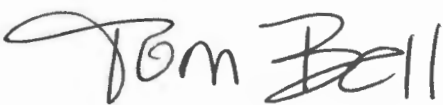
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The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



JUL 10 2023

Jesse, Sarah and Whitney Benton 06-30-23  
212 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Rd, North River NY 12856

Dear Mr. Plante,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit application modification, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations.

Many members of my family have worked or currently do work at Barton Mines. I am the fourth generation employee here! I am the supply coordinator here, just as my father was.

My wife and daughter depend on me keeping my job here. My family has lived all around this area for as long back as I can find records. It does not feel fair that other people can move here and decide that they do not want our mine open anymore.

Thank you for reading my letter and I hope that my words are taken with consideration.

Sincerely, Jesse Benton

AUG 23 2024

Mr. David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Subject: Barton Mines Permit Application

Dear Mr. Plante,

Please accept this letter as an endorsement of Barton's application for a renewed mining permit.

We are full-time residents of North River having originally purchased and built our home in 1989 within the Garnet Hill Association. We have been full time voting residents for the past 8 years. For all of the past 35 years, we have been full-time summer residents and can attest to the kinds of "noise" in our community which we have never noticed as having come from Barton Mines.


Our home is less than a mile from the mine entrance. We do not hear the mine, other than a rare "thump" when blasting. We have yet to see or hear any mine activity from the Association beach. We hear a great deal more audible activity from within the Association.

With roughly 100 homes and year-round bar and restaurant, lodge, events and pristine lake attracting visitors – there is plenty of "ordinary noise". Every car, truck, delivery van, bus or bike that uses 13th Lake road makes noise. There are small airplanes flying trips over the lake in the summer. Not a day goes by that someone isn't using a power saw, nailing a board, or using a generator. We hear our neighbors walking their dogs, children laughing, and parties held enjoying the outdoors. We are woken every morning at dawn by birds.

If we didn't have neighbors, we wouldn't have noise. If we didn't have Barton Mines in the area, we wouldn't have a town.

Please approve the mining permit.

Sincerely,

  
Gay & Robert Byrne  
867 13th Lake Road  
PO Box 283  
North River, NY 12856  
518-251-4661



Roderick Carr

---

330 Oven Mountain Road, Johnsburg, New York 12843

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

July 3, 2023

JUL 10 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
New York State Department of Conservation  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, New York 12885  
[Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
Post Office Box 99  
Ray Brook, New York 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines DEC/APA Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Sincerely,



Roderick Carr

**Audrey Carr**

---

330 Oven Mountain Road, Johnsburg, New York 12843

July 3, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
New York State Department of Conservation  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, New York 12885  
[Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
Post Office Box 99  
Ray Brook, New York 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines DEC/APA Mine Permit Modification**

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Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Sincerely,

  
Audrey Carr



# Michael Carr

---

330 Oven Mountain Road, Johnsburg, New York 12843

July 3, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
New York State Department of Conservation  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, New York 12885  
[Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
Post Office Box 99  
Ray Brook, New York 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines DEC/APA Mine Permit Modification**

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Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Sincerely,



Michael Carr

Christopher E. Connally  
3916 N 37<sup>th</sup> Street  
St. Joseph, MO 64506  
(816) 351-0951

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
AUG 14 2024

August 8, 2024

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:


I would like to take this opportunity to express my support for the Barton Mine permit application. As a member of the Barton family, I was fortunate to have the opportunity to serve as a family board visitor. This was a great opportunity to gain insight into our family legacy that has continued for the last 146 years.

I spent a career in law enforcement including retiring as the Chief of Police for a jurisdiction with a population over 70,000. During that time, I also served as the Interim City Manager. This provided me the opportunity to work with a variety of businesses and industries to continue the success of our community. While serving as a Barton Board visitor I saw firsthand the best example I have seen of a value driven organization committed to doing business in an environmentally conscious manner, committed both to the safety of its employees, and the future of the community. These were lessons learned that I was able to bring back to my city and assist in some of the challenges I worked through as the Interim City Manager.

As I am sure you know Barton remains committed to responsible stormwater management, water conservation and quality, air quality, energy conservation, and recycling and repurpose spent garnet from customers. Ranging from our commitment to green energy, to supporting various charities, and the economic impact on local communities, I am probably not telling you anything you do not know.

I would like to close by emphasizing again the support of our family for Barton Mines and the appreciation we have for the opportunity to impact the local communities, and the important outcomes to our customers. Having two sons serving active duty in the U. S. Navy and the Marine Corp I am proud the products we produce have an impact on their operational readiness. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any assistance.

Thank you,

  
Christopher E. Connally  
Chief of Police – RETIRED



Ralph & Shirley Coon  
13 Katherine Rd.  
Albany, NY.  
July 19, 2023

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUL 21 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYDEC  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
RE: Barton Mines APA/ DEC Mine Permit Modification  
Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante

We are writing in support of Barton Mine's mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations, - providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations. This company provides a mixture of 125 blue Collar, grey collar and white Collar professional jobs that have an economic benefit to communities within a thirty mile radius of their operations in North River, NY. They provide good jobs, particularly to blue and Grey collar workers who have families that are educated in their respective communities. Barton Mines rises to the occasion when the school or town needs assistance in some benefit.

The enrollment in schools in the Adirondack communities continues to decline due to the lack of good paying jobs. Johnsbury School, once 750 strong in the 1960's is now approximately 350 strong and are merging with Minerva, NY. Where will Minerva's Administration, teaching, maintenance, and bus driver jobs be replaced? The surrounding towns are all seeing significant school population declines, which may force more merges and less good Jobs and available local resident employees.

The logging industry has declined as more land continues to be brought into the NYS ADK Park with restrictions on timber harvesting. The properties and housing values not on lake shore are relatively cheap compared to urban areas. More people from urban areas are purchasing those properties at what local residents think are really great profits for them. Once sold they can no longer repurchase in the park due to no good paying jobs. This is the case with other areas in the country like Vale Colorado. They have to put up low income housing to get employees or they go to guest workers.

The NYSDOT at nearly every residency is advertising for employees with road side signs. At one time these were considered good jobs but young people cannot get a good start on raising a family, purchasing a home, and facing the inflated costs on every item they buy due to their location.

The Government should be assisting Barton's Mine through their research agencies to make the materials in their residual piles useful in other products.

In the last 123 years the government of NY has had 71 years of one party rule. In the last 49 years, one party rule has occurred 41 years. Our State is bleeding populations of Good hardworking professionals and Blue Collar workers as well as mid-size and small businesses who do not have lobbyists', have failed. Let's try not to regulate another respectable, accountable, critical, proven 145 year industry, so important to the Adirondack communities, out of Business.

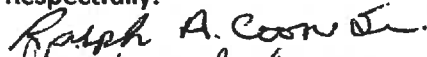

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain Mines' operation in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1873, and I have complete confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing 125 good paying jobs. Barton is also an important tax payer and customer of many other businesses. Their employee paychecks support many of the local businesses and their taxes support local community governments as well as the State of NY.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. Let's stop the migration of Adirondack hardworking people to other areas and other states in search of Jobs and costs that may help them thrive.

I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Respectfully:

  
  
Ralph and Shirley Coon

Cc: N.Y.S. Governor Kathy Hochul, Basil Seggos, Daniel G. Stec, Elise Stefanik, Mathew Simpson, Mark Walczyk, Robert Smullen,

JUL 10 2023

Earl (Bart) and Eloise Coudert  
81 College Road  
Center Harbor, NH 03226

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Plante,

I am writing in hopes that you will approve the Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which will extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations. Over the years, I have seen Barton operate in a safe and responsible manner in regard to Ruby Mountain and I believe that their plan to store the residual minerals has been thoroughly thought out.

In addition to the jobs that Barton provides for the approximately 125 people who work at their plant and quarry, the Barton Mines is essential in providing income for my wife and myself who rely solely on the rents and royalties sent to us four times a year from the operations at Ruby Mountain. We are retired and have no other source of income or pension except for social security which provides a meager amount.

I am a fifth generation member of the H.H. Barton family and I am proud to be a part of one of the oldest family owned businesses in America. I know that the mining business is fraught with environmental problems but I do believe in this case that the positive outcomes outweigh the negative factors. Please approve the company's permit application which will provide economic benefits for future generations.

Sincerely,



Earl Barton Coudert

cc: Beth Magee

**From:** [Joanne Millis](#)  
**To:** [dec.sm.DEP.R5](#)  
**Cc:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#); [John Ernst](#); [Rice, Barbara \(APA\)](#)  
**Subject:** Deny Barton Mine Expansion Permit  
**Date:** Friday, March 22, 2024 1:23:33 PM

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Beth Magee  
[bethmagee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:bethmagee@dec.ny.gov)

March 22, 2024

[dep.r5@dec.ny.gov](mailto:dep.r5@dec.ny.gov)

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885-1172

Dear Ms. Magee,

I must register my deep concern with you, and my request for your attention to the matter of the Barton Mine expansion permit in the North River area of the Adirondack Park.

As a forty year resident of the Garnet Hill area I have experienced first hand. the increased Barton Mine processing and transport noise, dust, truck traffic and water pollution.

Mine processing acid water runoff flows into 13th Lake Creek, under route 28 and ultimately into the Hudson north of the town of North Creek. No fish life remains in this once pristine stream.

The tailings remaining from garnet mine processing have piled high, now visible from 13th Lake Road. This shale and resulting acid ponds are clearly visible from the air as photographed by J. Henry Fair in the "Scarred Landscapes" exhibit at the Adirondack Experience in Blue Mountain Lake.

<https://www.theadkx.org/exhibitions/artistsandinspiration/scarred-landscape/>

I understand that past promises by Barton have not been fulfilled, eg: to reduce the tailings piles, they have only increased in height as well as width and number. To treat, filter and cool the acid water runoff, the volume of acid has increased and continues to be dumped in 13 Lake creek and the Hudson below. The rumble of machinery often fills the air. The force of explosions rattles buildings, disturbing wildlife and the once peaceful Siamese Ponds wilderness.

Please use your vast environmental experience, knowledge and influence to make the best decisions for our Adirondack Park, our state and our world.

Most Sincerely,

Joanne Millis

[joannemillis@gmail.com](mailto:joannemillis@gmail.com)

518-791-6242

\*29 Brookview Terrace

North River, NY 12856



# Michelle DeShaw

---

Post Office Box 639, Indian Lake, New York 12842

email: [mjdeshaw@frontiernet.net](mailto:mjdeshaw@frontiernet.net)

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

June 27, 2023

JUL 07 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
New York State Department of Conservation  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, New York 12885  
[Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov)

✓ David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
Post Office Box 99  
Ray Brook, New York 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines DEC/APA Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

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Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Sincerely,

  
Michelle DeShaw

Jeffrey DeShaw

---

Post Office Box 639, Indian Lake, New York 12842  
RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY email: [mjdeshaw@frontiernet.net](mailto:mjdeshaw@frontiernet.net)  
JUL 07 2023

June 27, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
New York State Department of Conservation  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, New York 12885  
[Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov)

✓ David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
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Ray Brook, New York 12977  
[rppcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rppcomments@apa.ny.gov)

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Sincerely,

  
Jeffrey DeShaw

**From:** [Scott Beavers](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Document1  
**Date:** Friday, June 30, 2023 3:05:13 PM  
**Attachments:** [Document1.docx](#)

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Barton permit

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device  
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---

**From:** Scott Beavers <sabeav@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 30, 2023 3:02:07 PM  
**To:** Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov <Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** Document1

Support letter for Barton permit.

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device  
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

Barton Permit.

Scott Beavers

6633 53<sup>rd</sup> Ave E

Bradenton Florida 34203

6/30/23

Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

NYSDEC

232 Golf Course Rd.

Warrensburg, NY 12885

Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99

Ray Brook, NY 12977

[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

### **Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application for a company that has been providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for years and for future generations.

I have been employed with Barton for the past 33 years and still employed and hope to be until which time I retire.

Employment with Barton throughout my career allowed me to stay in the Adirondacks where I was also born and raise my 2 daughters and provide for them and send them to college along with many other families that have done and will do the same. This allowed all of us to live in the Adirondacks.

Barton has supported many many other local businesses over the years and still does. Barton is very beneficial in all aspects for our communities, employees and residents.

Please consider this sensible proposal!

Sincerely,

Scott Beavers



July 28, 2023

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUL 31 2023

Ms. Barbara Rice  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Ms. Rice,

I am a resident of North River, NY who values the "forever wild" Siamese Pond Wilderness Area including !3th Lake. I am concerned about the proposed expansion of Barton Mine on Ruby Mt. Road.

The expansion of piles and tree cutting will affect the surrounding wilderness and the view looking up the mountain.

Also, the increased noise level from a 24-hour mill operation and the increased dust accumulation that we are already experiencing will impact both residents and visitors that much more.

I realize there is not an easy answer for this but request that a thorough study of Barton's application be made.

Thank you for your advocacy on behalf of the Adirondack Park.

Sincerely,



Anita Dunn

**JUL 14 2023**



5 July 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Plante,

This is the second opportunity for the Economic Development Corporation Warren County, supporting hundreds of businesses and a multitude of area municipalities in building a sustainable regional economy, to reach out to you, our colleagues and neighbors at the Adirondack Park Agency in full support of the current iteration of Barton Mines 'pending APA mine permit modification application.

We have participated in a number of community forums and informational sessions around this application and have always been proud of their thoughtful and active approach to listening, mitigating and communicating any issues identified with their continued operation. We shared in a previous letter of support the specific mitigations and investments they have accomplished and continue to make to address any concerns. I and our staff have spent time at their facility to see first hand the improvements and efforts they are making to be good neighbors, reduce any potential impacts and improve their processes well beyond overt requirements or regulatory needs.

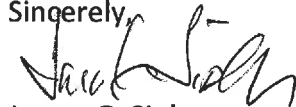
As we have shared before, Barton has been a long standing and foundational business and community contributor to the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County and the entire Adirondack region for over a century. They not only employ and support scores of area residents and their families, they also act as an invaluable community asset for an area that has few entities of resources, leadership and support like them. I met with them as we both provided technical and leadership support to the recent North Creek Sewer District formation and subsequent waste water investment that will benefit the Town, area residents and businesses and the environment of the community. That was but the most

recent example of the irreplaceable role they play in not only their operations but the community they work in.

Adirondack communities need committed businesses to underpin the local economy and community so that resources that support the Park and its teachers, healthcare and emergency workers, smaller businesses and tourism entities can all continue to thrive. Imagine this area without that type of committed and visible leadership and the many voids it would create...thankfully that isn't our shared future with Barton's continued presence to operate in the industry leading and sustainably aligned methods that they have already fully embraced.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community. If I can help with further details on the dramatic economic, social, community and environmental benefits that this approval will provide please contact me anytime.

Sincerely,



James G. Siplon  
President and CEO

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Mark Smith  
Town of Johnsbury Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)



**From:** [edplowssnow@frontiernet.net](mailto:edplowssnow@frontiernet.net)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Emailing: Letter to DEC - APA.pdf  
**Date:** Sunday, July 30, 2023 10:56:41 PM  
**Attachments:** [Letter to DEC - APA.pdf](#)

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July 29, 2023

Edgar Brown

Maintenance Planner Barton Mines (retired)

1638 Cedar River Road

Indian Lake NY 12842

[edplowssnow@frontiernet.net](mailto:edplowssnow@frontiernet.net)

Beth Magee

Deputy Regional Permit Administrator

NYSDEC

232 Golf Course Rd.

Warrensburg. NY 12885

[bethmagee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:bethmagee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Adirondack Park Agency

[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I'm taking the time to write this letter of support for Barton Mines permit modification that if not approved would have a huge impact on the local economy and job market.

I am a retiree of the company having been employed there for 43 years and retired January of 2022. During my time with the company, I witnessed many improvements to the process of how Garnet is mined on the company property. The company has always taken environment impact very seriously. Any changes in the mining process were first studied in depth, detailed engineering employed, proper channels of permissions granted if needed with the impact of the surrounding landscape the first priority. The current tailings pile has been partially reclaimed with hydro-seeding and greenery have been planted to blend into the background. Huge strides have been taken to control ground water runoff from entering the main tributaries of 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Brook. This has not been inexpensive nor an easy task while operating the mine in a safe, and productive manner. Bear in mind that with 125 employees, Barton is the largest private employer in Hamilton County, and also employs many Warren County residents. Many of our young people have left the area due to the lack of good paying jobs with benefits to match. My son being one of them. So, I have firsthand knowledge of how important it is for Barton to continue its operations for many years more.

Barton has always strived to be a good steward of the land and the community, donating to many charities and events. Their presence for a tax base is nothing to ignore as it relieves taxes on some not so fortunate if they were unable to continue operating the mine.

Cont.

July 29, 2023

Their relationship to the local community has been strong and supportive to curtail nighttime noise, light pollution, and daytime operation issues. With the latest influx of second home owners there are some that do not realize the importance of the Mine and how it impacts the true local residents that are dependent on the mine for their livelihood. Nor do they understand that mining in this area is neither new or can be done with minimal impact. It would appear that some of the strongest opposition to the mine and to the permit modification application have no deep roots in the area and have only concern for themselves.

These individuals may have only recently purchased their second home sight unseen or failed to ask the right questions only to find out there is an active mine in the vicinity. My question is why should the overall community suffer hardship because a select few object to a livelihood that has been in existence for over 145 years.

Sincerely,

  
Edgar Brown

Cont.

**From:** [Kashiwa, Charlie](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Employee Letter of Support of Barton Mines  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 12:53:47 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[Barton Permit Support Letter APA CHK 072524.pdf](#)

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**ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.**

Dear Mr. Plante,

Please find attached letter of support of Barton Mines.

Best regards,

Charlie Kashiwa  
Chief of Staff  
BARTON International  
Mobile: 518.232.7396  
Email: [ckashiwa@barton.com](mailto:ckashiwa@barton.com)  
Web: [www.barton.com](http://www.barton.com)  
Store: [store.barton.com](http://store.barton.com)



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Charlie Kashiwa  
Chief of Staff  
The Barton Group  
6 Warren St.  
Glens Falls, NY 12801  
[ckashiwa@barton.com](mailto:ckashiwa@barton.com)  
(518) 232-7396

7/25/24

Mr. David Plante  
Deputy Director of Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

Subject: Barton Mines Permit Application

Dear Mr. Plante,

I hope this letter finds you well. My name is Charlie Kashiwa, and I am writing to you as an employee representing the Barton Mines Corporation. I am a new addition to our officer team, and I am honored to represent the sixth generation of family ownership in our company. Though I am a new, full-time resident of Glens Falls, both my parents were born and raised in the Adirondacks; hence, my commitment to our community and its well-being is deeply personal.

For 146 years, Barton Mines has consistently supported its employees and the surrounding community. Our legacy is built on a foundation of unwavering commitment to the best practices of environmental stewardship, and we take great pride in our history and positive impact we have had in the community over the years. In keeping with our tradition of responsible and sustainable operations, we seek approval of our new Mining Permit Application. This project will continue to contribute over \$20 million to the local economy every year while upholding our high standards of environmental care.

We respectfully request the APA's approval of our Mine Permit Application, confident that it will bring continued prosperity to our community while maintaining our commitment to environmental stewardship. Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,



---

Charlie Kashiwa  
Chief of Staff



*Friends of Siamese Ponds*  
*North River, NY*

August 8, 2024

Beth A. Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

Corrie Magee  
Environmental Program Specialist 1  
Adirondack Park Agency  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

**Re: Barton Mines Company Ruby Mountain Major Permit Modification  
Application**

Dear Ms. Magee and Ms. Magee:

Barton's application to expand remains incomplete because there is no environmental assessment of the impact of the expansion upon the Park's resources. Specifically, since no wildlife survey or ecological impact analysis has been conducted, there is no documentation that the expansion will not have an undue adverse impact upon the natural, scenic, aesthetic, ecological, wildlife, historic, recreational or open space resources of the Adirondack Park, as required.

Failure to Mitigate Negative Visual Impacts Based on Permit Violations

In 1979, the Adirondack Park Agency issued permits by "Order", directing compliance. Thus, in the original May 18, 1979 Barton Mines Corporation Permit (Project 78-401), the Agency ordered that: "the mine face will have lifts approximately 40ft high and benches of 20-30ft in width. Reclamation of the mine face will be accomplished by the planting of trees and other vegetation on the mine face benches."

1978 Permit at P. 4.

Now that Barton has documented violations of the 1978 Permit in failing to reclaim the mine face, much less install benches, it pleads for relief from the Agency. Yet, Barton proposes no mitigation of the impacts it created based upon these violations. So, just as the Agency and the public

contemplated that there would be 40 years of growth on some benches by now and ongoing plantings on benches, this has not occurred. The application is simply incomplete without mitigating the documented negative visual impacts, based upon permit violations, upon the Siamese Ponds Wilderness area.

#### The Record on Dust Impacts from the Mine and Tailings is Incomplete

There is nothing in the record that documents the nature and extent of the dust emanating from the mine or the impacts from the mine dust upon the wilderness and upon nearby residents.

Barton admits that its processes and products have changed over the years, from producing relatively large grain garnet for sandpaper and other abrasives, to powdered garnet that is used in industrial cutting applications. Just as the noise has dramatically increased from the mine operations in the past few years, the size of the particles that are produced by Barton as product is “greatly reduced in size (0.6cm to 0.25 micron) for use as an abrasive in water jet cutting and abrasive blasting and as powders for industrial uses.” See Barton’s “Mine Permit Amendment and Modification” submission of July, 2024, p. 19. These invisible, fine, industrial products are “sharp, angular fragments with great cutting ability”. Id.

The Friends of Siamese Ponds have repeatedly asked for a detailed assessment of the dust nuisance from the mine, and the nature and size of the constituents that are in the dust. This assessment has not been done.

It is revealing that Barton now describes its fine-grained powder products as measured in microns.

A micron is 1/1,000,000 of a meter. It is a unit of measurement that is typically used only for air particulate pollution. An average human hair is about 100 microns. Particles that are less than about 25 microns are not even visible to the human eye as dust. Meanwhile, Barton seeks approval from the Agency for a mine expansion solely because it is running out of areas to manage the waste dust, called “fine-grained residuals” at the site that are put into a slurry. Fine-grained particle pollution must be managed to protect the wilderness, wildlife and visitors to the wilderness. Barton has not assessed all of the dust that is generated by its facility, including the significant fine-grained, .25 micron sized particles that are likely emanating from the facility. Indeed, Barton’s proposal to spray some kind coating on the coarse-grained waste piles to control dust does not respond at all to fine-grained, micron level air pollution from the facility that is highly likely given the products Barton produces.

#### Failure to Mitigate Sound Pollution Impacts Upon the Wilderness

Barton proclaims that the noise from its mine operations, which has significantly changed and elevated in recent years, is “tolerable”, as if it has the right to pierce the natural sounds in the adjacent Siamese Ponds Wilderness area with industrial noise. This false premise conflicts with the public’s constitutional right to a wilderness preserve that is protected in its aesthetic integrity and valued as a recreational and open space resource of the Park.

The Friends of Siamese Ponds has maintained that Barton Mines must be required to institute operational and technological controls, as recommended by a qualified expert in noise mitigation, and using the best available technology, to mitigate noise impacts. We documented our position once again in our July 13, 2024 letter to the Department and the Agency.

In the last notice of incomplete permit application, the Agency asked Barton to explore and document noise impact mitigation opportunities. Barton's response was as follow:

Barton is committed to reducing the number of simultaneously operating mobile equipment to limit the additive effect of sound during development and operational conditions. Barton implements an engineering review process during the acquisition of mobile equipment and requisition of subcontractors. This process includes the review of sound generation from mobile equipment. Barton is very aware of the sensitive nature of sound generation from the facility and is always seeking better technology to reduce sound levels leaving the property.

Barton submission, July 16, 2024, P. 8.

Barton's response is clearly not an environmental assessment. It does not document mitigation alternatives. It fails to mention, measure or mitigate sounds from each particular piece of equipment and operation, including but not limited to the deep drone of the milling operation, the whirling, airplane-type sound of the cyclone, the rumble of the conveyor or the many other pieces of equipment in the mill and around the mine site. The Agency must require a more detailed analysis of the sound generated by each piece of equipment at the mine and discuss the best available technology for mitigation of the sound before the expansion application is deemed complete.

Sincerely,

John Passacantando



**From:** [Alan Belenz](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Corrie \(APA\)](#); [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Friends of Siamese Ponds Support of GHPOA Noise Proposal  
**Date:** Saturday, July 13, 2024 9:34:35 AM  
**Attachments:** [FOSP Support of GHPOA Noise Proposal.docx](#)

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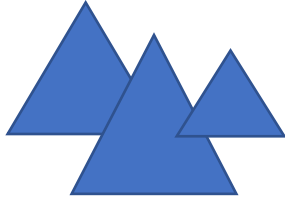
Corrie and Beth,

Please find attached a letter from Friends of Siamese Ponds supporting Barton Mine noise permit condition as proposed by the Garnet Hill Property Owners Association.

As always, if you would like to discuss our letter please feel free to contact us.

Thank you.

Alan Belenz



*Friends of Siamese Ponds*  
*North River, NY*

July 13, 2024

Dear Ms. Beth Magee and Ms. Corrie Magee,

In a letter to NYSDEC and APA, dated January 9, 2024, the Garnet Hill Property Association (GHPOA) addressed noise permit limits for the Barton Mine North River Operations. The GHPOA proposed the following:

*During mine operations, Monday-Friday, (7:30 AM - 3:30 PM) - the applicant will institute operational and technological controls, as recommended by a qualified expert in noise mitigation, and using the **best available technology**, updating it as technology improves and maintaining it in top operating condition. While we do not expect the mine to be silent, we certainly believe the noise from the mine can and should be significantly reduced from its current nuisance levels. "Mine" includes quarry, mill and waste pile operations. No mine operations on federal holidays.*

*During mill operations, including associated activity on the waste pile, (from 3:30 PM to 7:30 AM) - the applicant will institute operational and technological controls to ensure operations are inaudible in the community and adjacent wilderness area.*

*The applicant shall fund an independent, full-time on-site monitor to ensure the applicant complies with all permit conditions, including noise requirements.*

Friends of Siamese Ponds supports this proposal. In essence, the GHPOA proposal reflects the sound conditions existing in the community and Siamese Ponds Wilderness from the start of Barton Mines North River operations in 1983, until noise significantly increased in the mid to late 2010s.

In its application for expansion, Barton states that material extraction, material processing and production rates have remained constant since the start of mining operations and are not proposed to increase if mine expansion occurs. As nuisance noise was not materially evident until recently, we believe these proposed permit conditions are reasonable, fair, and technically feasible.

Sincerely,

Alan Belenz

On behalf of Friends of Siamese Ponds

I AM SENDING THIS LETTER IN FAVOR OF THE BARTON MINES PERMIT. MY NAME IS THOMAS LEWIS. I AM A 6<sup>TH</sup> GENERATION FAMILY MEMBER OF BARTON MINES. I AM PROUD OF THIS BUSINESS MY GREAT-GREAT GRANDFATHER HENRY HUDSON BARTON STARTED 146 YEARS AGO & HOPE THAT IT WILL CONTINUE TO FLOURISH FOR YEARS TO COME! I AM EXTREMELY PROUD OF ALL THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT BARTON MINE CONTRIBUTES TO THE MANY COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS & CHARITIES.

THANK YOU!  
THOMAS LEWIS  
*Thomas Lewis*

8-14-2024

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[David.Plante@adap.ny.gov](mailto:David.Plante@adap.ny.gov)

RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am sending this letter in support & favor of Barton's Mine permit application. This 6th generation family owned business is a leader in the garnet abrasive products industry. Barton employs about 111 people in the region and contributes to multiple industries. Often small business do not get the recognition they deserve for boosting the economy for their communities. However, Barton was included into the New York State Historic Business Preservation Register due to their commitment to it's community. As we are ending the 200 year Revolutionary War, we will also honor the recreational economy. Another attribute is that Barton was chosen by Atlantic Coastal Co. to supply abrasives & blasting products for the overhaul project of the USS John C. Stennis Navy ship. Barton was chosen by the company due to the cleanliness & safety of the products. Barton plans Atlantic Coastal Co. employs 100's of skilled workers & teams of artificial blasting & cutting specialists that trust the quality of Barton products! Barton Mines is proud of their great quality products. Barton Mines values their community & is committed to play an active role to bring financial support to many community organizations!

Thank you! Sincerely, Susan Lewis

**From:** [Josie Chapman](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#); [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Barton Mines permit  
**Date:** Saturday, August 10, 2024 9:03:00 AM

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Josie Chapman <josiechapman53@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Barton Mines permit  
**Date:** August 10, 2024 at 8:59:43 AM EDT  
**To:** Josie Chapman <josiechapman53@gmail.com>

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**Subject: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I write in support of above-captioned application for a permit modification. I am a member of the sixth generation of the Barton family to have an ownership interest in the Barton Mines,. My family has always taking pride in the quality of the Barton Mines operations, including its environmental stewardship and its very positive economic impact in the in the region through its operations in the

towns of Johnsburg and Indian Lake and the City of Glens Falls. For more than a century Barton Mines has been an exemplary corporate citizen, and I am hopeful that your agency will bear this in mind during its review of our application for a permit modification.

Thank you for your consideration,

Josephine Lowden Chapman

**From:** [Paul Hanson](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Barton Mines  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 9, 2024 9:03:32 PM

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

I am writing to voice my concern over the Barton Mine request to obtain a new permit to expand their operation. I live on Beach Rd in North River and traveling up 13th Lake Rd to get to my home I see the already expanding mine operations, growing higher and wider each month. I have received letters from Barton stating their operations will have minimal impact on the environment and I have no idea how they can believe this. Aside from the obvious visual esthetics, the disruption to the vegetation, air, and animal habitat is easily seen.

I am hoping that you will not extend their permit. I understand their claim that they employ many local folks, but the harm they will cause outweighs any financial benefits. I am not requesting they be shut down, just not to be permitted to expand. They are already large enough and actually should be reducing the ecological damage they cause. I hope you will help protect the Adirondacks.

Sincerely,  
Paul and Jo Hanson

**From:** [Peter Madison](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Magee, Corrie \(APA\)](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Comment on Barton Mine July 2024 submission  
**Date:** Friday, September 6, 2024 1:24:02 PM

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Peter Madison <p.j.madison10562@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Comment on Barton Mine July 2024 submission  
**Date:** September 6, 2024 at 1:20:22 PM EDT  
**To:** Corrie.Magee@apa.ny.gov  
**Cc:** beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

Dear Ms. Magee and Ms. Magee

I am a resident of North River, on Thirteenth Lake Road about a half mile from the intersection of Thirteenth Lake Road and the road leading up to the mine.

In their July 2024 submission, Barton concludes that the use of underdrains in the waste pile is critical to minimize porewater pressure and maintain pile stability. Barton does not discuss what happens if the existing, and proposed expanded, underdrains fail. Such failure could result from settling, earthquakes, or other unforeseen circumstances. Also, they do not discuss how they will be monitored post closure. As the underdrains are buried very deep in the pile it may be infeasible to access them for inspection and repair.

Barton has not demonstrated that a vegetative cap for the waste pile is feasible. They provided no evidence of successful reclamation of waste piles with similar characteristics (e.g. grain size, mineral content, side slopes, climate) at other sites in the Adirondacks, New York State or elsewhere. To the best of my knowledge, there has been no reclamation of previous mining impacts at the Barton Gore Mountain Quarry. In addition, Barton did not present the 2023 H2H Test Plot Assessment Report, as requested by APA.

Thank you for your attention to these issues.

Very truly yours,

Peter J. Madison



Edward Jones Investments  
John Gable, Financial Advisor  
3755 Main Street  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

11/3/21

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business and community partner in the Town of Johnsbury for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for several decades to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a **private local company** that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

I personally know two of the executives that lead this firm and attest to their integrity, community values and commitment to do the right thing for the community. Chuck Barton, Chief Operating Officer, helps lead the North Creek Business Alliance, where we both serve on the Board of Directors. His intentional leadership is instrumental in sustaining economic development throughout the Gore Mountain Region, and he continuously focuses on the needs and values of the community within that role. Rich Jenks, Chief Financial Officer, and I serve on the Adirondack Council of Christian Businessmen Connection (CBMC). Rich leads businessmen in Christian and ethically sound business practices, which greatly benefit the community at large as well as businesses.

Overall, Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

***John Gable, Financial Advisor***  
***Edward Jones Investments***

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director, Region 5  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsbury Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

# Garnet Hill

## Property Owners Association

GarnetHillPOA@gmail.com

---

January 9, 2024

Corrie Magee,  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[Corrie.magee@apa.ny.gov](mailto:Corrie.magee@apa.ny.gov)

Beth Magee  
NYSDEC, Region 5  
232 Golf Course Rd  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

Re: Incomplete Expansion Application of Barton Mines Company, LLC  
NYSDEC Mine Permit No. 5-5230-00002  
APA Permit: P79-140-P88-393A

Dear Ms. Magee and Ms. Magee:

Please accept these comments from the Garnet Hill Property Owners' Association (GHPOA), which includes over 80 homes around our community's fine year-round outdoor center, the Garnet Hill Lodge. Our Association owns and manages common areas that are contiguous to one of the Adirondacks' greatest treasures, the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area, part of the Forest Preserve.

The December 8, 2023, submission of Barton Mines Company, LLC ("Barton") in support of its application to expand its waste piles and quarry operation remains incomplete.

Neither the Department nor the Agency can engage in a hard look of the environmental impacts of Barton's proposed expansion based on the current record.

**The Application Lacks Any Data or Analysis of the Impacts of the Proposed Project Upon the Biological Resources of the Adirondack Park.**

# Garnet Hill

## Property Owners Association

GarnetHillPOA@gmail.com

---

Before issuing a permit for an activity on private land, the Agency must find that the proposal will not have an undue adverse impact on the natural, ecological, wildlife, open-space, or other resources of the Adirondack Park. When directing this inquiry, in order to take a hard look at the impacts of proposed development, the Agency should consider the 37 development considerations that are listed in the Adirondack Park Agency Act. These considerations include forest resources, vegetative cover, rare plant communities, habitats of rare species, key wildlife habitats, and rare, threatened, or endangered species.

Quite often, particularly when development is proposed in a resource management area, the Agency requires yearlong wildlife and plant surveys in order to document the habitat and/or potential species of concern on or near proposed development areas. Often, according to the Agency's own guidelines, a yearlong wildlife survey must document existing vegetation and other habitat indicators within 230 meters of proposed clearing for development. See generally, Adirondack Park Agency Project Guideline: "Ecological and Biological Surveys".

Here, Barton does not even pay lip service to this requirement. Indeed, the only wildlife information it has supplied in its application to expand is that the project site includes long-eared bats, deer and coyotes. No other information, onsite data, surveys or analysis is provided concerning wildlife, forest resources, open space impacts, habitat impacts or vegetative cover impacts.

Therefore, the record on biological impacts is bare and the application must be deemed incomplete on this ground alone. We ask only that Barton's development activity be treated the same way other development activity for which a permit is sought is treated and examined by the Agency.

Here, our community knows, even without the application of expertise or a year-long survey, that owls, bobcats, bears, turkeys, many songbirds and migratory birds, ruffed grouse, snowshoe hare, martin, fisher, moose and other wildlife exists within 230 meters of the proposed development and certainly within the general Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area and nearby forest resources and open-space areas.

There is nothing before the Agency regarding potential key wildlife habitats, including the potential for Spruce Grouse Habitat, and other habitat and resources.

Barton proposes to destroy by excavation dozens of acres of resource management forest, including over 26 acres and removing more than 16,000 trees within a Critical Environmental Area, eliminating forever these natural and ecological resources by scraping this acreage down to bedrock. Most development involves some impact upon areas like this, but Barton proposes the elimination of dozens of acres of natural, ecological, wildlife, open-space and other resources of the Park.

Barton should be required to do a detailed, yearlong study of the wildlife and plant communities within 230 meters of all disturbance before the Agency considers the application to be complete. Barton should be treated like other applicants in this regard.

**The Application Lacks Sufficient Information to Establish the Long-term Stability of Barton's Waste Disposal Plan.**

Barton's milling operation is an industrial process, which produces several waste streams including a waste material that Barton calls slimes. Also, records at the NYSDEC allow the company to take back from customers waste garnet powder that appears to be mixed with other material produced during jet cutting and sand blasting operations. There is no discussion in any document as to what happens with any waste from this recycling operation that is returned to the company.

Barton's recent submission establishes that there is nothing at all "engineered" about the existing, massive piles of waste. Specifically, Barton submitted an October 30, 2023 geotechnical assessment of the waste piles and waste management proposal from Knight Piesold Consulting ("KP"). This firm concluded that it could only provide general feasibility analysis, not an engineered design, "...due to the nature of the facility, and the general lack of engineered fill placement," in the existing waste piles, including the slime deposits. Id. at 1.0.

The KP report even concludes that all that can be done is to wait, watch and adjust as necessary in the future. KP further states that ensuring future stability may require "construction outside of the [proposed] permitted footprint," even though Barton already

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is proposing to pile waste in acres and acres of a Critical Environmental Area on the edge of the Forest Preserve. In any event, there is clearly nothing engineered or stable about the waste piles.

Adding to the incomplete engineering analysis, KP states that in the future another firm will need to provide a detailed design for placement of the waste streams, all of which are proposed to remain on site forever. Clearly, KP's concerns include a lack of understanding of the grain sizes within the existing pile, past compaction regimes and or levels of saturation throughout the existing 2000-foot pile. It describes the "slimes" that are produced by Barton as industrial waste, offering significant instability, especially regarding slimes placed in the Middle Pond. Id. at p. 8.

Importantly, KP does not express an engineering or geotechnical opinion about Barton's plan to dump industrial slimes into open pits to be created on site Id. p.4. KP has conducted some "high level" modeling but does not provide the details of the inputs to the model, ranges of uncertainty for the inputs, and points out that its assumptions must be "representative of those in the field" (which are unknown) for the plan to pile higher and wider to be "feasible". KP declines to provide "engineering approval". Id. at p. 8. KP recommends "underdrainage" because of the instability due to saturated conditions at the base of the piles. There is no information on drainage system design, whether it will be active or passive, how it will be monitored, whether it can be repaired once millions of cubic yards of mill waste are disposed of on top of it, whether it must be operational forever, and if so, who will be responsible for long-term operation and maintenance. To construct the drainage system KP strongly recommends compaction in 1-foot-thick lifts with a vibratory drum compaction roller, yet doesn't opine on the need for a similar compaction protocol or other remedial measures to enhance stability of the existing pile.

KP also states that it does not yet have adequate data to understand how waste industrial slimes placed in Barton's "Middle Pond" affects pile stability. It directed Barton to stop dumping slimes in Middle Pond two years ago. KP states that a necessary study of the unstable situation "is expected to take place in 2023". The study, if done as stated, was not submitted.

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The application is clearly incomplete because there is nothing in the record to establish that the accumulated waste streams and their existing disposal areas, generated during Barton's ongoing permit violations expanding the pile beyond what is currently allowable, will not have an undue adverse impact on the environment. More analysis and an engineered study of existing conditions, and for what Barton seeks to add in the coming decades is absolutely necessary for a complete application, particularly when the future plan proposes the elimination of all resources in a Critical Environmental Area in a Resource Management Area directly adjacent to the Forest Preserve.

Finally, the Department and the Agency must note that the KP report was issued to "Barton International, Inc.", but there is no indication in the application materials that this entity exists, it is not the permittee, and the relationship between the Barton LLC and the corporation is not explained, so Barton Mines Company LLC, (the applicant), DEC and the APA cannot rely upon the KP report to this third party corporation.

### **The Application Lacks a Written and Approved Dust Suppression Plan.**

The Garnet Hill community has documented and will continue to document episodic off-site dust clouds from Barton's operations which violate Barton's permits. The locations (e.g., roads, pile sides, dry slime ponds, cyclones) and particle types (e.g., fine sands, slimes, recycled materials) of these events, have not been identified, as it may be sands, fine sands, very fine particles from dry slime beds on site, or a combination thereof. Barton has not provided any information about the potential environmental and human health impacts of the Barton dust plumes. Data on chemical composition and particle size, particulate matter air concentrations, and particulate loading to the environment need to be provided. A plan to measure future dust plumes is necessary.

Despite requests, and dust suppression plans being required for many similar operations throughout the state, Barton has no effective, year-round comprehensive plan to abate this nuisance, rendering the application incomplete.

Fundamentally, an Applicant that is in violation of its permit is not at all entitled to have an application to expand reviewed by the Department or the Agency. This is particularly so where, as here, those violations such as off-site dust are ongoing public nuisances.

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### **Additional Comments:**

a. On pages 13-14 of the Barton 12/8/23 application, the company proposes to apply a dust suppressant to the pile on an annual basis. No justification is provided for frequency of application. They reference the results of “trial applications” on page 14 but no study design, study results, nor Agency approval for the study itself are presented. As pile runoff flows into the headwaters of Browns Pond Brook and Thirteenth Brook, potential impacts to these systems (e.g., nutrients, BOD, pH, temperature, flow) need to be evaluated. Also, why is the pile exterior stability adequate to allow for use of a suppressant but not allow for active revegetation?

b. Barton must provide an analysis as to why North River Residents have observed significant increases in mine noise, especially from processing mill operations, beginning approximately seven years ago. What has changed related to equipment, processes, landscape, and topography that may have contributed to the increased noise nuisance affecting neighboring residents?

c. A study of sound mitigation alternatives needs to be performed by a qualified expert. Furthermore, what is the life expectancy of the 40-year-old mill building and its equipment? Should equipment and building design be modernized, and land features be created to mitigate noise? The applicant does not address this issue, nor even mention the concerns of residents living in Garnet Hill and adjacent areas. Further review of the recent sound submission information from Barton Mine will be provided by RSG, the sound expert previously engaged by GHPOA, at a later date.

### **Additional Comments (cont.):**

#### **d. Other Noise Concerns**

##### **Data collection intervals lead to misleading ambient noise measures.**

In the Applicant’s 2022 and 2023 noise studies, data collection was divided into two periods: 7.00 AM to 3.30 PM and 3.30 PM to 7.00 AM. The community had requested nighttime noise readings (10 PM to 6 AM). By presenting data in only two periods, rather than hourly, the true nighttime ambient conditions are disguised and are made to appear unrealistically high. The loud, but not unpleasant, noise created by the dawn chorus and evening bird songs, as well as the noise of summer



insects (especially crickets), were listed as primary noise sources. In addition, at M3, M4 and M6a, the noises originating from adjacent rivers were also listed as primary noise sources. The ambient data was collected during a period of maximum background noise in the community. After dark, when bird and insect noises are silent, and the mill and quarry are silent (the Adirondacks are VERY quiet) typically noise levels measure around 20-25 dB, not 44 dB as recorded in the August 2023 study. On these quiet nights, when one opens a window (or sometimes even when windows are closed) or steps outside to take out the trash or view the stars, the industrial noise from the mill is the only sound one hears. The silence of the Adirondacks is treasured by locals and visitors alike.

**Noise measurements were taken in wet and windy conditions close to rivers in August 2023**

In the August 2023 noise study, measuring ambient conditions without the mill or quarry, the measurements were taken in wet and windy conditions, next to rivers and streams in some cases, and without data filtering, which results insignificantly higher readings. To get a true indication of the ambient noise level one must look at the minimum noise levels. The minimum noise measurement is the noise when insects, birds and traffic are quietest, and only weather and the adjacent streams are influencing the measurements.

In Barton's July 2022 noise studies, when the mill was running, the minimum noise measurements were in the 20 -25 dB range, for example, at M-3,  $L_{eq, 1 \text{ sed}}$  ranged around 22.5 dB. However, the minimum noise measurements made in August 2023 for the same location were recorded as 42.9 dB. Presumably, this was because of the wet and windy conditions, insects, and river noise, as noted in the application. The same increase was seen in the residential area at M-7, the 2022 measures showed a minimum of 24.5 dB, while the August 2023 measures showed almost a ten-fold increase of noise intensity to 33.4 dB. There is no river near the M-7 location. While the minimum measurements in the 2022 data may be a truer reflection of the ambient nighttime noise measures, the increase seen in the 2023 measures reflects bad weather conditions, with

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humidity at 62-100% and wind gusts to 16 mph. The ambient noise levels measured in August 2023 are clearly not true ambient measurements.

**Additional Comments (cont.):**

**d. Other Noise Concerns**

What is most striking about these measurements is that these natural noises are not unpleasant to listen to, while the high pitched (high C), industrial noise from the mill is penetrating and aggravating, partly because of its persistence. While bird song, and insect noise is loud, it is not unpleasant to listen to, and it is of limited duration, unlike the persistent industrial noise emanating from the mine. Incidentally, the noise from the mine in the residential area is of roughly the same intensity as that of a campsite generator at an adjacent Adirondack site, yet the use of generators is limited in campsites (and motors on Thirteenth Lake) because of the noise nuisance.

**The maximum predicted noise levels are lower than the minimum ambient noise measurements made in August 2023 when the mill and quarry were quiet!**

It is interesting to note that the worst-case scenarios for the modeled sound pressure levels are lower than the ambient noise measurements collected in August 2023 without the mill or quarry in operation. In the August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 data, the daytime, average equivalent continuous sound level ( $L_{eq}$ ) at M-4, was 48.6 dB in the daytime and 53.6 dB in the evening; however, the worst-case scenario modeling predicts a lesser noise level of 43 dB during Phase 1. Using the August 2023 data to provide the ambient level, the daytime noise level was roughly four times lower (48.6 – 44 dB) under these worst-case scenario conditions, even though there was more machinery being employed: a drill rig, loading and hauling of rock, two bulldozers and 3 haul trucks operating within the RM facility.

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It is worth noting that the 2022 noise studies performed by Barton included occasional bulldozer operation (not in the afternoon/nighttime), zero haul trucks in the afternoons, and residual material being placed on the north-east lobe of the tailings piles, as far from the noise recording locations as possible. The noise from the haul trucks is one of the largest sources of daytime noise from the mine, in addition to the noise from the mill, and mechanical spreading of residual materials on the southern piles. These results emphasize the farcical nature of the noise data collection and modeling. Deepening the quarry during Phase 1 may help reduce noise from the depth of the mine, but hauling, trucking, and spreading of the tailings piles will continue at an increased pace and cause persistent noise nuisance with work being carried out above the quarry highwall.

### **Additional Comments (cont.):**

#### **d. Other Noise Concerns**

##### **The projected increase in noise is described by the DEC as being intolerable.**

Minimum noise measurements generated by Barton reflect true ambient conditions without intrusions from insects, birds, rivers, or traffic. Data collected by Barton in 2022 show minimum noise measurements of 20-25 dB. If the projected noise levels are in the 40-50 dB range (Table 8), then the increase in noise level is 20-25 dB. This level of noise increase is **described by the DEC as being very objectionable to intolerable.**

##### **Acceptable to the GHPOA Community**

Below, we have provided an outline of sound criteria that would be acceptable to the GHPOA Community:

- During mine operations, Monday-Friday, (7:30 AM - 3:30 PM) - the applicant will institute operational and technological controls, as recommended by a qualified expert in noise mitigation, and using the **best available technology**, updating it as technology improves and maintaining it

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in top operating condition. While we do not expect the mine to be silent, we certainly believe the noise from the mine can and should be significantly reduced from its current nuisance levels. "Mine" includes quarry, mill and waste pile operations. No mine operations on federal holidays.

- During mill operations, including associated activity on the waste pile, (3:30 PM to 7:30 AM) - the applicant will institute operational and technological controls to ensure operations are inaudible in the community and adjacent wilderness area.
- The applicant shall fund an independent, full-time on-site monitor to ensure the applicant complies with all permit conditions, including noise requirements.

e. **Visual Impact**

The Adirondack Park Agency receptor categories for studying visual impacts include highways, roads, trails and vistas and public buildings. These areas are of concern for the local populations, but more importantly for the tourist business in this area. The Town of Johnsburg recently stated on their public website that tourism is the most important element of the local economy. Barton's recent submission fails to take into consideration several of the locations where the tailings piles are in plain sight: 9 Ruby Mountain View Drive, at the junction of Lakeview Lane and 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Rd, and from Garnet Hill Lodge. Without consideration of these areas, the application must be deemed incomplete.

Garnet Hill Lodge is a 25-room hotel nestled above 13<sup>th</sup> Lake with access to the Siamese Pond Wilderness Area. The hotel has been in operation since 1935.

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**Additional Comments (cont.):**

**f. Visual Impact (cont.)**

In a typical year the Lodge employs about 54 people in a mix of full and part-time positions, with an annual payroll of \$1.13 million, and serves roughly 8,000 guests on an annual basis. These guests contribute substantially to the local economy as they purchase rafting trips, gifts, outdoor guide services, ski passes and equipment, and restaurant meals throughout the area. The Barton APA permit issued in 1979 established that the mine would not be seen or heard during operation, and after its closure several decades later.

Barton mine's massive gray waste piles significantly detract from the Wilderness views that tourists expect when they visit the Adirondacks. Since the Lodge is located approximately one mile from the mine (as the crow flies), the piles can be seen looming large and clear when standing beside the Lodge building. The piles are currently unsightly, so doubling the width and increasing the height of the piles will seriously affect the tourist business at the Lodge and indirectly detract from the local Johnsbury economy where tourists spend money. In addition, since the Garnet Hill Community provides accommodations to tourists and homeowners alike, the views from the homes in the community and from the roads in the community are equally important. The application must be deemed incomplete since the visual impacts from these viewpoints have not been considered.

**f. CLCPA and DEC Commissioner's Order 49**

The application fails to consider the impacts of climate change as required by amended CLCPA and DEC Commissioner's Order 49. As stated in the CLCPA: "Summary: This document establishes the Department of Environmental Conservation's ("Department") policy to incorporate climate change considerations into aspects of its activities and comply with the specific requirements of the Climate Leadership and Community

Protection Act of 2019 (“CLCPA”) and the Community Risk and Resiliency Act of 2014 (“CRRRA”) as amended by the CLCPA (“Policy”). This Policy provides general direction to all Divisions, Offices, and Regions within the Department (“Programs”) regarding responsibilities related to incorporating climate change considerations and outlines procedures for compliance with specific provisions of the CLCPA and CRRRA. Additional direction may be provided within Programs or through other related policies, including statutory requirements regarding disadvantaged communities.”

“Policy: The Department recognizes that New York State’s air and water quality, forests, fish and wildlife habitats, and people, communities and economy are at risk from climate change. To perform its core mission, the Department must incorporate climate change considerations into activities the

### **Additional Comments (cont.):**

#### **f. CLCPA and DEC Commissioner's Order 49 (cont.)**

Department undertakes. Additionally, the Department must meet certain requirements set forth in the CLCPA and CRRRA. Some, but not all, of these statutory requirements have been added to the Environmental Conservation Law (“ECL”). Finally, the Department should act as a statewide and national role model in responding to climate change by encouraging jurisdictions to take the action needed to reduce greenhouse gas (“GHG”) emissions and to protect the environment, human health, and safety. All Programs are expected to:

- assess their policies on a regular basis in light of climate change considerations and the requirements of the CLCPA and CRRRA;
- comply with Departmental direction regarding the CLCPA and CRRRA;

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- participate in the assessment, planning, and implementation of new or revised State policies; and
- seek opportunities to further reduce GHG emissions and enhance the State's resilience to climate change through collaborations with other Programs, state entities, and stakeholders. Specific responsibilities are described in Part IV Responsibility and, where applicable, specific requirements are also detailed in Part V Procedure."

In conclusion, and as indicated in our comments, there remain numerous issues that have not been fully addressed in the recent application submission. Accordingly, we ask that the above issues be fully considered during the application review. Residents of Garnet Hill and the surrounding North River area have been good neighbors for decades. We are hopeful that the respective state agencies will listen to our concerns.

Sincerely,  
Mary Whiting Pucikett  
President

cc: [pcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:pcomments@apa.ny.gov)



August 9, 2024

Beth A. Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

Corrie Magee  
Environmental Program Specialist 1  
Adirondack Park Agency  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

**Re: GHPOA Comments on Barton Mines Company's July 15, 2024 Response to APA and NYSDEC third NIPA Comments**

Dear Ms. Magee and Ms. Magee:

In your review of Barton Mine's July 15, 2024, response to the above referenced permit application, please accept and consider these comments from the Garnet Hill Property Owners' Association (GHPOA). The GHPOA, as noted in previous correspondence, includes over 80 homes located around the Garnet Hill Lodge, a year-around outdoor center that generates jobs and revenue for the surrounding towns and villages. As you are aware, our Association manages common areas contiguous to the Siamese Pond Wilderness area, part of the State's forest preserve. In past correspondence to the state agencies, we have commented on the sound, visual, and geo-tech portions of the application and remain concerned with these issues; however, in view of the short time frame to provide a response, our comments are limited to two areas, namely, Barton Mine's Sound Study (Section 7.5 and Appendix P), and their Permit Modification Community Outreach (Appendix W).

In reading the various iterations of the Barton Mine permit applications, it appears Barton has no intention of mitigating the noticeable increase in noise that has permeated the Garnet Hill neighborhood over the past 6 to 7 years. While Barton claims that their operation has not significantly changed, something has. Maybe the increased noise results from the mine altering Ruby Mountain topography or degradation of aging rock processing equipment, but the lack of analysis by Barton precludes definitive conclusions.

During meetings with Barton's management about the 24-7 operation of the mill, the company's position is that there is practically no detectable noise emanating from their mill operation. When asked why the noise levels have increased in recent years, Barton provided no explanation.

In an early permit submission, Barton maintained that the constant noise currently emanating from mill and waste pile operations should be considered as "ambient noise." Fortunately, the state agencies pointed out the obvious error of this contention, and further questioned the methodologies used to record and interpret their noise data. In all three of its applications to DEC and APA, Barton's failure to acknowledge its current noise impacts to the North River community and the adjacent Wilderness is disappointing. Proposing to make the noise even



louder and more frequent per a mine expansion is even more disheartening. The lack of a study of noise mitigation options by a qualified expert is unacceptable. As nuisance noise from the mine was infrequent for many decades since its inception, and engineering and process controls exist to reduce noise impacts, we believe a return to previous noise levels is feasible.

Barton's latest response states that the 24-7 "noise" heard by us neighbors, should be considered "quiet" to "very quiet." While we are not acoustic engineers, we understand there is a difference between "sound," which can be measured by instruments, and "noise," which is sound that "lacks an agreeable quality or is noticeably unpleasant or loud" as well as "sound that is undesired."<sup>1</sup> The DEC noise mitigation policy included in Appendix P of Barton's recent response defines noise as follows:

*"Noise is defined as any loud, discordant or disagreeable sound or sounds. More commonly, in an environmental context, noise is defined simply as unwanted sound. Certain activities inherently produce sound levels or sound characteristics that have the potential to create noise. The sound generated by proposed or existing facilities may become noise due to land use surrounding the facility. When lands adjoining an existing or proposed facility contain residential, commercial, institutional or recreational uses that are proximal to the facility, noise is likely to be a matter of concern to residents or users of adjacent lands."*

Hearing constant noise from the mine's milling process 24-7 is "noise" and has created a nuisance to our once noise-free neighborhood, not to mention the potential effects on the wildlife in the surrounding wilderness. The mill usually can be heard around the clock, seven days a week, from our homes, from the south end of Thirteenth Lake and in many other surrounding areas. Six or seven years ago, these conditions did not exist. In review of the many documents Barton has produced related to sound, there is no mention of any efforts to mitigate the nuisance noise emanating from the 24-7 mill operations, or any enforceable commitments to reduce sound for any of their other equipment. Therefore, we repeat our request, as outlined in our January 9, 2024, letter to NYSDEC and APA, for noise permit conditions as follows:

*During mine operations, Monday-Friday, (7:30 AM - 3:30 PM) - the applicant will institute operational and technological controls, as recommended by a qualified expert in noise mitigation, and using the **best available technology**, updating it as technology improves and maintaining it in top operating condition. While we do not expect the mine to be silent, we certainly believe the noise from the mine can and should be significantly reduced from its current nuisance levels. "Mine" includes quarry, mill and waste pile operations. No mine operations on federal holidays.*

*During mill operations, including associated activity on the waste pile, (from 3:30 PM to 7:30 AM) - the applicant will institute operational and technological controls to ensure operations are inaudible in the community and adjacent wilderness area.*

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<sup>1</sup> Nuisance noise conditions from the mill result not only from loudness (sound power) but from the continuous low-frequency noise (LFN), in the range of 10-200 Hz. LFN is frequently referred to as a "hum" and can negatively impact people's psychological and physiological well-being. LFN can disturb sleep and make people uncomfortable in their homes.

*The applicant shall fund an independent, full-time on-site monitor to ensure the applicant complies with all permit conditions, including noise requirements.*

### **Specific Comments on Appendix P-Sound Study**

Until recently, North River and the Siamese Ponds Wilderness, had been a quiet area, typical of the Adirondack Park. As noted above, during the approximately 35-year quiet period beginning with the inception of mine operations, there was minimal noise impact from the mine. Now, we experience noise 24/7, on weekends and holidays. On-site truck operations extend from 7am to 10 pm, spreading of waste materials late into the evenings and on weekends, and mill operations run 24 hours per day.

In 2019, several members of the North River community met with Barton representatives to discuss the increase in ambient noise levels emanating from the mine. This meeting was several years prior to Barton's 2021 application for a mine expansion, and before it was public knowledge that such an application was planned. At this time, communications were solely with Barton and not with Adirondack Park Agency or Department of Environmental Conservation staff. We raise this timing issue to refute any suggestion that residents are raising the noise issue as a means to thwart continued operations at the mine. The timing of our initial noise complaints in 2019 demonstrates that noise had risen to nuisance levels well before Barton first announced its intention to expand mine operations in 2021.

Barton's initial expansion application in 2021 did not mention any of the community's concerns with the recent increase in noise. To this end they completed a sound study with the mill, crusher, cyclone and other noise making equipment operating without any community involvement. Barton's application assumed there was no increase in noise in recent years and that use of current noise levels as background, or "ambient," was appropriate as these noise levels were "permitted." It was in Barton's interest to use the current, higher noise levels as the ambient noise level, so that it would show the increases in noise levels from the expansion relative to background levels did not exceed DEC and APA standards.

Expressing concerns regarding the 2021 Sound Study, APA required Barton to measure noise levels with no mine equipment operating to measure "true" ambient conditions. In December 2023, Barton submitted a second revision including noise measurements made without the mill, crusher, cyclone and other noise making equipment. The analysis of these measurements was clearly prejudiced as Barton tried to convince the agencies that the mill, churning hundreds of tons of rock, the crusher smashing the rocks into smaller and smaller pieces, the equipment used to spread the waste rock, and the trucks make no significant noise. Inconceivably, Barton presented results showing neighborhood noise levels with no mine machinery operating was higher than noise measurements with mine equipment operating, as presented in their first application submission. This clearly calls into question the quality of Barton's noise analyses.

**Ambient background noise levels are the only appropriate baseline for analyzing current, and projected future, noise impacts.** In Barton's July 2022 noise study, when the mill was running, the minimum noise measurements were in the 20-25 dB range, for example, at M-3 (within the mine area),  $L_{eq, 1 \text{ sed}}$  ranged from 22.5dB. When these values are averaged over time, they can be expressed as the Equivalent Continuous Noise (dBeq). **The following table (included in Comment 8d on page 7 of Barton's "Response to the NYDEC") lists the dBeq for each measurement location.**

- d) The table below shows the lowest reading for each location from 2022 and 2023 under the measured conditions, bold indicates lowest reading.

Monitoring Location	2022 - Lowest ambient (3:30 pm to 7:00 am), only mill in operations	2022 – Lowest operating (7:00 am to 3:30 pm), quarry and mill in operation	2023 – Lowest ambient (7:00 am to 3:30 pm), quarry and mill not in operation	2023 – Lowest ambient (3:30 pm to 7:00 am), quarry and mill not in operation
Usage:	Used as ambient in 2022 sound study.	Used as current approved operating sound levels in 2022.	Used as ambient in 2023 sound study to project sound levels experienced for proposed expansion modification.	Used as ambient in 2023 sound study for proposed expanded operating hour.
	dBA Leq	dBA Leq	dBA Leq	dBA Leq
M-3	<b>32.2</b>	34.9	45.2	45.0
M-4	51.3	<b>41.1</b>	48.4	47.4
M-5	<b>35.6</b>	41.0	36.6	35.7
M-6	<b>37.1</b>	43.2	--	--
M-6a	--	--	<b>44.1</b>	44.7
M-7	<b>40.5</b>	48.5	44.5	41.0
M-8	<b>42.0</b>	50.6	48.6	45.1
M-9	<b>33.8</b>	39.3	40.7	37.9

In their recent submission Barton determined noise impacts using the lowest ambient 7am-3pm values rather than the lowest ambient noise levels at any time during the day (in bold in the above table), as requested by DEC. (Note that the measured neighborhood ambient values may be biased high as they were collected adjacent to roads, during windy and wet conditions where local streams were running high. Also, nighttime noise, say from 10 pm to 7 am, should have been determined as well.) The ambient noise level in the community without the mine and traffic noise is closer to 32.2 dB as found at M-3 (lower noise readings have been measured by GHPOA members).

#### **Comments on Appendix W Community Outreach:**

In Appendix W of the most recent Barton response to the DEC and APA NIPAs, they included a list of their community outreach efforts. While they have met with members of the GHPOA, our concerns with the 24-7 noise generated by the mine have been ignored as indicated in the above correspondence. After we expressed some of our concerns in the 2021 meetings, Barton told us they would no longer meet with us until the DEC and APA deemed their mine expansion application “complete.” 18 months later they requested a meeting with us (interestingly the day before they were to meet with state officials at the mine). At that meeting no options for mitigation of the ongoing noise nuisance conditions were presented.

In May of 2023, Barton's public relation's firm initiated a PR letter campaign focused on residents of Johnsbury, Indian Lake and Minerva. **In Barton's March 4, 2024 letter to the three communities, they stated that GHPOA leadership was opposed to their permit application for expansion and insinuated that GHPOA was anti-mine and anti-jobs for those who work there.** While the leadership and members of our community have voiced concerns over the on-going noise situation, as well as other environmental issues with the proposed expansion, we are not opposed to Barton's permit application and are not advocating for mine closure. Rather, we have presented to Barton and the respective state agencies technical concerns with the sound, visual and geotechnical aspects of the permit application. In fact, the APA and DEC have raised some of the same questions and issues in their NIPA responses. To state that we are opposed to their permit is false, and their claims of being a good neighbor seem hollow to many of us who live near the mine.

In conclusion, many of us GHPOA members and North River neighbors continue to be disappointed in Barton's failure to acknowledge and address our concerns as well as with their campaign to view us as anti-business and anti-employment. We have found it impossible to get them to consider our issues with the current operation as they try to depict our issues with the noise to be trivial. The possibility that we will be subject to a mine expansion without a plan addressing the existing noise issues is unacceptable. We still hope for an outcome that is win-win, not win-lose. We rely on you as our state agencies to be caretakers and watchdogs to monitor and ensure that environmental protection of the nearby wilderness, and the peaceful quality of our neighborhood will continue.

Sincerely,

Mary Whiting Puckett

President, Garnet Hill Property Owners Association

# Garnet Hill

## Property Owners Association

GarnetHillPOA@gmail.com

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June 1, 2023

Via email % [Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov) and U.S. Mail  
Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 5  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, New York 12885

Via email % [rpscomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpscomments@apa.ny.gov) and U.S. Mail  
David Plante  
Deputy Director of Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Re: Expert Review and Recommendations by RSG on the Re-submitted Noise Studies by the Applicant for APA Project 2021-245: Barton Mines Proposed Expansion, Town of Johnsburg, Warren County

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

On behalf of the Garnet Hill Property Owners Association (GHPOA), we hereby submit the attached May 30, 2023 review and recommendations of RSG on the referenced matter. RSG is the engineering firm previously engaged by GHPOA on this issue. Mr. Eddie Duncan, a senior Director of RSG, and a board-certified noise control engineer, once again authored the attached review and set forth his expert recommendations.

We submit these comments for your consideration of the pending re-submitted application for the proposed expansion by Barton Mines Corporation, LLC ("Barton") of the Ruby Mountain mine in the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County. This review by RSG supplements prior submissions by the GHPOA on this pending re-submitted application.

As you will read in the attached expert review, Barton's noise analysis remains seriously flawed in multiple respects. We respectfully request that you follow the recommendations set forth by RSG before going further with the analysis of the current and future noise from Barton's operations.

# Garnet Hill

## Property Owners Association

GarnetHillPOA@gmail.com

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Sincerely,

Mary Whiting Puckett,  
President, GHPOA



# MEMO

**TO:** Garnet Hill Property Owners Association

**FROM:** Eddie Duncan, INCE Bd. Cert.

**DATE:** May 30, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Preliminary Comments on Barton Mine's April 2023 Sound Study

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RSG has been retained by the Garnet Hill Property Owners Association ("GHPOA") to consult on the issue of noise as it relates to Barton Mines and their permit application to expand its mining operations in Warren County, New York ("Project"). We previously reviewed Barton's September 2021 Sound Study<sup>1</sup> along with several other documents and provided documentation of our review to you in a memorandum on December 16, 2022<sup>2</sup> ("December Review"). That previous review is attached to the end of this document for reference. As we discussed in the December Review, the GHPOA has conveyed to us that area residents have expressed concern over their perceived increase in noise from the mine over the past several years and are concerned that the noise studies from the proposed expansion do not adequately address the potential noise impacts from the Project, nor do they provide sufficient noise mitigation plans to reduce current and future noise impacts from the Project site.

It is our understanding that Barton Mines submitted a new sound study in April 2023<sup>3</sup> ("2023 Sound Study") related to its permit application that seeks to address previous comments provided by the Adirondack Park Agency ("APA") and the New York State Department of Conservation ("NYSDEC"). We have conducted a preliminary review of Barton's new sound study and cover letter<sup>4</sup>, and are providing comments on four items in this memorandum related to ambient sound measurements, the adjacent wilderness area, Barton's reference to Oak Hill Mine, and mitigation.

## Ambient Sound Level Measurements

The 2023 Sound Study provided measured sound levels from more locations than the 2021 Sound Study. These included operational and "ambient" sound levels. Unfortunately, the ambient sound levels that are reported in the 2023 Sound Study are

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<sup>1</sup> *Sound Study*, September 2021, H2H Geosciences Engineering.

<sup>2</sup> RSG to Garnet Hill Property Owners Association, *Review of Noise Assessments for Barton Mines*, 16 December 2022.

<sup>3</sup> *Sound Study*, April 2023, H2H Geosciences Engineering.

<sup>4</sup> H2H Geosciences Engineering to Adirondack Park Agency & New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, *Ruby Mountain Garnet Mine Major Permit Modification*, 1 May 2023.

not actually ambient sound levels. This is the same issue that we reviewed with the 2021 Sound Study, that is, the background sound levels were measured at each location while the mill was operating and residual materials (“RM”) were being hydraulically pumped to the RM pile from 3:30 PM to 7:00 AM.<sup>5</sup> The sound study does not quantify the sound emissions of the mill or the pumps associated with the RM hydraulic system, so it is not known how those systems would affect the ambient sound level measurements. This was a known issue from the 2021 Sound Study that the APA correctly identified and pointed out to Barton in their Notice of Incomplete Permit Application (16 November 2021) which stated, “[...] please provide a revised Noise Study that [...] includes the following [...] Provides noise measurement during ambient conditions (i.e. **without the Mill**, excavation activities, equipment, or other noise generating activities)” (emphasis added).

In the NYSDEC’s review of Barton’s Proposed Sound Study Scope of Work<sup>6</sup>, they provided the following technical comment regarding noise, “It may be helpful to provide this noise data – **ambient**, current approved, and proposed to be experienced by the different scenarios in a table, in the narrative, and on the sound study map” (emphasis added). Barton’s argument for including sound levels from the mill in background sound level measurements is a claim that the mill is already permitted to operate 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. If this is true (we haven’t confirmed that it is), then the mill operation would be included in the category of “current approved” that the NYSDEC suggested. That is, the 2023 Sound Study should have provided measured ambient sound levels that are truly representative of background sound levels in the area, including within the North River Community and the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area, (i.e. without the mill operating), measured sound levels with operations that are currently approved (i.e. mill operation, quarrying, etc.), and projected sound levels from the proposed operation under consideration in the current application. This was not done in the 2023 Sound Study, rendering it incomplete.

While the mill may (or may not) be permitted to operate 24 hours per day 7 days per week, as we discussed in our December Review, the mill does not appear to actually operate all of the time, such as August 28, 2020, when the 2021 Sound Study says the mill was not in operation. It is also our understanding from GHPOA that the mill is shut down for extended periods at times for maintenance. These examples indicate that ambient sound levels without the mill in operation do occur, and background sound levels would likely be lower than those measured when the mill is in operation, increasing the likelihood of a potential noise impact. In addition, the quarry as currently permitted only has a functional life of 6 years.<sup>7</sup> If the quarry were to cease operations in

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<sup>5</sup> Other sound sources at the Project site may also operate during the timeframe of 3:30 PM to 7:00 AM, but that was not clear in the 2023 Sounds Study or Project application.

<sup>6</sup> *Proposed Phase Three of Sound Study Scope of Work*, 21 March 2022, H2H Geosciences Engineering.

<sup>7</sup> *Mine Permit Amendment & Modification, Barton Mines Company, LLC, Ruby Mountain Garnet Mine*, April 2023, H2H Geosciences Engineering.





6 years without the current permit modification, the mill may not be needed anymore, and then background sound levels would be without the presence of the mill operation.

Finally, the 2023 Sound Study does not provide sufficient detail to determine the difference between daytime and nighttime background sound levels. It groups all ambient sound levels into the time frame of 3:30 PM to 7:00 AM (which included the mill and other sources operating, as discussed above), and provides an overall  $L_{eq}$ ,  $L_{max}$ , and  $L_{min}$  value for the 15.5 hour period without any separation of sound levels into daytime or nighttime periods or on an hourly basis. This is helpful information in understanding how the background sound level changes over the course of the day and assessing the potential impact.

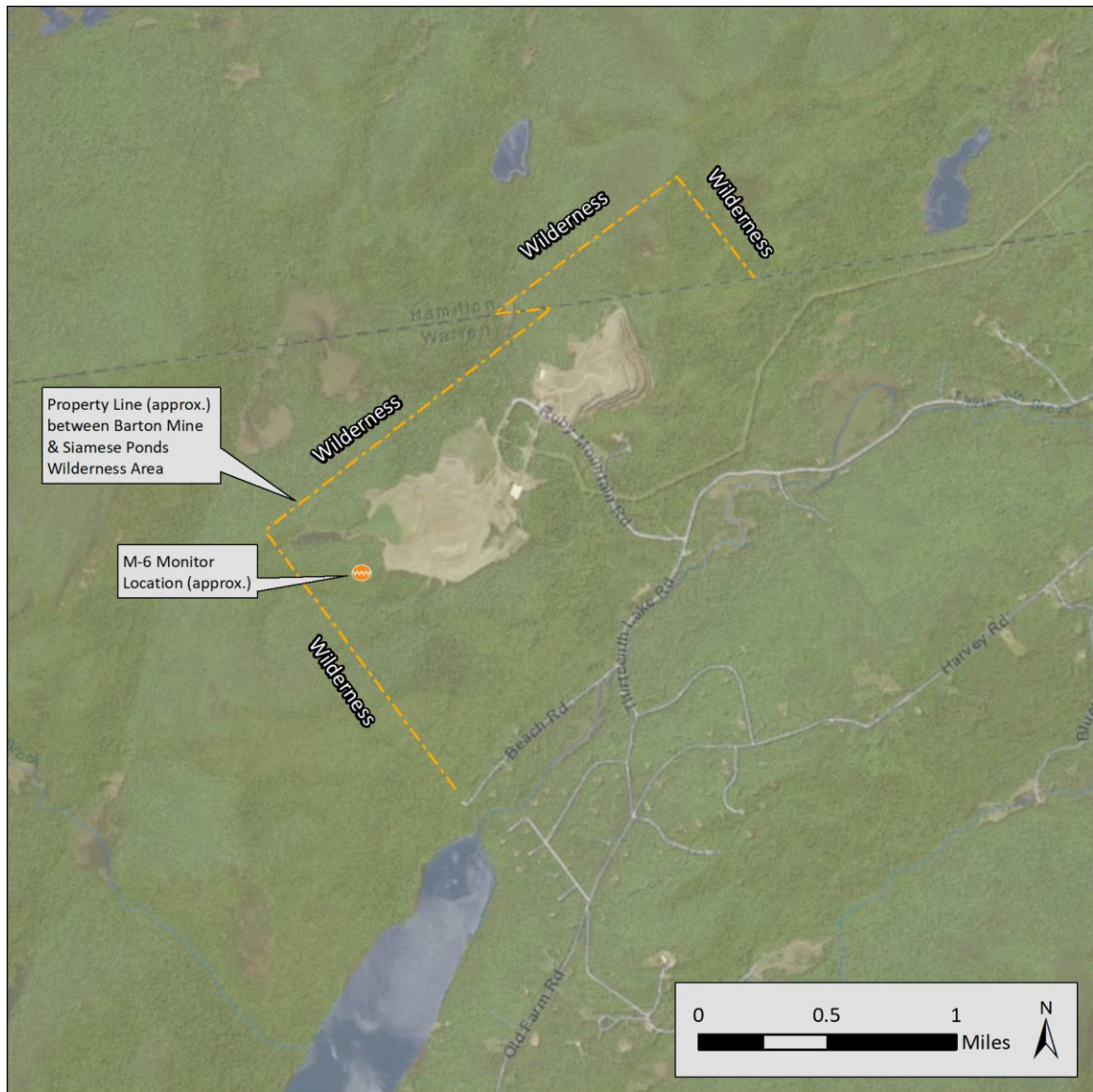
## Wilderness Area

Approximately 4.2 miles of the Project site property line borders the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area to the north, west, and southwest (see **Error! Reference source not found.**). In both the 2021 Sound Study and the 2023 Sound Study, there has been little consideration of noise standards or guidelines related to the sensitivity of the wilderness area.

The Adirondack State Land Master plan provides the following definition of wilderness:

A wilderness area, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man--where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. A wilderness area is further defined to mean an area of state land or water having a primeval character, without significant improvement or permanent human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve, enhance and restore, where necessary, its natural conditions, and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with **the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable**; (2) **has outstanding opportunities for solitude** or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least ten thousand acres of contiguous land and water or is of sufficient size and character as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value. (emphasis added)

From this it would follow that the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area should be managed to "preserve, enhance, and restore [...] its natural conditions." This includes the qualities of "the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable" and having "outstanding opportunities for solitude."



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**FIGURE 1: BARTON MINE PROPERTY & WILDERNESS AREA PROPERTY LINES**

Barton’s 2023 Sound Study conducts no sound monitoring within the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area. The closest location is Monitor M-6 which is over 700 feet within the Barton property boundary on the southwest side of the property. The 2023 Sound Study provides no quantification or qualification of sound within the wilderness area from either ambient or existing operations. In order to manage the wilderness area to “preserve, enhance, and restore” its natural conditions and to ensure that “the imprint of man’s work” is “substantially unnoticeable,” assessment of the existing and future soundscape within the wilderness area and up to the property line are critical. The 2023 Sound Study makes a few references to trails in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Areas that are around a mile away, but potential noise impacts are not exclusive to trails in wilderness areas. Since use of a wilderness area is not restricted to trails, some people may use the



area off trail and wildlife may be present throughout the area. Given this, the potential for impact goes right to the property line, which in this case is approximately 4.2 miles of the Project boundary as shown in Figure 1.

The 2023 Sound Study provided projected sound levels at just three locations in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area, along Sections F, G, and H. Section F seems to provide projected sound levels at the property boundary and references it as being 3,170 feet from the current excavation area and 2,496 feet from the proposed excavation area. We think this is incorrect. A quick review of aerial photography and the Section F line in Figure 2 of the 2023 Sound Study shows that the actual distance between the existing excavation area and the Barton property line along Section F is closer to 1,350 feet. This error would result in sound levels that are higher than those projected in the 2023 Sound Study by approximately 5 to 7 dB, making the projected change over the ambient sound levels +17 dB. Given this error, a more thorough review of the projections in the 2023 Sound Study is merited, but even more so, it demonstrates the need for more comprehensive sound propagation modeling such as that identified in Recommendation 5 of our December Review (see attached document) which would show the projected sound levels throughout the area including all along the 4.2 mile Project boundary with the wilderness area. An example of the output of such a model is provided at the end of this memorandum in Figure 2 to demonstrate its usefulness in assessing potential impacts throughout the area.

As an example of how noise assessments in wilderness areas can be approached, we can look to the methodologies used by the National Park Service (“NPS”). NPS is charged with protecting natural sounds in lands that they manage. One way the Natural Sounds and Night Skies Division assesses potential impact is through quantifying the percent of time that anthropogenic sounds are audible in protected areas and quantifying  $L_{nat}$  which is the sound level of just natural sounds in the area. This type of method could be applied to the proposed Project to define the natural sound level within the wilderness area for comparison to the existing and projected sound levels from the project. ANSI S12.100, “Methods to Define and Measure the Residual Sound in Protected Natural and Quiet Residential Areas” provides a similar approach which could be used for this Project.

The method discussed in the previous paragraph also aligns with the World Health Organization’s (WHO) Guidelines for Community Noise (2000). The WHO guidelines provide recommended values for community noise for specific environments based on the potential effect. In this case, for a wilderness area, the WHO guidelines state that “Existing quiet outdoor areas should be preserved and the ratio of intruding noise to natural background sound should be kept low.”

Given this information, an evaluation of the existing natural sound levels in the adjacent Siamese Ponds Wilderness and a comparison to the existing and projected future sound levels from the Project would be prudent. Neither the 2021 Sound Study nor the 2023 Sound Study provides this type of analysis.

## Oak Hill Mine Comments

Barton's sound study comments on NYCO's Oak Hill APA permit which limits the continuous equivalent sound level (Leq) to 54 dBA under normal operations. That limit applies at five specific nearby residences. Barton's 2023 Sound Study states that "Anticipated Barton sound levels at receptors within the community will meet or be lower than the requirements imposed at the Oak Hill facility." While Oak Hill may have a limit of 54 dBA at a handful of nearby residences, this does not necessarily establish precedent because limits for specific projects must be considered within the context of the specific project for which they were created. That is, historical and existing circumstances may be different. For example, Oak Hill does not have an approximate 4.2 mile long property line with a wilderness area like Barton's Project does. It is also a daytime-only operation in contrast to the Barton site which includes nighttime operations. Nighttime operations typically require lower sound level limits due to the potential for nighttime noise impacts such as sleep disturbance.

RSG was involved in the most recent noise assessment of the Oak Hill facility which took place in 2020. In that assessment we measured operational sound levels and **background sound levels without existing permitted operations**. While the limit at Oak Hill may be 54 dBA, that is not the operational level that actually exists at nearby residences. We found that the operation was well below 54 dBA at all the locations that were monitored, approximately 43 dBA or less at all locations, with some locations being comparable to existing background sound levels.

## Mitigation

The most insufficient topic in the 2023 Sound Study is a discussion and evaluation of planned or proposed mitigation measures. This may be due to the fact that background sound levels have not been properly quantified so the extent to which appropriate mitigation measures are appropriate is unknown. The 2023 Sound Study uses non-committal language in discussing mitigation measures. On pages 34 and 35 it states (emphasis added):

*Mitigative measures **can** include:*

- *White noise backup alarms/motion sensitive backup alarms,*
- *Forested areas surrounding the site will be left in place, and*
- *Noise reducing measures on equipment and buildings where feasible.*

Generally speaking, these elements are good mitigation measures provided they are implemented, but there is insufficient detail provided and there is no quantification of the benefit of the mitigation measures. In the context of the background sound levels (i.e. without the mill operating), the existing operational sound levels, and the future operational sound levels, the study does not provide any basis for evaluating the sufficiency of these mitigation measures.



Given the expansion of the Project into areas that are closer to residences and the wilderness area, detailing specific mitigation measures, including those that will be implemented on existing noise sources is prudent, particularly for the wilderness area to ensure future operations, are not causing greater noise impacts.

## Conclusions

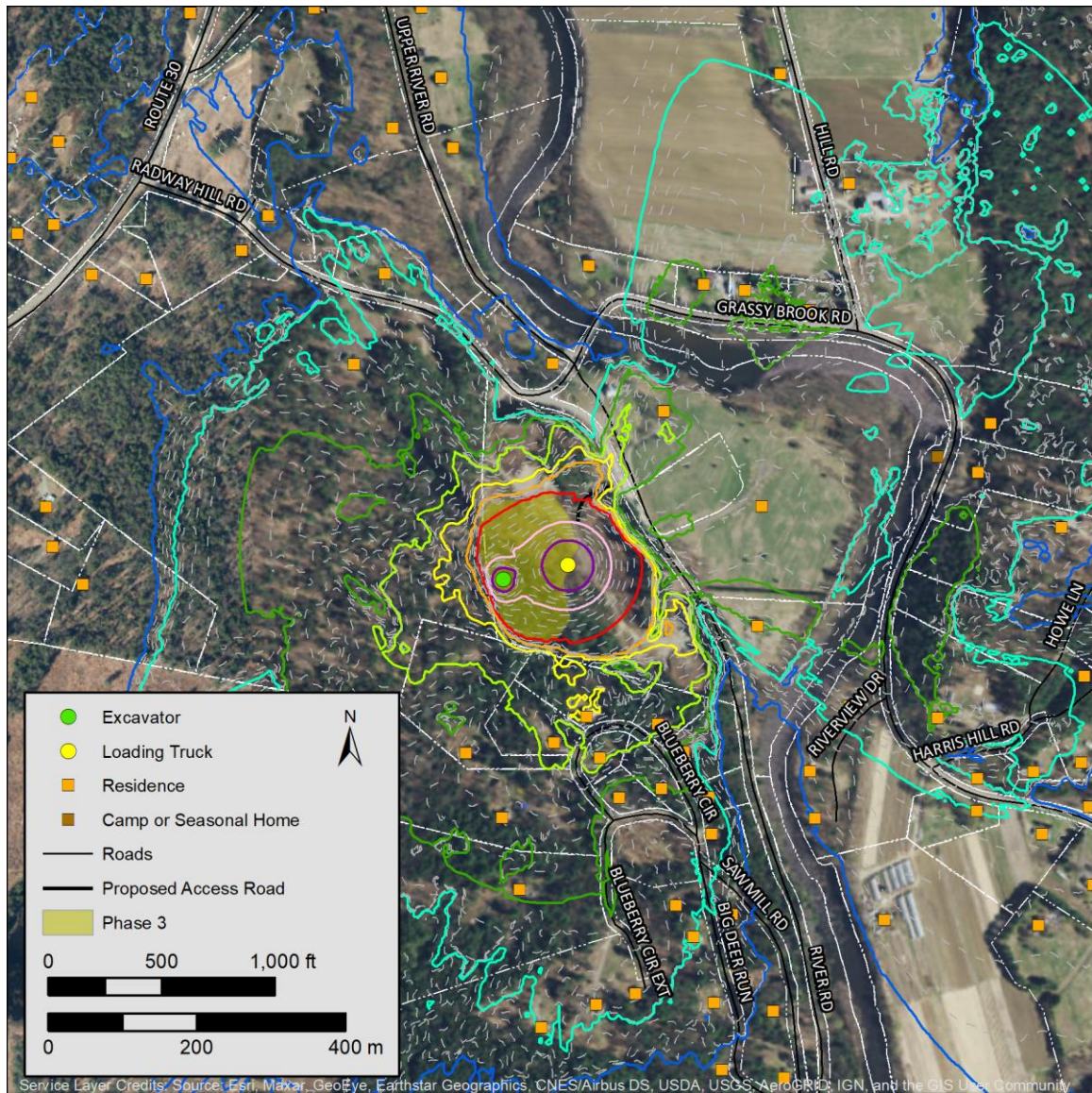
This memorandum provides preliminary comments on the 2023 Sound Study with a focus on ambient sound levels, potential wilderness area impacts, and appropriate mitigation measures. These comments are not meant to entail an exhaustive review of the 2023 Sound Study, but they do demonstrate the continued insufficiency of the study in evaluating the potential noise impacts.

Based on the sensitivity of the wilderness area, and our understanding of GHPOA's concerns about noise, a greater focus by the applicant in evaluating and proposing appropriate mitigation measures would be helpful in addressing GHPOA's concerns about noise. It is our understanding from the GHPOA that they are not necessarily interested in having the operations at Barton Mine cease, but rather they would like to see the applicant take greater control over sound emissions at the site resulting in reduced sound levels in the surrounding area. As we identified in the December Review, mitigation options that should be considered and implemented, if appropriate, include:

- Planning routes for mobile equipment, including trucks, in a circular pattern to minimize the need to use backup alarms.
- Limiting the number of drills and rock hammers that can operate simultaneously.
- Leave the quarry high wall in place for the life of the project.
- Use of berms and barriers to reduce sound from specific equipment and operations.
- Maintaining forested areas surrounding the extraction area such that line-of-sight remains blocked to nearby property boundaries and residences.
- Use of a noise-reducing shroud on the drills and rock hammers.
- Reducing or eliminating nighttime operations.
- Exploring feasible mitigation options to reduce noise from the mill.
- Limiting the hours of operations to weekdays.
- Public notification of scheduled blasts.

Given that noise impacts have not been adequately assessed throughout the area (including the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area), it is difficult to say at this point what mitigation would be needed. Mitigation options should include those necessary to meet applicable standards and guidelines, but also generally available mitigation measures to minimize noise per the project's existing APA permit.





#### Sound Pressure Levels



**FIGURE 2: EXAMPLE OF SOUND LEVEL ISOLINES FROM A SOUND PROPAGATION MODEL**

## **APPENDIX A. RSG'S DECEMBER 2022 REVIEW OF PREVIOUS NOISE ASSESSMENTS FOR BARTON MINES**

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# MEMO

**TO:** Garnet Hill Property Owners Association

**FROM:** Eddie Duncan, INCE Bd. Cert.

**DATE:** December 16, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Review of Noise Assessments for Barton Mines

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RSG was retained by the Garnet Hill Property Owners Association ("GHPOA") to conduct a review of the noise studies conducted by Barton Mines, LLC ("Applicant") for its permit applications to the Adirondack Park Agency ("APA") and the New York State Department of Conservation ("NYSDEC") to expand its garnet mining operation in Warren County, New York. The GHPOA has conveyed to us that area residents have expressed concern over their perceived increase in noise from the mine over the past several years and are concerned that the noise studies from the proposed expansion do not adequately address the potential noise impacts from the project.

The primary documents considered in this review include:

- *Sound Study*, September 2021, H2H Geosciences Engineering. ("2021 Sound Study")
- *Notice of Incomplete Permit Application*, 16 November 2021, APA. ("2021 NIPA")
- *Proposed Phase Three of Sound Study Scope of Work*, 21 March 2022, H2H Geosciences Engineering. ("March 2022 Sound Study Scope")
- SOW Comment Letter, 1 April 2022, APA.
- DEC Sound Study Review, 13 April 2022, NYSDEC. ("DEC Sound Study Review")
- *Proposed Phase Three of Sound Study Scope of Work*, 13 May 2022, H2H Geosciences Engineering. ("May 2022 Sound Study Scope")
- SOW Comment Letter, 3 June 2022, APA.
- *Response Letter to APA's June 3, 2022 Comment Letter*, 17 June 2022, H2H Geosciences Engineering. ("H2H Response Letter")

This review provides an overview of typical components to a noise study, comments on the 2021 Sound Study and the May 2022 Sound Study Scope, and recommendations. Attached to this review is a primer on acoustical terminology for reference and a copy of my CV.



# **COMPONENTS OF A NOISE STUDY**

A noise study for permitting an industrial land use such as a mining operation typically contains six core components that should be reported on. These components include:

1. A project description;
2. Discussion of applicable community noise standards and guidelines;
3. Sound monitoring methodology and results;
4. Sound propagation modeling methodology and results;
5. Mitigation recommendations and considerations; and
6. Comparison with applicable standards and guidelines and conclusions.

## **Project Description**

A project description should include where the proposed project will be located and a general description of what the existing conditions are like. It should include what the proposed operation is and details about proposed buildings and changes in terrain. An complete inventory of existing and proposed sound sources should be discussed including how, why, when, and where they will operate. Noise sensitive receptors (residences, parks, etc.) should also be identified and described.

## **Applicable Noise Standards and Guidelines**

A noise study should identify the legal and industry noise standards and guidelines that are applicable to the proposed project. This may include local, state, and federal laws, if any, along with community noise guidelines such as the World Health Organization (“WHO”) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”). This section may also contain references to relevant noise control engineering standards such as those published by the American National Standards Institute (“ANSI”) and other organizations.

## **Sound Monitoring**

Different types of sound monitoring and measurements may be needed in the course of conducting a noise study. For environmental permitting in New York, studies typically include background sound level monitoring and measurement of sound emissions from existing and proposed equipment. For either of these types of measurements, the methodology should be detailed including:

- the type, make, and model of measurement equipment;
- measurement standards or guidelines that were followed;
- environmental conditions during the measurements;
- measurement location and site descriptions;



- calibration procedure; and
- how the data were analyzed.

It is also good practice to provide a photograph of the monitor setup and surroundings.

Background measurement data is typically reported by daytime and nighttime periods and/or shorter intervals such as hourly. Before reporting the results, background data is typically scrubbed to exclude periods of precipitation, periods of high winds, periods of temperatures outside the equipment specifications, and anomalous sound sources. ANSI standards, measurement equipment specifications, and sometimes state and local regulations prescribe what data should be excluded from analysis.

Measurement data of equipment sound emissions are typically reported as sound power levels (either overall or by octave band frequency). If sound power levels are not reported, then, at least, sound pressure level by distance should be reported. A description of the operational conditions should also be provided with the sound emission data such as fan speed, vehicle speed, percent capacity, type of material being processed, etc.

## Sound Propagation Modeling

Sound propagation modeling is a calculation of the sound pressure level caused by one or multiple sources at a specified receptor location that typically accounts for the surrounding environmental conditions. The most basic of calculations would be estimating sound levels at a specific distance if the sound pressure level of a source at a given distance is known. This is the procedure described as a First Level Noise Impact Evaluation by the NYSDEC.<sup>1</sup>

For more complex sites and operations, a three-dimensional computer model is typically used to model the projected sound levels throughout the project area and at specific sensitive receptors. This type of model follows an international standard for sound propagation outdoors, namely ISO 9613-2, “Acoustics – Attenuation of sound during propagation outdoors, Part 2: General Method of Calculation.” The ISO standard states,

This part of ISO 9613 specifies an engineering method for calculating the attenuation of sound during propagation outdoors in order to predict the levels of environmental noise at a distance from a variety of sources. The method predicts the equivalent continuous A-weighted sound pressure level ... under meteorological conditions favorable to propagation from sources of known sound emissions. These conditions are for downwind propagation ... or, equivalently, propagation under a well-developed moderate ground-based temperature inversion, such as commonly occurs at night.

This type of procedure would be used to conduct what is described as a Second Level Noise Impact Evaluation by the NYSDEC.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Assessing and Mitigating Noise Impacts*, 6 October 2000, Revised: 2 February 2001, NYSDEC

Model results should be provided for locations that are specified in the applicable community noise standards and guidelines, which are most frequently sensitive receptors such as residences and at project property lines.

Lastly, it is good practice to provide the model input data and assumptions either in the body of the noise study or in an appendix, so that the study could be reproduced by others, if needed.

### ***Mitigation***

Mitigation measures included in the project design or recommended by the noise consultant should be identified and discussed in the study report. This should include when and where the mitigation will be used at the site and any specific details that are relevant (berm or barrier dimensions, for example). If the mitigation measures were not accounted for in the sound propagation model results, then their effectiveness should be quantified, if possible.

### **Comparison with Applicable Standards and Guidelines**

A noise study should conclude with a comparison of the monitor and model results with applicable standards and guidelines including identification of any mitigation that is necessary to meet the standards and guidelines.

## **REVIEW OF THE 2021 SOUND STUDY**

The 2021 Sound Study is divided into two phases. The first phase considers potential sound impacts from the operation that occurs at the mine site. The second phase considers potential sound impacts from trucks along the truck route (13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road). This section addresses both of these phases separately, and also include a general review of the study as a whole.

### **Review of General Monitoring Methodology**

It appears all measurements in the study were conducted with a Quest SoundPro (SE/DL) Class 2 sound level meters for all measurements. While a Class 2 sound level meter can be used for measuring environmental sound, Class 1 is preferred.<sup>2</sup> Class 1 sound level meters are more accurate than Class 2. Table 1 below provides the difference in tolerance limits between the two classes at a few octave band samples.

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<sup>2</sup> ANSI S12.9-2013/Part 3, "Quantities and Procedures for Description and Measurement of Environmental Sound – Part 3: Short-term Measurements with an Observer Present."



**TABLE 1: TOLERANCE LIMITS AT EXAMPLE OCTAVE BAND FREQUENCIES CLASS 1 VS CLASS 2<sup>3</sup>**

General Frequency Range Description	Frequency	Class 1 Tolerance Limits	Class 2 Tolerance Limits
Low	31.5 Hz	± 2.0 dB	± 3.5 dB
Mid	1 kHz	± 1.1 dB	± 1.4 dB
High	8 kHz	+2.1 dB, -3.1 dB	± 5.6 dB

The report states that the sound level meters were field calibrated, and the laboratory calibration certificates were provided and were up to date.

There are a few issues with the methodology and reporting of the methodology that should be noted however:

- The report does not state whether microphones were properly fitted with windscreens as they should have been for an outdoor measurement.<sup>2</sup> If windscreens were not used, this would increase wind-caused pseudo sound over the microphone which would artificially elevate sound levels and affect the basis for comparing projected sound levels to background sound levels.
- No photographs of the monitors in the field are provided, so use of wind screens or proper micrositeing of the monitors cannot be reviewed. Any future sound studies for the project should include photographs of each monitor.
- While wind speed, temperature, and other environmental conditions during the monitoring are generally described in the report, it does not describe how or where this information was collected. At a minimum, an anemometer should have been collocated with each sound level meter at microphone height to ensure that data collected when wind speeds exceed 11 miles per hour can be excluded from the analysis.<sup>2</sup>
- If any measurement standards or guidelines were used (ANSI, ISO, etc.), none were identified in the report.

## Phase One Review

Phase one generally follows a procedure described as a First Level Noise Impact Evaluation by the NYSDEC.<sup>1</sup> For this type of analysis, sound emission data is taken either from a manufacturer specification or from actual measurements of existing equipment, and the sound pressure level at specific receptors are calculated using the inverse square rule which accounts for distance only. That is, other propagation factors such as reflections, ground absorption, atmospheric absorption, attenuation due to

<sup>3</sup> IEC 61672-1, "Electroacoustics – Sound level meters – Part 1: Specifications," 2002-05

terrain, temperature inversions<sup>4</sup>, and downwind conditions are not taken into account. The calculated sound pressure levels are then compared to the measured background sound levels. There are, however, several issues with how the 2021 Sound Study carries out this procedure which are discussed below.

### ***Background Sound Levels and Mill Operation Sound Emissions***

Background sound levels were not measured. Instead, the report states that background conditions are represented by times when only the existing mill at the site is operating since. The Applicant's argument for including sound levels from the mill in background sound levels is a claim that the mill is already permitted to operate 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Sound levels while only the mill was in operation were measured for just 1.5 hours on July 27, 2020 at two locations (M-1 and M-2). There are a few issues with the "ambient" measurements, primarily that background sound levels were not actually measured, the measurement period was not long enough, and the measurement locations are not at representative locations. Additional details on these three items are provided below:

- Background sound levels were not actually measured. While the mill may be permitted to operate 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. It does not appear to actually operate all of the time, such as August 28, 2020 when the 2021 Sound Study says the mill was not in operation. At times, when the mill is not operating, background sound levels would be lower than those measured when the mill was operating, increasing the likelihood of a potential noise impact. In addition, the quarry as currently permitted only has a functional life of 8 to 12 years.<sup>5</sup> If the quarry were to cease operations in 8 to 12 years without the current permit modification, and the mill may not be needed anymore, then background conditions would be without the presence of the mill operation.
- Sound levels at M-1 and M-2 were only measured for a period of 1.5 hours. A longer monitoring period should be used to define background, particularly if the background condition being measured includes the operation of the mill. Measuring background over a longer period of time will capture potential changes in sound emissions from the mill due to changes in processes and equipment functions at the mill and variations in sound propagation due to changing environmental conditions including temperature inversions and changing wind directions. For example, the report states that winds were out of the north-northwest on July 27, which would have put M-2 downwind of the mill, potentially increasing the background levels measured when the mill was in operation.

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<sup>4</sup> Temperature inversions cause sound to bend downwards instead of up into the atmosphere typically increasing sound levels at further distances from sources.

<sup>5</sup> *Mine Permit Amendment & Modification, Barton Mines Company, LLC, Ruby Mountain Garnet Mine*, September 2021, H2H Geosciences Engineering.



- Measurement locations M-1 and M-2 are not properly sited to measure background sound levels at relevant receptors. Background sound levels should be measured at relevant receptors such as the project property line (including the property line with the wilderness area to the north), and near residential receptors to the south. Both M-1 and M-2 are well within the boundaries of the project area, closer to operational noise sources than the property boundaries, wilderness area, or residences. M-2 also appears to have been near a stream which is not an appropriate location to measure background or operational sound.

The issues described above render the data collected at M-1 and M-2 of little value for establishing background sound levels in the area which are critical to evaluate impacts per NYSDEC policy.

In addition to M-1 and M-2, sound pressure levels were monitored on each side of the mill at a distance of 50 feet from the building to quantify sound emissions from the mill. The sound levels ranged from 52.7 dBA on the east side of the building to 62.4 dBA on the north side of the building. No additional context was provided in the report that might describe why there was a 10 dB difference between two sides of the building. Also, given that the building is several stories tall and there is equipment and vents on the roof, a distance of greater than 50 feet would need to be measured to adequately account for sound emissions from the rooftop noise sources. It is likely that the 50-foot measurement locations were shielded by the building such that there was no line-of-sight to the rooftop noise sources.

### ***Equipment Sound Level Measurements***

Measurement of sound emissions from existing equipment at the site are discussed in Section 3.2.3. It provides a bulleted list of six pieces of equipment that were operating at the site on July 27, 2020, and provides sound level measurement results for five pieces of equipment in Table 1, but the sound sources listed in Table 1 do not match up with the bulleted list of sources above it. Issues with the equipment sound level measurements specifically include:

- No sound level results are provided for the Link-Belt 460 Lx excavator outfitted with hydraulic hammer, the Link-Belt 460 Lx excavator outfitted with hydraulic hammer and fitted with a sound damping blanket, the Kobelco SK 350LC excavator outfitted with hydraulic hammer, nor the Volvo A450F haul truck.
- Sound level results are provided for a Sandvik rock drill, but the rock drill is excluded from the bulleted list of sound sources.
- Sound emissions from many sources were not measured. This includes:
  - Primary rock crusher;
  - Material being loaded into the rock crusher;
  - Rock hammers;

- Breakout noise<sup>6</sup> from the mill;
- Exhaust stack noise from the mill;
- Haul trucks driving at the site;
- Trucks on the access road;
- Excavators and loaders moving material around a the site (at the base of the quarry face or moving material into piles, for example);
- Conveyors;
- Backup alarms;
- Equipment used for clearing new areas of extraction; and
- Equipment used for reclamation.

The list above may not be exhaustive but is based on our current understanding of the operation.

The equipment sound levels that are reported are at a distance of 100 to 200 feet from the source, which is appropriate, provided that the sources that were being measured at those distances are the primary source of sound at the measurement location. Also, the overall sound levels for each source reported in Table 1 are within the range of levels to be expected from that type of equipment.

Section 3.3 of the 2021 sound study summarizes results of measurements that were taken on August 28, 2020 of the quarry in full operation when the mill was not operating. The report states that winds were between 5 and 15 miles per hour with gusts as high as 20 miles per hour. As discussed in ANSI S12.9 Part 3, sound level measurements should not be made when winds exceed 11 miles per hour. Even with windscreens on microphones, it is difficult to accurately measure sound levels when winds exceed 11 miles per hour. As such, all measurements from that day should be disregarded and have no bearing on the sound assessment unless the time periods when winds were above 11 miles per hour can be excluded from the data set. This is also an apparent issue identified in the report itself with “wind rustle” being noted as the primary source of sound that day.

### ***Projected Sound Levels***

Section 3.4 of the 2021 Sound Study provides projected operational sound levels at just seven discrete locations along the property boundary which is several thousand feet in length. Some of the calculations take into account the attenuation provided by a 50-foot-tall quarry high wall the effect of which is listed as a 7 dB reduction. Based on the information in the report, it is unclear how the 7 dB reduction provided by the high wall was calculated or measured, but based on the measurements that were reported the

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<sup>6</sup> Breakout noise includes sound that travels from inside a building to outside a building through a structure and vents.



attenuation that was calculated between one side of the high wall and the other, may have accounted for more factors than the screening of the highwall itself, including attenuation due to foliage/vegetation, ground factors, and atmospheric absorption. The report states that “mitigative effects of vegetation have not been considered,” but those effects may be inherently accounted for in the measurement methodology. It is unclear based on the information provided in the report.

Under NYSDEC policy, First Level Noise Impact Evaluations should include the maximum amount of sound created by multiple activities occurring at the same time. The calculations at the seven discrete locations in the sound study only include a couple sources for each location. For example, Section A-A' only provide projected sound levels at for an excavator loading a haul truck behind the 50-foot quarry high wall, a rock drill behind the quarry high wall, and a drill at the top of the quarry high wall. The calculations do not sum the levels from each of these sources assuming they may operate simultaneously, nor do they include other sources that may operate at the site at the same time including:

- The primary rock crusher;
- Material being loaded into the rock crusher;
- Rock hammers;
- Breakout noise<sup>6</sup> from the mill;
- Exhaust stack noise from the mill;
- Haul trucks driving at the site;
- Customer trucks on the access road;
- Excavators and loaders moving material around a the site (at the base of the quarry face or moving material into piles, for example);
- Conveyors;
- Backup alarms;
- Equipment used for clearing new areas of extraction; and
- Equipment used for reclamation.

While all of this equipment may not operate simultaneously, the sound study should include a variety of scenarios of representative operations that include all of the potential sources that could operate simultaneously over the life of the project.

Section 3.6 of the report states that the highest projected sound level at the property boundary is along Section A-A' which is 54.3 dBA under the current condition and 55 dBA under the proposed expansion. As shown in Table 2, the total sound level is under reported when the sources are not summed. Total projected sound levels may be even higher once all of the sources in Section 3.2.3 of the report are accounted for. This is just one example of the calculations and summary of the calculations being incorrect. The



analysis would need to be updated for each receptor to include the total sound level from all sources.

**TABLE 2: DEMONSTRATION OF SUMMATION OF SOUND LEVELS ALONG SECTION A-A'**

<b>SOURCE</b>	<b>REPORTED SOUND LEVEL (dBA) OF CURRENT OPERATION</b>	<b>REPORTED SOUND LEVEL (dBA) WITH PROPOSED EXPANSION</b>
Excavator loading haul truck (behind 50 ft. high wall)	40.5	41.2
Rock drill (behind 50 ft. high wall)	47.3	48.0
Rock drill (top of 50 ft. high wall)	54.3	55.0
<b>Total Sound Level (just three sources listed above):</b>	<b>55.2</b>	<b>55.9</b>

### ***Mitigation***

As identified by the APA and NYSDEC, the 2021 Sound Study identifies several mitigation measures that could be used at the project site, but the report does not state that the mitigation measures will be used, nor does it discuss or quantify the potential effectiveness of the mitigation measures. In future sound studies for the Project, the mitigation plan should be expanded upon and described in detail including the quantification of the potential effectiveness of the proposed mitigation measures for those that can be quantified.

### **Phase Two Review**

Phase Two of the 2021 sound study focuses on sound emissions and projections from offsite truck traffic on 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road. Measurement of existing traffic noise and truck passbys were conducted on March 1, 2021. There are three issues with this data collection and analysis: wind speeds may have been too high, the roads were wet, and the monitors may have been improperly sited. Additional detail on these three items are provided below:

- The data reported in Phase 2 may suffer a similar issue to that identified with the August 28, 2020 data, as wind speeds during the site visit on March 1, 2021 ranged between 5 and 15 miles per hour. Based on the lack of meteorological data provided in the report, it's unclear how much of the sound level data was affected by wind speeds in excess of 11 miles per hour.
- The report states that "Roads were damp from precipitation overnight." Traffic noise is composed of two primary sources: tire-pavement interaction and engine noise. With many of the vehicles being passenger cars and light trucks, the



sound levels of this traffic noise as measured on March 1 were likely higher than would typically be measured when roads are dry because wet roads increase the sound emission of the tire-pavement interaction. This means that the sound levels of existing traffic noise in the report may be overstated and the change in sound level between existing and future scenarios may be greater than the 1.4 to 4.5 dB increase listed in the report.

- The report does not state how far back from the road the monitors were located. To be representative of a sensitive receptor, they should be located at a similar distance as the setback of nearby residences. Without this information, it is unclear if the measured and projected sound levels of traffic noise are representative of sound levels within the right-of-way or at residences along the road.

With the uncertainty of the data discussed above, one can conduct a simplified analysis to project the potential change in sound level due to Barton Mine trucks alone. For every doubling of the number of sources, average sound levels over the course of an hour would increase by 3 dB. Using the same truck trip assumptions from the 2021 Sound Study, increase from 2 truck trips per hour to 8 truck trips per hour would result in up to a 6 dB increase in sound levels from Barton's trucks alone.

## **REVIEW OF THE MAY 2022 SOUND STUDY SCOPE**

The May 2022 Sound Study Scope outlines a plan for an additional sound study, identified as Phase Three, that may have already been conducted, but is not available currently. The purpose of the additional sound study was to address feedback that was provided by the NYSDEC in the DEC Sound Study Review and by the APA in the 2021 NIPA. The scope for Phase Three addresses some of the concerns we have outlined in this memorandum, but not all of them.

### **Background and Operational Sound Level Measurements**

The scope calls for operational and background sound level measurements at six additional monitoring locations (MW-3 through MW-8) with background defined in the scope as the mill in operation, which as previously stated would not actually measure background sound levels in the area.

#### ***Timing***

Monitoring is specified to take place for 24 hours at each location. This is longer than the previous monitoring period from Phase One, but is still not long enough to account for variations in sound propagation due to changing environmental conditions. For example, for Section 94-c projects in New York, the minimum sampling time is four days.

## **Locations**

Most of the locations specified in the scope are appropriate locations for measuring background sound levels at or near relevant sensitive receptors. The one exception is MW-6 which is meant to be representative of the Siamese Wilderness area. With the primary purpose of the monitor being measurement of existing background sound levels, it would be better for this monitor to be located along the property line with the Siamese Wilderness Area rather than the location shown in Figure 1 of the scope which is approximately 700 feet within the Barton Mine property.

## **Sound Level Measurements of Operational Equipment**

The scope calls for additional measurements of operational equipment at a standardized distance of 50 feet, if possible. If possible, these measurements should collect octave band sound pressure level data in addition to the overall A-weighted sound levels should sound propagation modeling be needed in the future. This is because sound at different frequencies attenuate differently over distance.

It's not clear if the additional measurements to be taken include all operational sources. If there are other sources, such as the haul truck hauling material to the crusher, those sources should be included in the measurements as well.

## **Projections of Future Sound Levels**

The May 2022 Sound Study Scope calls for additional projections of future sound levels using the inverse square law. While additional projections of future sound levels are merited, Phase Three of the study should include a more detailed calculation beyond the inverse square law, such as sound propagation modeling that accounts for complex terrain, reflections, and additional attenuation factors, beyond distance using a standardized methodology, like ISO 9613-2. This method would align with a Second Level Noise Impact Evaluation in the NYSDEC policy and is discussed further in our recommendations below.

## **DISCUSSION**

In conducting reviews of noise studies, we often consider five factors:

1. Whether the noise assessment followed applicable professional standards;
2. Whether the noise assessment evaluated the project to appropriate community noise standards;
3. Whether the data measured or used in the assessment is representative of what would be reasonably expected given the circumstances (e.g. the type of sound source, the expected background of an area, etc.);
4. The appropriateness and potential effectiveness of proposed mitigation measures; and



5. The appropriateness of the qualifications of those conducting the assessment.

## **Professional Standards**

The 2021 Sound Study does not appear to follow professional standards in the field of acoustics in several areas that have been discussed in this memorandum. Specific examples include:

- Some sound level measurements were conducted when wind speeds exceeded 11 miles per hour, and it does not appear as though that data was excluded from the analysis. This does not align with ANSI S12.9 Part 3.<sup>2</sup>
- Sound level measurements of background traffic noise were made when roads were wet which would have resulted in elevated sound levels from tire-pavement interaction.
- It is unclear if wind screens were used on any of the outdoor measurements, and if so, what types were used.
- No photographs of the monitors were provided in the noise assessment.
- If any measurement standards or guidelines were used (ANSI, ISO, etc.), none were identified in the report.

## **Appropriate Community Noise Standards and Guidelines**

The 2021 Sound Study evaluates the project against NYSDEC policy by comparing projected sound levels to the background sound levels. It also discusses the existing APA permit conditions for the mine which calls for equipment at the site to be maintained and operated to minimize noise. To our knowledge the existing APA permit does not contain a sound level limit.

While evaluating an existing project against existing APA permit conditions and NYSDEC thresholds is appropriate, there are other guidelines that should be considered as well. The project borders the Siamese Ponds Wilderness to the north, west, and southwest. There has been little consideration in the 2021 Sound Study of noise standards or guidelines related to the sensitivity of the wilderness area. The Adirondack State Land Master Plan provides the following definition of wilderness:

A wilderness area, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man--where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. A wilderness area is further defined to mean an area of state land or water having a primeval character, without significant improvement or permanent human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve, enhance and restore, where necessary, its natural conditions, and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least ten thousand acres of contiguous land

and water or is of sufficient size and character as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value.

Two elements that should be considered is the potential impact of noise on the “outstanding opportunities for solitude” and the natural resource that is the wilderness’s soundscape.

The National Park Service is charged with protecting natural sounds in lands that they manage. One way the Natural Sounds and Night Skies Division assesses potential impact is through quantifying the percent of time that anthropogenic sounds are audible in protected areas and quantifying  $L_{nat}$  which is the sound level of just natural sounds in the area. This type of method could be applied to the proposed project to define the natural sound level within the wilderness area for comparison to the existing and projected sound levels from the project. ANSI S12.100, “Methods to Define and Measure the Residual Sound in Protected Natural and Quiet Residential Areas” provides a similar approach which could be used for this project.

The method discussed in the previous paragraph also aligns with the World Health Organization’s (WHO) Guidelines for Community Noise (2000). The WHO guidelines provide recommended values for community noise for specific environments based the potential effect. In this case, for a wilderness areas, the WHO guidelines state that “Existing quiet outdoor areas should be preserved and the ratio of intruding noise to natural background sound should be kept low.”

Given this information, an evaluation of the existing natural sound levels in the adjacent Siamese Ponds Wilderness and a comparison to the existing and projected future sound levels from the project would be prudent. The 2021 Sound Study does not provide this type of analysis, nor does it appear to be planned in the May 2022 Sound Study Scope.

## **Representativeness of Presented Data**

Some of the data presented in the 2021 Sound Study is reasonable and aligns with expected values. For example, the overall sound levels for each source reported in Table 1 are within the range of levels to be expected from that type of equipment.

Some of the data, however, is not representative of values that may be expected. Specifically:

- The total projected sound level at receptors was not calculated. Only projected sound levels from individual sources were provided.
- The sound levels that were presented as background were not background because they included the operation of the mill.
- Background sound levels were not measured at relevant property line or residential locations.



- Sound emission data and projections are missing for many sources and operations as detailed on Pages 7-9 of this memorandum.

Perhaps the most problematic issue with the 2021 Sound Study is that it does not assess the cumulative impact of all of the operations at the mine. By the Applicant including sound from the mill in the background sound level measurements and by not accounting for all sources that operate at the site in the projections, the cumulative impact of the mine is not assessed and, in fact, allows for a ratcheting up of ever increasing sound levels over time, otherwise described as noise creep. This effect would only further exacerbate the GHPOAs concerns about the residents' perceptions that sound levels have been increasing over the years.

In order for the data to be representative of the potential impact of the project, the following scenarios should be quantified, analyzed, and compared:

- Background sound levels in the area excluding any sources at the project site.
- Existing sound levels in the area including all sources that can operate at the project site simultaneously. This may involve multiple modeled scenarios.
- Future sound levels in the area including all sources that can operate at the project simultaneously. This may involve multiple modeled scenarios including the varying terrain over the life of the project.

## **Appropriateness and Effectiveness of Mitigation Measures**

With the existing APA permit for the project calling for the noise to be minimized, evaluation of appropriate mitigation measures should be included in the sound study. It is not included in the 2021 Sound Study. The study contemplated using temporary mobile noise barriers near the drilling operations. The study should indicate where the barriers should be located relative to the drill and sensitive receptors, when the barrier should be used depending on where the drill is operating, the recommended dimensions and specifications of the barrier, and the expected reduction in sound level (total and from the drill alone) if a barrier is used. The study also contemplates enclosing the drill with absorptive material and constructing a berm near the residual mineral expansion area. The effectiveness of both of these mitigation measures should be evaluated and stated in a sound study.

Other mitigation options should be considered as well including:

- Planning routes for mobile equipment, including trucks, in a circular pattern to minimize the need to use backup alarms.
- Limiting the number of drills and rock hammers that can operate simultaneously.
- Leave the quarry high wall in place for the life of the project.

- Maintaining forested areas surrounding the extraction area such that line-of-sight remains blocked to nearby property boundaries and residences.
- Use of a noise reducing shroud on the drills and rock hammers.
- Reducing or eliminating nighttime operations.
- Limiting the hours of operations to weekdays.
- Public notification of scheduled blasts.

## **Qualifications of the Sound Study Consultant**

The 2021 Sound Study was conducted by H2H Geoscience Engineering (“H2H”). We are unfamiliar with their expertise in noise control engineering. Noise control engineering is a specialized field that requires experience beyond that of a typical professional engineering certification. Institute of Noise Control Engineering (INCE) Board Certification is the formal recognition of one’s professional capability in noise control engineering. Based on a search of the INCE directory, there are no INCE Board Certified staff at H2H nor any members of INCE at H2H. Similarly, a search of the Acoustical Society of America Directory, and the National Council of Acoustical Consultants yields no staff at H2H.

Given the information currently available to us, we are unable to confirm that the author of the 2021 Sound Study is qualified in the area of noise control engineering.

## **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The proposed project would allow for the expansion of the extraction area from 28.8 acres to 69 acres, an expansion of the residual mineral pile by 56.4 acres, increasing blasting from two to three times per month to six times per month, and continuation of the project as a whole until the year 2095. A project of this size and complexity merits a more detailed noise assessment that considers the potential cumulative impacts throughout the project area including property boundaries, residences, and the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area.

The 2021 Sound Study and May 2022 Sound Study Scope do not meet acceptable standards for conducting noise studies and are inadequate to characterize the potential cumulative noise impacts of the project. As currently conducted, the 2021 Sound Study allows for noise creep over time by comparing projected sound levels to background sound levels that include existing noise sources at the mine. We recommend that a more detailed noise assessment be conducted that includes:

1. An inventory of existing and proposed sound sources at the project site including how, why, when, and where they will operate including sound power levels that are either from the manufacturer or derived from on-site measurements. Note that some equipment may require multiple sound power ratings for different operations and conditions. For example, the sound power level of a haul truck



descending into the extraction area, may be different than ascending, idling, loading, or unloading.

2. Identification of all sensitive receptors and land uses including residences, wilderness areas, and parks, among others.
3. Identification and discussion of applicable community noise standards and guidelines including NYSDEC policy, WHO community noise guidelines, and consideration of potential impacts to wilderness areas.
4. Continuous long-term (5 to 10 days) background sound level monitoring at property boundaries, nearby residential locations, and in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area. Collected sound level data should be analyzed to exclude periods of precipitation, low temperatures (below 14°F), and high winds (greater than 11 miles per hour). Each monitor location should also have an anemometer to log wind speed at microphone height for the duration of the monitoring period. Background monitoring should exclude all existing noise sources at the project site. An operational monitoring period may also be conducted with existing noise sources operating at the site.
5. Sound propagation modeling that follows ISO 9613-2, “Acoustics – Attenuation of sound during propagation outdoors – Part 2: General method of calculation.” Sound propagation in a three-dimensional computer model that uses the ISO standard allows for calculation of sound levels throughout the project area including the entire property line, residences, and in the wilderness area. Per the ISO standard, this modeling would account for a moderate temperature inversion, or equivalently a moderate downwind condition. Smooth vertical rock faces can be modeled as reflective surfaces and densely forested areas that will remain densely forested can be included for attenuation effects. Modeling should be conducted for each phase of extraction (i.e. changing terrain and location of noise sources) and include sound emissions from all sources at the project site that could operate simultaneously to assess the total potential impact from each phase including clearing and reclamation.
6. An evaluation of mitigation options that can be implemented to reduce potential noise impacts at sensitive receptors including residences, property boundaries, and the wilderness area. Mitigation options that can be quantified and included in the sound propagation model should be, including barriers, berms, and sound level reductions due to other elements (e.g. enclosures, shrouds, etc.). Mitigation options should include those necessary to meet applicable standards and guidelines, but also generally available mitigation measures to minimize noise per the project’s existing APA permit.
7. Qualifications of the preparer(s)



## APPENDIX A. ACOUSTICS PRIMER

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### Expressing Sound in Decibel Levels

The varying air pressure that constitutes sound can be characterized in many different ways. The human ear is the basis for the metrics that are used in acoustics. Normal human hearing is sensitive to sound fluctuations over an enormous range of pressures, from about 20 micropascals (the “threshold of audibility”) to about 20 pascals (the “threshold of pain”).<sup>7</sup> This factor of one million in sound pressure difference is challenging to convey in engineering units. Instead, sound pressure is converted to sound “levels” in units of “decibels” (dB, named after Alexander Graham Bell). Once a measured sound is converted to dB, it is denoted as a level with the letter “L”.

The conversion from sound pressure in pascals to sound level in dB is a four-step process. First, the sound wave’s measured amplitude is squared and the mean is taken. Second, a ratio is taken between the mean square sound pressure and the square of the threshold of audibility (20 micropascals). Third, using the logarithm function, the ratio is converted to factors of 10. The final result is multiplied by 10 to give the decibel level. By this decibel scale, sound levels range from 0 dB at the threshold of audibility to 120 dB at the threshold of pain.

Typical sound sources, and their sound pressure levels, are listed on the scale in Figure 1.

### Human Response to Sound Levels: Apparent Loudness

For every 20 dB increase in sound level, the sound pressure increases by a *factor* of 10; the sound *level* range from 0 dB to 120 dB covers 6 factors of 10, or one million, in sound *pressure*. However, for an increase of 10 dB in sound *level* as measured by a meter, humans perceive an approximate doubling of apparent loudness: to the human ear, a sound level of 70 dB sounds about “twice as loud” as a sound level of 60 dB. Smaller changes in sound level, less than 3 dB up or down, are generally not perceptible.

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<sup>7</sup> The pascal is a measure of pressure in the metric system. In Imperial units, they are themselves very small: one pascal is only 145 millionths of a pound per square inch (psi). The sound pressure at the threshold of audibility is only 3 one-billionths of one psi; at the threshold of pain, it is about 3 one-thousandths of one psi.



FIGURE 1: A SCALE OF SOUND PRESSURE LEVELS FOR TYPICAL SOUND SOURCES

## Frequency Spectrum of Sound

The “frequency” of a sound is the rate at which it fluctuates in time, expressed in Hertz (Hz), or cycles per second. Very few sounds occur at only one frequency: most sound contains energy at many different frequencies, and it can be broken down into different frequency divisions, or bands. These bands are similar to musical pitches, from low tones to high tones. The most common division is the standard octave band. An octave is the range of frequencies whose upper frequency limit is twice its lower frequency limit, exactly like an octave in music. An octave band is identified by its center frequency: each successive band’s center frequency is twice as high (one octave) as the previous band. For example, the 500 Hz octave band includes all sound whose frequencies range between 354 Hz (Hertz, or cycles per second) and 707 Hz. The next band is centered at 1,000 Hz with a range between 707 Hz and 1,414 Hz. The range of human hearing is divided into 10 standard octave bands: 31.5 Hz, 63 Hz, 125 Hz, 250 Hz, 500 Hz, 1,000 Hz, 2,000 Hz, 4,000 Hz, 8,000 Hz, and 16,000 Hz. For analyses that require finer frequency detail, each octave-band can be subdivided. A commonly-used subdivision creates three smaller bands within each octave band, or so-called 1/3-octave bands.

## Human Response to Frequency: Weighting of Sound Levels

The human ear is not equally sensitive to sounds of all frequencies. Sounds at some frequencies seem louder than others, despite having the same decibel level as measured by a sound level meter. In particular, human hearing is much more sensitive to medium pitches (from about 500 Hz to about 4,000 Hz) than to very low or very high pitches. For example, a tone measuring 80 dB at 500 Hz (a medium pitch) sounds quite a bit louder than a tone measuring 80 dB at 60 Hz (a very low pitch). The frequency response of normal human hearing ranges from 20 Hz to 20,000 Hz. Below 20 Hz, sound pressure fluctuations are not “heard”, but sometimes can be “felt”. This is known as “infrasound”. Likewise, above 20,000 Hz, sound can no longer be heard by humans; this is known as “ultrasound”. As humans age, they tend to lose the ability to hear higher frequencies first; many adults do not hear very well above about 16,000 Hz. Most natural and man-made sound occurs in the range from about 40 Hz to about 4,000 Hz. Some insects and birdsongs reach to about 8,000 Hz.

To adjust measured sound pressure levels so that they mimic human hearing response, sound level meters apply filters, known as “frequency weightings”, to the signals. There are several defined weighting scales, including “A”, “B”, “C”, “D”, “G”, and “Z”. The most common weighting scale used in environmental noise analysis and regulation is A-weighting. This weighting represents the sensitivity of the human ear to sounds of low to moderate level. It attenuates sounds with frequencies below 1000 Hz and above 4000 Hz; it amplifies very slightly sounds between 1000 Hz and 4000 Hz, where the human ear is particularly sensitive. The C-weighting scale is sometimes used to describe louder sounds. The B- and D- scales are seldom used. All of these frequency weighting scales are normalized to the average human hearing response at 1000 Hz: at this frequency,



the filters neither attenuate nor amplify. G-weighting is a standardized weighting used to evaluate infrasound.

When a reported sound level has been filtered using a frequency weighting, the letter is appended to “dB”. For example, sound with A-weighting is usually denoted “dBA”. When no filtering is applied, the level is denoted “dB” or “dBZ”. The letter is also appended as a subscript to the level indicator “L”, for example “L<sub>A</sub>” for A-weighted levels.

## Time Response of Sound Level Meters

Because sound levels can vary greatly from one moment to the next, the time over which sound is measured can influence the value of the levels reported. Often, sound is measured in real time, as it fluctuates. In this case, acousticians apply a so-called “time response” to the sound level meter, and this time response is often part of regulations for measuring sound. If the sound level is varying slowly, over a few seconds, “Slow” time response is applied, with a time constant of one second. If the sound level is varying quickly (for example, if brief events are mixed into the overall sound), “Fast” time response can be applied, with a time constant of one-eighth of a second.<sup>8</sup> The time response setting for a sound level measurement is indicated with the subscript “S” for Slow and “F” for Fast: L<sub>S</sub> or L<sub>F</sub>. A sound level meter set to Fast time response will indicate higher sound levels than one set to Slow time response when brief events are mixed into the overall sound, because it can respond more quickly.

In some cases, the maximum sound level that can be generated by a source is of concern. Likewise, the minimum sound level occurring during a monitoring period may be required. To measure these, the sound level meter can be set to capture and hold the highest and lowest levels measured during a given monitoring period. This is represented by the subscript “max”, denoted as “L<sub>max</sub>”. One can define a “max” level with Fast response L<sub>Fmax</sub> (1/8-second time constant), Slow time response L<sub>Smax</sub> (1-second time constant), or Continuous Equivalent level over a specified time period L<sub>EQmax</sub>.

## Accounting for Changes in Sound Over Time

A sound level meter’s time response settings are useful for continuous monitoring. However, they are less useful in summarizing sound levels over longer periods. To do so, acousticians apply simple statistics to the measured sound levels, resulting in a set of defined types of sound level related to averages over time. An example is shown in Figure 2. The sound level at each instant of time is the grey trace going from left to right. Over the total time it was measured (1 hour in the figure), the sound energy spends certain fractions of time near various levels, ranging from the minimum (about 27 dB in the figure) to the maximum (about 65 dB in the figure). The simplest descriptor is the average sound level, known as the Equivalent Continuous Sound Level. Statistical levels

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<sup>8</sup> There is a third time response defined by standards, the “Impulse” response. This response was defined to enable use of older, analog meters when measuring very brief sounds; it is no longer in common use.

are used to determine for what percentage of time the sound is louder than any given level. These levels are described in the following sections.

## Equivalent Continuous Sound Level - $L_{eq}$

One straightforward, common way of describing sound levels is in terms of the Continuous Equivalent Sound Level, or  $L_{eq}$ . The  $L_{eq}$  is the average sound pressure level over a defined period of time, such as one hour or one day.  $L_{eq}$  is the most commonly used descriptor in noise standards and regulations.  $L_{eq}$  is representative of the overall sound to which a person is exposed. Because of the logarithmic calculation of decibels,  $L_{eq}$  tends to favor higher sound levels: loud and infrequent sources have a larger impact on the resulting average sound level than quieter but more frequent sounds. For example, in Figure 2, even though the sound level spends most of the time near about 34 dBA, the  $L_{eq}$  is 41 dBA, having been “inflated” by the maximum level of 65 dBA and other occasional spikes over the course of the hour.

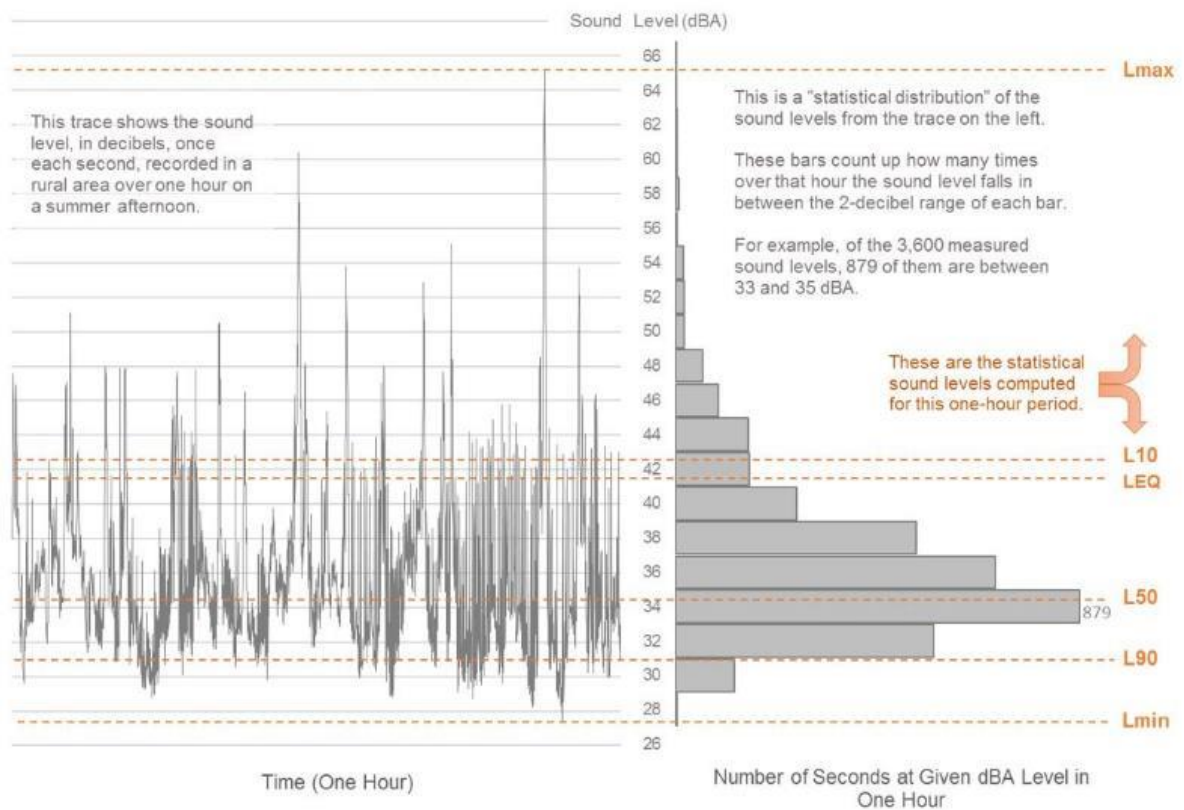


FIGURE 2: EXAMPLE OF DESCRIPTIVE TERMS OF SOUND MEASUREMENT OVER TIME

## Percentile Sound Levels – $L_n$

Percentile sound levels describe the statistical distribution of sound levels over time. “ $L_n$ ” is the level above which the sound spends “n” percent of the time. For example,  $L_{90}$  (sometimes called the “residual base level”) is the sound level exceeded 90% of the time: the sound is louder than  $L_{90}$  most of the time.  $L_{10}$  is the sound level that is



exceeded only 10% of the time.  $L_{50}$  (the “median level”) is exceeded 50% of the time: half of the time the sound is louder than the  $L_{50}$ , and half the time it is quieter than the  $L_{50}$ . Note that the  $L_{50}$  (median) and  $L_{eq}$  (mean) are not always the same, for reasons described in the previous section.

The  $L_{90}$  is the sound that persists for longer periods, and below which the overall sound level seldom falls. It tends to filter out other short-term environmental sounds that aren’t part of the source being investigated.  $L_{10}$  represents the higher, but less frequent, sound levels. These could include such events as barking dogs, vehicles driving by and aircraft flying overhead, gusts of wind, and work operations.  $L_{90}$  represents the background sound that is present when these event sounds are excluded.

Note that if one sound source is very constant and dominates the soundscape in an area, all of the descriptive sound levels mentioned here tend toward the same value. It is when the sound is varying widely from one moment to the next that the statistical descriptors are useful.

## **APPENDIX B. EDDIE DUNCAN'S CV**

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**EDDIE DUNCAN,  
INCE BD. CERT.**

Senior Director

**EXPERIENCE** | 20 Years

**EDUCATION** | MS, Environmental Studies, Green Mountain College;  
BS, Engineering Science, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

**CERTIFICATIONS** | Institute of Noise Control Engineering, Board Certified;  
Acoustical Society of America, Member

## BIO

Eddie Duncan conducts noise assessments for a wide range of public and private organizations and develops solutions to mitigate noise impacts. He is involved in all aspects of environmental noise and noise control engineering projects including measurement, analysis, modeling, design, testimony, policy development, stakeholder discussions, and project management. Eddie has two decades of experience in computer modeling and monitoring of environmental noise and has conducted noise analyses for projects from many different industries, some of which include parks and tourism, mining, renewable energy, power transmission, transportation, commercial developments, and residential developments.

## PROJECT EXPERIENCE

**NPS Natural Sounds Valuation Project.** Worked with a multi-disciplinary team to develop a study that is designed to assess the value of natural and historical sounds in National Parks. Researched and selected appropriate acoustical metrics to be used in the study. Directed the development of field-tested audio files with layered anthropogenic noise that would be used in a stated preference choice experiment for the study. The Natural Sounds and Night Skies Division will use the results of the study to provide value context to the natural and historical sounds they are charged with protecting. (2015-2021)

**Oak Hill Mine, Lewis, New York.** Managed a noise assessment of an existing wollastonite quarry that was planning to add new processing equipment to its operation. Reviewed the existing permit with the Adirondack Park Agency (APA). Measured background sound levels at neighboring residential areas and the sound emissions of the existing equipment at the site. Conducted sound propagation modeling of the existing and proposed operations to predict the sound levels throughout the area. Consulted with the APA and NYCO Minerals regarding mitigation options to reduce potential noise impacts in the surrounding area. (2020)

**Northeast Materials Group Crushing Operation, Graniteville, Vermont.** Managed a noise assessment of a proposed crushing operation at Rock of Ages Quarry which was seeking an Act 250 permit. Conducted background sound level monitoring and equipment noise emission measurements. Conducted sound propagation modeling of operational noise. Developed mitigation strategies to reduce potential noise impacts on the surrounding community. Provided expert testimony before the District Commission and the Vermont Superior Court, Environmental Division. (2017-2019)

**NCHRP 25-52 Meteorological Effects on Roadway Noise.** Assisted with project management, analysis, and reporting for a TRB project to measure and document the meteorological effects on roadway sound propagation under different atmospheric conditions. The project helped develop best practices and provide guidance on how to quantify meteorological effects on roadway noise propagation and explain those effects to the public. (2018)

**Talc Processing Facility, Ludlow, Vermont.** Managed a noise assessment of Imerys Talc Vermont's Genesis Project, a talc processing facility. The assessment included background sound level monitoring, sound level measurements of existing equipment, sound propagation modeling of over 50 sources to predict existing and future sound levels throughout the project area, and mitigation development. The assessment compared projected sound levels with local and state laws for environmental permitting. (2015-2017)

**NPS CadnaA Training Course.** Developed and provided a training course in the sound propagation modeling software, CadnaA for staff at the Natural Sounds and Night Skies Division of the National Park Service. (2015)

**Waterfront Park, Burlington, Vermont.** Consulted with the City of Burlington on noise policies and mitigation for events at Waterfront Park in support of their proposed Act 250 Permit Amendments. Reviewed existing noise policies and proposed new noise policies for events at the park. Provided a technical comparison of the implications between the existing and proposed policies in the context of Vermont's Act 250 criteria. (2014)

**Chaves Quarry, Londonderry, Vermont.** Conducted short-term sound level measurements of pre-construction background sound levels. Modeled the projected sound levels from the proposed operations at a nearby residences and recommended mitigation measures to reduce the noise impact of the project. Provided a pre-construction noise impact assessment. Provided testimony before the District Commission and before the Environmental Division of Vermont Superior Court. Analyzed post-construction sound levels for the purpose of assessing compliance with permit conditions. Authored a post-construction compliance monitoring report. (2014)

**Circus Smirkus Summer Camp, Greensboro, Vermont.** Conducted a noise impact assessment of a proposed summer camp. The assessment included pre-construction monitoring of background sound levels, modeling projected sound levels at nearby residences from camp sources, and mitigation recommendations. Sound sources incorporated into the model included a kitchen exhaust fan, performances in circus tents,



outdoor play areas, and breakout noise from the dining hall. Provided testimony in support of the study before the District Commission. (2013)

**Town of Royalton Gravel Pit, Royalton, Vermont.** Monitored sound levels throughout a community near a town gravel pit that was proposing to expand operations. Coordinated operation of equipment including a screener, loader, and haul truck during the monitoring period. Provided a letter to the client reporting the monitoring results for their use in the Act 250 permitting process. (2013)

**Natural Sound Level Data Analysis, Mount Rainier National Park.** Analyzed long-term sound level monitoring data according to NPS methodologies to assess the natural sound level, that is the sound level less anthropogenic noise, in Mount Rainier National Park. (2011)

**Edmunds Asphalt, Franklin, New Hampshire.** Modeled existing background sound levels due to traffic noise and projected sound levels from the proposed installation of an asphalt plant at an existing gravel operation. Developed mitigation recommendations to reduce noise impact at nearby residences. Provided report and testimony to the local planning board. (2011)

**Ridge Road Quarry, Randolph, Vermont.** Monitored existing background levels around a proposed gravel pit site. Modeled the projected sound levels from the proposed operation at nearby residences. Recommended mitigation measures to reduce the noise impact of the project and provided a summary of the results and recommendations in a report. Provided testimony before the local planning board and the District Environmental Commission. (2010)

**Cochran Gravel Pit, Morristown, Vermont.** Conducted a noise demonstration before the public and the District Commission at an existing gravel pit that was proposing to expand its operations. Developed a noise demonstration protocol detailing what equipment would be operating during the measurements and where monitoring would be conducted. Provided a report of sound levels monitored during the noise demonstration for the client's use in the Act 250 permitting process. (2010)

**Carrara Gravel Pit, East Middlebury, Vermont.** Worked with the developer and the community to establish a protocol for conducting the noise impact assessment for a proposed gravel pit expansion. Met with a community group and the developer on several occasions to provide noise assessment updates and to discuss community noise issues. Monitored existing background sound levels in the surrounding community and existing operational sound levels of a gravel pit. Modeled the sound levels from the proposed expansion of the gravel pit and proposed mitigation to meet the local standard and community requests. Provided a report and testimony to the local planning board. (2008)

**Mapping of Hikers' Noise Exposure, Rocky Mountain National Park.** Assisted in the development of a sound propagation model that mapped traffic noise along Bear Lake Road and assessed hikers' exposure to noise. (2008)

## PUBLICATIONS

Duncan, E., et. al., Commercial Delivery Drone Routing: A Case Study of Noise Impacts, Proceedings of the Quiet Drone International e-Symposium on UAV/UAS Noise, INCE Europe & CidB, October 2020.

Duncan, E., Kaliski, K., Old, I., and Lozupone, D., Methods for Assessing Background Sound Levels during Post-Construction Compliance Monitoring within a Community, Proceedings of the 6th International Meeting on Wind Turbine Noise 2015.

Kaliski, K., Duncan, E., et al, The Massachusetts Research Study on Wind Turbine Acoustics – Methods and Goals, Proceedings of the 2014 Institute of Noise Control Engineers NOISE-CON 2014.

Duncan, E., Using Public Input to Develop Scientifically Sound Noise Pollution Policy for Vermont's Rural Land Uses and Communities, MSES Thesis, Green Mountain College, October 2013.

Duncan, E., Using Public Input to Develop Scientifically Sound Noise Pollution Policy for Vermont's Rural Land Uses and Communities: Methodology and Initial Results, Proceedings of the 2013 Institute of Noise Control Engineers NOISE-CON 2013.

Duncan, E., Sustainable Noise Pollution Policy, Proceedings of the 2012 Institute of Noise Control Engineers INTER-NOISE 2012.

Duncan, E., Protecting Wildlife from Noise Impacts: A Review of Legislation and Legal Precedents in New England and by the Federal Government, Proceedings of the 2012 Institute of Noise Control Engineers INTER-NOISE 2012.

Kaliski, K., Duncan, E., Wilson, K., and Vecherin, S., Improving Predictions of Wind Turbine Noise using PE Modeling, Proceedings of the 2011 Institute of Noise Control Engineers NOISE-CON 2011.

Duncan, E., and Kaliski, K., A Case Study in Cooperation: A Gravel Pit and Its Community, Proceedings of the 2010 Institute of Noise Control Engineers NOISE-CON 2010.

Kaliski, K., and Duncan, E., Calculating Annualized Sound Levels for a Wind Farm, Proceedings of Meetings on Acoustics (POMA), Vol. 9-159th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America/NOISE-CON 2010.

Kaliski, K., and Duncan, E., "Propagation Modeling Parameters for Wind Power Projects," Sound & Vibration Magazine, Vol. 42 No. 12, December 2008.

Kaliski, K., and Duncan, E., Propagation Modeling Parameters for Wind Turbines, Proceedings of the 2007 Institute of Noise Control Engineers NOISECON 2007.

Kaliski, K., Duncan, E., and Cowan, J., "Community and Regional Noise Mapping in the United States," Sound & Vibration Magazine, Vol. 41 No. 9, September 2007.

## LICENSES, CERTIFICATIONS, MEMBERSHIPS, AND AFFILIATIONS

- Institute of Noise Control Engineering
  - Board Certified, 2009-Current
- Acoustical Society of America
  - Member of the Technical Committee on Architectural Acoustics, 2007-2018

# Garnet Hill

## Property Owners Association

GarnetHillPOA@gmail.com

December 19, 2022

Via email c/o [stephanie.petith@apa.ny.gov](mailto:stephanie.petith@apa.ny.gov) and U.S. Mail

John M. Burth  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, New York 12977

Via email to [beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:beth.magee@dec.ny.gov) and U. S. Mail

Beth Magee  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 5  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, New York 12885

Re: Expert Review and Recommendations by RSG on the Noise Studies by the Applicant for  
APA Project 2021-245: Barton Mines Proposed Expansion, Town of Johnsbury, Warren County

Dear Mr. Burth and Ms. Magee:

On behalf of the Garnet Hill Property Owners Association, we hereby submit the attached December 16, 2022 review and recommendations of RSG on the referenced matter. RSG is an engineering firm. The principal of RSG who authored the attached review and set forth his expert recommendations is Mr. Eddie Duncan, a senior Director of RSG, and a board-certified noise control engineer.

We submit these comments for your consideration of the pending application for the proposed expansion by Barton Mines Corporation, LLC ("Barton") of the Ruby Mountain mine in the Town of Johnsbury, Warren County. This review by RSG supplements prior submissions by the Garnet Hill Property Owners Association on this pending application.

As explained in the attached expert review, Barton's noise analysis is seriously flawed in several respects. We ask that you follow the six recommendations set forth by RSG before going further with the analysis of the current and future noise from Barton's operations.

Sincerely,

Joanne Strongin, President

Cc: [rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

# MEMO

**TO:** Garnet Hill Property Owners Association

**FROM:** Eddie Duncan, INCE Bd. Cert.

**DATE:** December 16, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Review of Noise Assessments for Barton Mines

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RSG was retained by the Garnet Hill Property Owners Association ("GHPOA") to conduct a review of the noise studies conducted by Barton Mines, LLC ("Applicant") for its permit applications to the Adirondack Park Agency ("APA") and the New York State Department of Conservation ("NYSDEC") to expand its garnet mining operation in Warren County, New York. The GHPOA has conveyed to us that area residents have expressed concern over their perceived increase in noise from the mine over the past several years and are concerned that the noise studies from the proposed expansion do not adequately address the potential noise impacts from the project.

The primary documents considered in this review include:

- *Sound Study*, September 2021, H2H Geosciences Engineering. ("2021 Sound Study")
- *Notice of Incomplete Permit Application*, 16 November 2021, APA. ("2021 NIPA")
- *Proposed Phase Three of Sound Study Scope of Work*, 21 March 2022, H2H Geosciences Engineering. ("March 2022 Sound Study Scope")
- SOW Comment Letter, 1 April 2022, APA.
- DEC Sound Study Review, 13 April 2022, NYSDEC. ("DEC Sound Study Review")
- *Proposed Phase Three of Sound Study Scope of Work*, 13 May 2022, H2H Geosciences Engineering. ("May 2022 Sound Study Scope")
- SOW Comment Letter, 3 June 2022, APA.
- *Response Letter to APA's June 3, 2022 Comment Letter*, 17 June 2022, H2H Geosciences Engineering. ("H2H Response Letter")

This review provides an overview of typical components to a noise study, comments on the 2021 Sound Study and the May 2022 Sound Study Scope, and recommendations. Attached to this review is a primer on acoustical terminology for reference and a copy of my CV.

# **COMPONENTS OF A NOISE STUDY**

A noise study for permitting an industrial land use such as a mining operation typically contains six core components that should be reported on. These components include:

1. A project description;
2. Discussion of applicable community noise standards and guidelines;
3. Sound monitoring methodology and results;
4. Sound propagation modeling methodology and results;
5. Mitigation recommendations and considerations; and
6. Comparison with applicable standards and guidelines and conclusions.

## **Project Description**

A project description should include where the proposed project will be located and a general description of what the existing conditions are like. It should include what the proposed operation is and details about proposed buildings and changes in terrain. An complete inventory of existing and proposed sound sources should be discussed including how, why, when, and where they will operate. Noise sensitive receptors (residences, parks, etc.) should also be identified and described.

## **Applicable Noise Standards and Guidelines**

A noise study should identify the legal and industry noise standards and guidelines that are applicable to the proposed project. This may include local, state, and federal laws, if any, along with community noise guidelines such as the World Health Organization (“WHO”) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”). This section may also contain references to relevant noise control engineering standards such as those published by the American National Standards Institute (“ANSI”) and other organizations.

## **Sound Monitoring**

Different types of sound monitoring and measurements may be needed in the course of conducting a noise study. For environmental permitting in New York, studies typically include background sound level monitoring and measurement of sound emissions from existing and proposed equipment. For either of these types of measurements, the methodology should be detailed including:

- the type, make, and model of measurement equipment;
- measurement standards or guidelines that were followed;
- environmental conditions during the measurements;
- measurement location and site descriptions;



- calibration procedure; and
- how the data were analyzed.

It is also good practice to provide a photograph of the monitor setup and surroundings.

Background measurement data is typically reported by daytime and nighttime periods and/or shorter intervals such as hourly. Before reporting the results, background data is typically scrubbed to exclude periods of precipitation, periods of high winds, periods of temperatures outside the equipment specifications, and anomalous sound sources. ANSI standards, measurement equipment specifications, and sometimes state and local regulations prescribe what data should be excluded from analysis.

Measurement data of equipment sound emissions are typically reported as sound power levels (either overall or by octave band frequency). If sound power levels are not reported, then, at least, sound pressure level by distance should be reported. A description of the operational conditions should also be provided with the sound emission data such as fan speed, vehicle speed, percent capacity, type of material being processed, etc.

## Sound Propagation Modeling

Sound propagation modeling is a calculation of the sound pressure level caused by one or multiple sources at a specified receptor location that typically accounts for the surrounding environmental conditions. The most basic of calculations would be estimating sound levels at a specific distance if the sound pressure level of a source at a given distance is known. This is the procedure described as a First Level Noise Impact Evaluation by the NYSDEC.<sup>1</sup>

For more complex sites and operations, a three-dimensional computer model is typically used to model the projected sound levels throughout the project area and at specific sensitive receptors. This type of model follows an international standard for sound propagation outdoors, namely ISO 9613-2, "Acoustics – Attenuation of sound during propagation outdoors, Part 2: General Method of Calculation." The ISO standard states,

This part of ISO 9613 specifies an engineering method for calculating the attenuation of sound during propagation outdoors in order to predict the levels of environmental noise at a distance from a variety of sources. The method predicts the equivalent continuous A-weighted sound pressure level ... under meteorological conditions favorable to propagation from sources of known sound emissions. These conditions are for downwind propagation ... or, equivalently, propagation under a well-developed moderate ground-based temperature inversion, such as commonly occurs at night.

This type of procedure would be used to conduct what is described as a Second Level Noise Impact Evaluation by the NYSDEC.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Assessing and Mitigating Noise Impacts*, 6 October 2000, Revised: 2 February 2001, NYSDEC

Model results should be provided for locations that are specified in the applicable community noise standards and guidelines, which are most frequently sensitive receptors such as residences and at project property lines.

Lastly, it is good practice to provide the model input data and assumptions either in the body of the noise study or in an appendix, so that the study could be reproduced by others, if needed.

### ***Mitigation***

Mitigation measures included in the project design or recommended by the noise consultant should be identified and discussed in the study report. This should include when and where the mitigation will be used at the site and any specific details that are relevant (berm or barrier dimensions, for example). If the mitigation measures were not accounted for in the sound propagation model results, then their effectiveness should be quantified, if possible.

### **Comparison with Applicable Standards and Guidelines**

A noise study should conclude with a comparison of the monitor and model results with applicable standards and guidelines including identification of any mitigation that is necessary to meet the standards and guidelines.

## **REVIEW OF THE 2021 SOUND STUDY**

The 2021 Sound Study is divided into two phases. The first phase considers potential sound impacts from the operation that occurs at the mine site. The second phase considers potential sound impacts from trucks along the truck route (13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road). This section addresses both of these phases separately, and also include a general review of the study as a whole.

### **Review of General Monitoring Methodology**

It appears all measurements in the study were conducted with a Quest SoundPro (SE/DL) Class 2 sound level meters for all measurements. While a Class 2 sound level meter can be used for measuring environmental sound, Class 1 is preferred.<sup>2</sup> Class 1 sound level meters are more accurate than Class 2. Table 1 below provides the difference in tolerance limits between the two classes at a few octave band samples.

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<sup>2</sup> ANSI S12.9-2013/Part 3, "Quantities and Procedures for Description and Measurement of Environmental Sound – Part 3: Short-term Measurements with an Observer Present."



**TABLE 1: TOLERANCE LIMITS AT EXAMPLE OCTAVE BAND FREQUENCIES CLASS 1 VS CLASS 2<sup>3</sup>**

General Frequency Range Description	Frequency	Class 1 Tolerance Limits	Class 2 Tolerance Limits
Low	31.5 Hz	± 2.0 dB	± 3.5 dB
Mid	1 kHz	± 1.1 dB	± 1.4 dB
High	8 kHz	+2.1 dB, -3.1 dB	± 5.6 dB

The report states that the sound level meters were field calibrated, and the laboratory calibration certificates were provided and were up to date.

There are a few issues with the methodology and reporting of the methodology that should be noted however:

- The report does not state whether microphones were properly fitted with windscreens as they should have been for an outdoor measurement.<sup>2</sup> If windscreens were not used, this would increase wind-caused pseudo sound over the microphone which would artificially elevate sound levels and affect the basis for comparing projected sound levels to background sound levels.
- No photographs of the monitors in the field are provided, so use of wind screens or proper micrositeing of the monitors cannot be reviewed. Any future sound studies for the project should include photographs of each monitor.
- While wind speed, temperature, and other environmental conditions during the monitoring are generally described in the report, it does not describe how or where this information was collected. At a minimum, an anemometer should have been collocated with each sound level meter at microphone height to ensure that data collected when wind speeds exceed 11 miles per hour can be excluded from the analysis.<sup>2</sup>
- If any measurement standards or guidelines were used (ANSI, ISO, etc.), none were identified in the report.

## Phase One Review

Phase one generally follows a procedure described as a First Level Noise Impact Evaluation by the NYSDEC.<sup>1</sup> For this type of analysis, sound emission data is taken either from a manufacturer specification or from actual measurements of existing equipment, and the sound pressure level at specific receptors are calculated using the inverse square rule which accounts for distance only. That is, other propagation factors such as reflections, ground absorption, atmospheric absorption, attenuation due to

<sup>3</sup> IEC 61672-1, "Electroacoustics – Sound level meters – Part 1: Specifications," 2002-05

terrain, temperature inversions<sup>4</sup>, and downwind conditions are not taken into account. The calculated sound pressure levels are then compared to the measured background sound levels. There are, however, several issues with how the 2021 Sound Study carries out this procedure which are discussed below.

### ***Background Sound Levels and Mill Operation Sound Emissions***

Background sound levels were not measured. Instead, the report states that background conditions are represented by times when only the existing mill at the site is operating since. The Applicant's argument for including sound levels from the mill in background sound levels is a claim that the mill is already permitted to operate 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Sound levels while only the mill was in operation were measured for just 1.5 hours on July 27, 2020 at two locations (M-1 and M-2). There are a few issues with the "ambient" measurements, primarily that background sound levels were not actually measured, the measurement period was not long enough, and the measurement locations are not at representative locations. Additional details on these three items are provided below:

- Background sound levels were not actually measured. While the mill may be permitted to operate 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. It does not appear to actually operate all of the time, such as August 28, 2020 when the 2021 Sound Study says the mill was not in operation. At times, when the mill is not operating, background sound levels would be lower than those measured when the mill was operating, increasing the likelihood of a potential noise impact. In addition, the quarry as currently permitted only has a functional life of 8 to 12 years.<sup>5</sup> If the quarry were to cease operations in 8 to 12 years without the current permit modification, and the mill may not be needed anymore, then background conditions would be without the presence of the mill operation.
- Sound levels at M-1 and M-2 were only measured for a period of 1.5 hours. A longer monitoring period should be used to define background, particularly if the background condition being measured includes the operation of the mill. Measuring background over a longer period of time will capture potential changes in sound emissions from the mill due to changes in processes and equipment functions at the mill and variations in sound propagation due to changing environmental conditions including temperature inversions and changing wind directions. For example, the report states that winds were out of the north-northwest on July 27, which would have put M-2 downwind of the mill, potentially increasing the background levels measured when the mill was in operation.

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<sup>4</sup> Temperature inversions cause sound to bend downwards instead of up into the atmosphere typically increasing sound levels at further distances from sources.

<sup>5</sup> *Mine Permit Amendment & Modification, Barton Mines Company, LLC, Ruby Mountain Garnet Mine*, September 2021, H2H Geosciences Engineering.





- Measurement locations M-1 and M-2 are not properly sited to measure background sound levels at relevant receptors. Background sound levels should be measured at relevant receptors such as the project property line (including the property line with the wilderness area to the north), and near residential receptors to the south. Both M-1 and M-2 are well within the boundaries of the project area, closer to operational noise sources than the property boundaries, wilderness area, or residences. M-2 also appears to have been near a stream which is not an appropriate location to measure background or operational sound.

The issues described above render the data collected at M-1 and M-2 of little value for establishing background sound levels in the area which are critical to evaluate impacts per NYSDEC policy.

In addition to M-1 and M-2, sound pressure levels were monitored on each side of the mill at a distance of 50 feet from the building to quantify sound emissions from the mill. The sound levels ranged from 52.7 dBA on the east side of the building to 62.4 dBA on the north side of the building. No additional context was provided in the report that might describe why there was a 10 dB difference between two sides of the building. Also, given that the building is several stories tall and there is equipment and vents on the roof, a distance of greater than 50 feet would need to be measured to adequately account for sound emissions from the rooftop noise sources. It is likely that the 50-foot measurement locations were shielded by the building such that there was no line-of-sight to the rooftop noise sources.

### ***Equipment Sound Level Measurements***

Measurement of sound emissions from existing equipment at the site are discussed in Section 3.2.3. It provides a bulleted list of six pieces of equipment that were operating at the site on July 27, 2020, and provides sound level measurement results for five pieces of equipment in Table 1, but the sound sources listed in Table 1 do not match up with the bulleted list of sources above it. Issues with the equipment sound level measurements specifically include:

- No sound level results are provided for the Link-Belt 460 Lx excavator outfitted with hydraulic hammer, the Link-Belt 460 Lx excavator outfitted with hydraulic hammer and fitted with a sound damping blanket, the Kobelco SK 350LC excavator outfitted with hydraulic hammer, nor the Volvo A450F haul truck.
- Sound level results are provided for a Sandvik rock drill, but the rock drill is excluded from the bulleted list of sound sources.
- Sound emissions from many sources were not measured. This includes:
  - Primary rock crusher;
  - Material being loaded into the rock crusher;
  - Rock hammers;

- Breakout noise<sup>6</sup> from the mill;
- Exhaust stack noise from the mill;
- Haul trucks driving at the site;
- Trucks on the access road;
- Excavators and loaders moving material around a the site (at the base of the quarry face or moving material into piles, for example);
- Conveyors;
- Backup alarms;
- Equipment used for clearing new areas of extraction; and
- Equipment used for reclamation.

The list above may not be exhaustive but is based on our current understanding of the operation.

The equipment sound levels that are reported are at a distance of 100 to 200 feet from the source, which is appropriate, provided that the sources that were being measured at those distances are the primary source of sound at the measurement location. Also, the overall sound levels for each source reported in Table 1 are within the range of levels to be expected from that type of equipment.

Section 3.3 of the 2021 sound study summarizes results of measurements that were taken on August 28, 2020 of the quarry in full operation when the mill was not operating. The report states that winds were between 5 and 15 miles per hour with gusts as high as 20 miles per hour. As discussed in ANSI S12.9 Part 3, sound level measurements should not be made when winds exceed 11 miles per hour. Even with windscreens on microphones, it is difficult to accurately measure sound levels when winds exceed 11 miles per hour. As such, all measurements from that day should be disregarded and have no bearing on the sound assessment unless the time periods when winds were above 11 miles per hour can be excluded from the data set. This is also an apparent issue identified in the report itself with “wind rustle” being noted as the primary source of sound that day.

### ***Projected Sound Levels***

Section 3.4 of the 2021 Sound Study provides projected operational sound levels at just seven discrete locations along the property boundary which is several thousand feet in length. Some of the calculations take into account the attenuation provided by a 50-foot-tall quarry high wall the effect of which is listed as a 7 dB reduction. Based on the information in the report, it is unclear how the 7 dB reduction provided by the high wall was calculated or measured, but based on the measurements that were reported the

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<sup>6</sup> Breakout noise includes sound that travels from inside a building to outside a building through a structure and vents.



attenuation that was calculated between one side of the high wall and the other, may have accounted for more factors than the screening of the highwall itself, including attenuation due to foliage/vegetation, ground factors, and atmospheric absorption. The report states that “mitigative effects of vegetation have not been considered,” but those effects may be inherently accounted for in the measurement methodology. It is unclear based on the information provided in the report.

Under NYSDEC policy, First Level Noise Impact Evaluations should include the maximum amount of sound created by multiple activities occurring at the same time. The calculations at the seven discrete locations in the sound study only include a couple sources for each location. For example, Section A-A' only provide projected sound levels at for an excavator loading a haul truck behind the 50-foot quarry high wall, a rock drill behind the quarry high wall, and a drill at the top of the quarry high wall. The calculations do not sum the levels from each of these sources assuming they may operate simultaneously, nor do they include other sources that may operate at the site at the same time including:

- The primary rock crusher;
- Material being loaded into the rock crusher;
- Rock hammers;
- Breakout noise<sup>6</sup> from the mill;
- Exhaust stack noise from the mill;
- Haul trucks driving at the site;
- Customer trucks on the access road;
- Excavators and loaders moving material around a the site (at the base of the quarry face or moving material into piles, for example);
- Conveyors;
- Backup alarms;
- Equipment used for clearing new areas of extraction; and
- Equipment used for reclamation.

While all of this equipment may not operate simultaneously, the sound study should include a variety of scenarios of representative operations that include all of the potential sources that could operate simultaneously over the life of the project.

Section 3.6 of the report states that the highest projected sound level at the property boundary is along Section A-A' which is 54.3 dBA under the current condition and 55 dBA under the proposed expansion. As shown in Table 2, the total sound level is under reported when the sources are not summed. Total projected sound levels may be even higher once all of the sources in Section 3.2.3 of the report are accounted for. This is just one example of the calculations and summary of the calculations being incorrect. The

analysis would need to be updated for each receptor to include the total sound level from all sources.

**TABLE 2: DEMONSTRATION OF SUMMATION OF SOUND LEVELS ALONG SECTION A-A'**

<b>SOURCE</b>	<b>REPORTED SOUND LEVEL (dBA) OF CURRENT OPERATION</b>	<b>REPORTED SOUND LEVEL (dBA) WITH PROPOSED EXPANSION</b>
Excavator loading haul truck (behind 50 ft. high wall)	40.5	41.2
Rock drill (behind 50 ft. high wall)	47.3	48.0
Rock drill (top of 50 ft. high wall)	54.3	55.0
<b>Total Sound Level (just three sources listed above):</b>	<b>55.2</b>	<b>55.9</b>

### ***Mitigation***

As identified by the APA and NYSDEC, the 2021 Sound Study identifies several mitigation measures that could be used at the project site, but the report does not state that the mitigation measures will be used, nor does it discuss or quantify the potential effectiveness of the mitigation measures. In future sound studies for the Project, the mitigation plan should be expanded upon and described in detail including the quantification of the potential effectiveness of the proposed mitigation measures for those that can be quantified.

### **Phase Two Review**

Phase Two of the 2021 sound study focuses on sound emissions and projections from offsite truck traffic on 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road. Measurement of existing traffic noise and truck passbys were conducted on March 1, 2021. There are three issues with this data collection and analysis: wind speeds may have been too high, the roads were wet, and the monitors may have been improperly sited. Additional detail on these three items are provided below:

- The data reported in Phase 2 may suffer a similar issue to that identified with the August 28, 2020 data, as wind speeds during the site visit on March 1, 2021 ranged between 5 and 15 miles per hour. Based on the lack of meteorological data provided in the report, it's unclear how much of the sound level data was affected by wind speeds in excess of 11 miles per hour.
- The report states that "Roads were damp from precipitation overnight." Traffic noise is composed of two primary sources: tire-pavement interaction and engine noise. With many of the vehicles being passenger cars and light trucks, the



sound levels of this traffic noise as measured on March 1 were likely higher than would typically be measured when roads are dry because wet roads increase the sound emission of the tire-pavement interaction. This means that the sound levels of existing traffic noise in the report may be overstated and the change in sound level between existing and future scenarios may be greater than the 1.4 to 4.5 dB increase listed in the report.

- The report does not state how far back from the road the monitors were located. To be representative of a sensitive receptor, they should be located at a similar distance as the setback of nearby residences. Without this information, it is unclear if the measured and projected sound levels of traffic noise are representative of sound levels within the right-of-way or at residences along the road.

With the uncertainty of the data discussed above, one can conduct a simplified analysis to project the potential change in sound level due to Barton Mine trucks alone. For every doubling of the number of sources, average sound levels over the course of an hour would increase by 3 dB. Using the same truck trip assumptions from the 2021 Sound Study, increase from 2 truck trips per hour to 8 truck trips per hour would result in up to a 6 dB increase in sound levels from Barton's trucks alone.

## **REVIEW OF THE MAY 2022 SOUND STUDY SCOPE**

The May 2022 Sound Study Scope outlines a plan for an additional sound study, identified as Phase Three, that may have already been conducted, but is not available currently. The purpose of the additional sound study was to address feedback that was provided by the NYSDEC in the DEC Sound Study Review and by the APA in the 2021 NIPA. The scope for Phase Three addresses some of the concerns we have outlined in this memorandum, but not all of them.

### **Background and Operational Sound Level Measurements**

The scope calls for operational and background sound level measurements at six additional monitoring locations (MW-3 through MW-8) with background defined in the scope as the mill in operation, which as previously stated would not actually measure background sound levels in the area.

#### ***Timing***

Monitoring is specified to take place for 24 hours at each location. This is longer than the previous monitoring period from Phase One, but is still not long enough to account for variations in sound propagation due to changing environmental conditions. For example, for Section 94-c projects in New York, the minimum sampling time is four days.

## **Locations**

Most of the locations specified in the scope are appropriate locations for measuring background sound levels at or near relevant sensitive receptors. The one exception is MW-6 which is meant to be representative of the Siamese Wilderness area. With the primary purpose of the monitor being measurement of existing background sound levels, it would be better for this monitor to be located along the property line with the Siamese Wilderness Area rather than the location shown in Figure 1 of the scope which is approximately 700 feet within the Barton Mine property.

## **Sound Level Measurements of Operational Equipment**

The scope calls for additional measurements of operational equipment at a standardized distance of 50 feet, if possible. If possible, these measurements should collect octave band sound pressure level data in addition to the overall A-weighted sound levels should sound propagation modeling be needed in the future. This is because sound at different frequencies attenuate differently over distance.

It's not clear if the additional measurements to be taken include all operational sources. If there are other sources, such as the haul truck hauling material to the crusher, those sources should be included in the measurements as well.

## **Projections of Future Sound Levels**

The May 2022 Sound Study Scope calls for additional projections of future sound levels using the inverse square law. While additional projections of future sound levels are merited, Phase Three of the study should include a more detailed calculation beyond the inverse square law, such as sound propagation modeling that accounts for complex terrain, reflections, and additional attenuation factors, beyond distance using a standardized methodology, like ISO 9613-2. This method would align with a Second Level Noise Impact Evaluation in the NYSDEC policy and is discussed further in our recommendations below.

## **DISCUSSION**

In conducting reviews of noise studies, we often consider five factors:

1. Whether the noise assessment followed applicable professional standards;
2. Whether the noise assessment evaluated the project to appropriate community noise standards;
3. Whether the data measured or used in the assessment is representative of what would be reasonably expected given the circumstances (e.g. the type of sound source, the expected background of an area, etc.);
4. The appropriateness and potential effectiveness of proposed mitigation measures; and



5. The appropriateness of the qualifications of those conducting the assessment.

## **Professional Standards**

The 2021 Sound Study does not appear to follow professional standards in the field of acoustics in several areas that have been discussed in this memorandum. Specific examples include:

- Some sound level measurements were conducted when wind speeds exceeded 11 miles per hour, and it does not appear as though that data was excluded from the analysis. This does not align with ANSI S12.9 Part 3.<sup>2</sup>
- Sound level measurements of background traffic noise were made when roads were wet which would have resulted in elevated sound levels from tire-pavement interaction.
- It is unclear if wind screens were used on any of the outdoor measurements, and if so, what types were used.
- No photographs of the monitors were provided in the noise assessment.
- If any measurement standards or guidelines were used (ANSI, ISO, etc.), none were identified in the report.

## **Appropriate Community Noise Standards and Guidelines**

The 2021 Sound Study evaluates the project against NYSDEC policy by comparing projected sound levels to the background sound levels. It also discusses the existing APA permit conditions for the mine which calls for equipment at the site to be maintained and operated to minimize noise. To our knowledge the existing APA permit does not contain a sound level limit.

While evaluating an existing project against existing APA permit conditions and NYSDEC thresholds is appropriate, there are other guidelines that should be considered as well. The project borders the Siamese Ponds Wilderness to the north, west, and southwest. There has been little consideration in the 2021 Sound Study of noise standards or guidelines related to the sensitivity of the wilderness area. The Adirondack State Land Master Plan provides the following definition of wilderness:

A wilderness area, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man--where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. A wilderness area is further defined to mean an area of state land or water having a primeval character, without significant improvement or permanent human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve, enhance and restore, where necessary, its natural conditions, and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least ten thousand acres of contiguous land

and water or is of sufficient size and character as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value.

Two elements that should be considered is the potential impact of noise on the “outstanding opportunities for solitude” and the natural resource that is the wilderness’s soundscape.

The National Park Service is charged with protecting natural sounds in lands that they manage. One way the Natural Sounds and Night Skies Division assesses potential impact is through quantifying the percent of time that anthropogenic sounds are audible in protected areas and quantifying  $L_{nat}$  which is the sound level of just natural sounds in the area. This type of method could be applied to the proposed project to define the natural sound level within the wilderness area for comparison to the existing and projected sound levels from the project. ANSI S12.100, “Methods to Define and Measure the Residual Sound in Protected Natural and Quiet Residential Areas” provides a similar approach which could be used for this project.

The method discussed in the previous paragraph also aligns with the World Health Organization’s (WHO) Guidelines for Community Noise (2000). The WHO guidelines provide recommended values for community noise for specific environments based the potential effect. In this case, for a wilderness areas, the WHO guidelines state that “Existing quiet outdoor areas should be preserved and the ratio of intruding noise to natural background sound should be kept low.”

Given this information, an evaluation of the existing natural sound levels in the adjacent Siamese Ponds Wilderness and a comparison to the existing and projected future sound levels from the project would be prudent. The 2021 Sound Study does not provide this type of analysis, nor does it appear to be planned in the May 2022 Sound Study Scope.

## **Representativeness of Presented Data**

Some of the data presented in the 2021 Sound Study is reasonable and aligns with expected values. For example, the overall sound levels for each source reported in Table 1 are within the range of levels to be expected from that type of equipment.

Some of the data, however, is not representative of values that may be expected. Specifically:

- The total projected sound level at receptors was not calculated. Only projected sound levels from individual sources were provided.
- The sound levels that were presented as background were not background because they included the operation of the mill.
- Background sound levels were not measured at relevant property line or residential locations.





- Sound emission data and projections are missing for many sources and operations as detailed on Pages 7-9 of this memorandum.

Perhaps the most problematic issue with the 2021 Sound Study is that it does not assess the cumulative impact of all of the operations at the mine. By the Applicant including sound from the mill in the background sound level measurements and by not accounting for all sources that operate at the site in the projections, the cumulative impact of the mine is not assessed and, in fact, allows for a ratcheting up of ever increasing sound levels over time, otherwise described as noise creep. This effect would only further exacerbate the GHPOAs concerns about the residents' perceptions that sound levels have been increasing over the years.

In order for the data to be representative of the potential impact of the project, the following scenarios should be quantified, analyzed, and compared:

- Background sound levels in the area excluding any sources at the project site.
- Existing sound levels in the area including all sources that can operate at the project site simultaneously. This may involve multiple modeled scenarios.
- Future sound levels in the area including all sources that can operate at the project simultaneously. This may involve multiple modeled scenarios including the varying terrain over the life of the project.

## **Appropriateness and Effectiveness of Mitigation Measures**

With the existing APA permit for the project calling for the noise to be minimized, evaluation of appropriate mitigation measures should be included in the sound study. It is not included in the 2021 Sound Study. The study contemplated using temporary mobile noise barriers near the drilling operations. The study should indicate where the barriers should be located relative to the drill and sensitive receptors, when the barrier should be used depending on where the drill is operating, the recommended dimensions and specifications of the barrier, and the expected reduction in sound level (total and from the drill alone) if a barrier is used. The study also contemplates enclosing the drill with absorptive material and constructing a berm near the residual mineral expansion area. The effectiveness of both of these mitigation measures should be evaluated and stated in a sound study.

Other mitigation options should be considered as well including:

- Planning routes for mobile equipment, including trucks, in a circular pattern to minimize the need to use backup alarms.
- Limiting the number of drills and rock hammers that can operate simultaneously.
- Leave the quarry high wall in place for the life of the project.

- Maintaining forested areas surrounding the extraction area such that line-of-sight remains blocked to nearby property boundaries and residences.
- Use of a noise reducing shroud on the drills and rock hammers.
- Reducing or eliminating nighttime operations.
- Limiting the hours of operations to weekdays.
- Public notification of scheduled blasts.

## **Qualifications of the Sound Study Consultant**

The 2021 Sound Study was conducted by H2H Geoscience Engineering (“H2H”). We are unfamiliar with their expertise in noise control engineering. Noise control engineering is a specialized field that requires experience beyond that of a typical professional engineering certification. Institute of Noise Control Engineering (INCE) Board Certification is the formal recognition of one’s professional capability in noise control engineering. Based on a search of the INCE directory, there are no INCE Board Certified staff at H2H nor any members of INCE at H2H. Similarly, a search of the Acoustical Society of America Directory, and the National Council of Acoustical Consultants yields no staff at H2H.

Given the information currently available to us, we are unable to confirm that the author of the 2021 Sound Study is qualified in the area of noise control engineering.

## **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The proposed project would allow for the expansion of the extraction area from 28.8 acres to 69 acres, an expansion of the residual mineral pile by 56.4 acres, increasing blasting from two to three times per month to six times per month, and continuation of the project as a whole until the year 2095. A project of this size and complexity merits a more detailed noise assessment that considers the potential cumulative impacts throughout the project area including property boundaries, residences, and the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area.

The 2021 Sound Study and May 2022 Sound Study Scope do not meet acceptable standards for conducting noise studies and are inadequate to characterize the potential cumulative noise impacts of the project. As currently conducted, the 2021 Sound Study allows for noise creep over time by comparing projected sound levels to background sound levels that include existing noise sources at the mine. We recommend that a more detailed noise assessment be conducted that includes:

1. An inventory of existing and proposed sound sources at the project site including how, why, when, and where they will operate including sound power levels that are either from the manufacturer or derived from on-site measurements. Note that some equipment may require multiple sound power ratings for different operations and conditions. For example, the sound power level of a haul truck



descending into the extraction area, may be different than ascending, idling, loading, or unloading.

2. Identification of all sensitive receptors and land uses including residences, wilderness areas, and parks, among others.
3. Identification and discussion of applicable community noise standards and guidelines including NYSDEC policy, WHO community noise guidelines, and consideration of potential impacts to wilderness areas.
4. Continuous long-term (5 to 10 days) background sound level monitoring at property boundaries, nearby residential locations, and in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area. Collected sound level data should be analyzed to exclude periods of precipitation, low temperatures (below 14°F), and high winds (greater than 11 miles per hour). Each monitor location should also have an anemometer to log wind speed at microphone height for the duration of the monitoring period. Background monitoring should exclude all existing noise sources at the project site. An operational monitoring period may also be conducted with existing noise sources operating at the site.
5. Sound propagation modeling that follows ISO 9613-2, “Acoustics – Attenuation of sound during propagation outdoors – Part 2: General method of calculation.” Sound propagation in a three-dimensional computer model that uses the ISO standard allows for calculation of sound levels throughout the project area including the entire property line, residences, and in the wilderness area. Per the ISO standard, this modeling would account for a moderate temperature inversion, or equivalently a moderate downwind condition. Smooth vertical rock faces can be modeled as reflective surfaces and densely forested areas that will remain densely forested can be included for attenuation effects. Modeling should be conducted for each phase of extraction (i.e. changing terrain and location of noise sources) and include sound emissions from all sources at the project site that could operate simultaneously to assess the total potential impact from each phase including clearing and reclamation.
6. An evaluation of mitigation options that can be implemented to reduce potential noise impacts at sensitive receptors including residences, property boundaries, and the wilderness area. Mitigation options that can be quantified and included in the sound propagation model should be, including barriers, berms, and sound level reductions due to other elements (e.g. enclosures, shrouds, etc.). Mitigation options should include those necessary to meet applicable standards and guidelines, but also generally available mitigation measures to minimize noise per the project’s existing APA permit.
7. Qualifications of the preparer(s)

## APPENDIX A. ACOUSTICS PRIMER

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### Expressing Sound in Decibel Levels

The varying air pressure that constitutes sound can be characterized in many different ways. The human ear is the basis for the metrics that are used in acoustics. Normal human hearing is sensitive to sound fluctuations over an enormous range of pressures, from about 20 micropascals (the “threshold of audibility”) to about 20 pascals (the “threshold of pain”).<sup>7</sup> This factor of one million in sound pressure difference is challenging to convey in engineering units. Instead, sound pressure is converted to sound “levels” in units of “decibels” (dB, named after Alexander Graham Bell). Once a measured sound is converted to dB, it is denoted as a level with the letter “L”.

The conversion from sound pressure in pascals to sound level in dB is a four-step process. First, the sound wave’s measured amplitude is squared and the mean is taken. Second, a ratio is taken between the mean square sound pressure and the square of the threshold of audibility (20 micropascals). Third, using the logarithm function, the ratio is converted to factors of 10. The final result is multiplied by 10 to give the decibel level. By this decibel scale, sound levels range from 0 dB at the threshold of audibility to 120 dB at the threshold of pain.

Typical sound sources, and their sound pressure levels, are listed on the scale in Figure 1.

### Human Response to Sound Levels: Apparent Loudness

For every 20 dB increase in sound level, the sound pressure increases by a *factor* of 10; the sound *level* range from 0 dB to 120 dB covers 6 factors of 10, or one million, in sound *pressure*. However, for an increase of 10 dB in sound *level* as measured by a meter, humans perceive an approximate doubling of apparent loudness: to the human ear, a sound level of 70 dB sounds about “twice as loud” as a sound level of 60 dB. Smaller changes in sound level, less than 3 dB up or down, are generally not perceptible.

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<sup>7</sup> The pascal is a measure of pressure in the metric system. In Imperial units, they are themselves very small: one pascal is only 145 millionths of a pound per square inch (psi). The sound pressure at the threshold of audibility is only 3 one-billionths of one psi; at the threshold of pain, it is about 3 one-thousandths of one psi.



FIGURE 1: A SCALE OF SOUND PRESSURE LEVELS FOR TYPICAL SOUND SOURCES

## Frequency Spectrum of Sound

The “frequency” of a sound is the rate at which it fluctuates in time, expressed in Hertz (Hz), or cycles per second. Very few sounds occur at only one frequency: most sound contains energy at many different frequencies, and it can be broken down into different frequency divisions, or bands. These bands are similar to musical pitches, from low tones to high tones. The most common division is the standard octave band. An octave is the range of frequencies whose upper frequency limit is twice its lower frequency limit, exactly like an octave in music. An octave band is identified by its center frequency: each successive band’s center frequency is twice as high (one octave) as the previous band. For example, the 500 Hz octave band includes all sound whose frequencies range between 354 Hz (Hertz, or cycles per second) and 707 Hz. The next band is centered at 1,000 Hz with a range between 707 Hz and 1,414 Hz. The range of human hearing is divided into 10 standard octave bands: 31.5 Hz, 63 Hz, 125 Hz, 250 Hz, 500 Hz, 1,000 Hz, 2,000 Hz, 4,000 Hz, 8,000 Hz, and 16,000 Hz. For analyses that require finer frequency detail, each octave-band can be subdivided. A commonly-used subdivision creates three smaller bands within each octave band, or so-called 1/3-octave bands.

## Human Response to Frequency: Weighting of Sound Levels

The human ear is not equally sensitive to sounds of all frequencies. Sounds at some frequencies seem louder than others, despite having the same decibel level as measured by a sound level meter. In particular, human hearing is much more sensitive to medium pitches (from about 500 Hz to about 4,000 Hz) than to very low or very high pitches. For example, a tone measuring 80 dB at 500 Hz (a medium pitch) sounds quite a bit louder than a tone measuring 80 dB at 60 Hz (a very low pitch). The frequency response of normal human hearing ranges from 20 Hz to 20,000 Hz. Below 20 Hz, sound pressure fluctuations are not “heard”, but sometimes can be “felt”. This is known as “infrasound”. Likewise, above 20,000 Hz, sound can no longer be heard by humans; this is known as “ultrasound”. As humans age, they tend to lose the ability to hear higher frequencies first; many adults do not hear very well above about 16,000 Hz. Most natural and man-made sound occurs in the range from about 40 Hz to about 4,000 Hz. Some insects and birdsongs reach to about 8,000 Hz.

To adjust measured sound pressure levels so that they mimic human hearing response, sound level meters apply filters, known as “frequency weightings”, to the signals. There are several defined weighting scales, including “A”, “B”, “C”, “D”, “G”, and “Z”. The most common weighting scale used in environmental noise analysis and regulation is A-weighting. This weighting represents the sensitivity of the human ear to sounds of low to moderate level. It attenuates sounds with frequencies below 1000 Hz and above 4000 Hz; it amplifies very slightly sounds between 1000 Hz and 4000 Hz, where the human ear is particularly sensitive. The C-weighting scale is sometimes used to describe louder sounds. The B- and D- scales are seldom used. All of these frequency weighting scales are normalized to the average human hearing response at 1000 Hz: at this frequency,



the filters neither attenuate nor amplify. G-weighting is a standardized weighting used to evaluate infrasound.

When a reported sound level has been filtered using a frequency weighting, the letter is appended to “dB”. For example, sound with A-weighting is usually denoted “dBA”. When no filtering is applied, the level is denoted “dB” or “dBZ”. The letter is also appended as a subscript to the level indicator “L”, for example “L<sub>A</sub>” for A-weighted levels.

## Time Response of Sound Level Meters

Because sound levels can vary greatly from one moment to the next, the time over which sound is measured can influence the value of the levels reported. Often, sound is measured in real time, as it fluctuates. In this case, acousticians apply a so-called “time response” to the sound level meter, and this time response is often part of regulations for measuring sound. If the sound level is varying slowly, over a few seconds, “Slow” time response is applied, with a time constant of one second. If the sound level is varying quickly (for example, if brief events are mixed into the overall sound), “Fast” time response can be applied, with a time constant of one-eighth of a second.<sup>8</sup> The time response setting for a sound level measurement is indicated with the subscript “S” for Slow and “F” for Fast: L<sub>S</sub> or L<sub>F</sub>. A sound level meter set to Fast time response will indicate higher sound levels than one set to Slow time response when brief events are mixed into the overall sound, because it can respond more quickly.

In some cases, the maximum sound level that can be generated by a source is of concern. Likewise, the minimum sound level occurring during a monitoring period may be required. To measure these, the sound level meter can be set to capture and hold the highest and lowest levels measured during a given monitoring period. This is represented by the subscript “max”, denoted as “L<sub>max</sub>”. One can define a “max” level with Fast response L<sub>Fmax</sub> (1/8-second time constant), Slow time response L<sub>Smax</sub> (1-second time constant), or Continuous Equivalent level over a specified time period L<sub>EQmax</sub>.

## Accounting for Changes in Sound Over Time

A sound level meter’s time response settings are useful for continuous monitoring. However, they are less useful in summarizing sound levels over longer periods. To do so, acousticians apply simple statistics to the measured sound levels, resulting in a set of defined types of sound level related to averages over time. An example is shown in Figure 2. The sound level at each instant of time is the grey trace going from left to right. Over the total time it was measured (1 hour in the figure), the sound energy spends certain fractions of time near various levels, ranging from the minimum (about 27 dB in the figure) to the maximum (about 65 dB in the figure). The simplest descriptor is the average sound level, known as the Equivalent Continuous Sound Level. Statistical levels

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<sup>8</sup> There is a third time response defined by standards, the “Impulse” response. This response was defined to enable use of older, analog meters when measuring very brief sounds; it is no longer in common use.

are used to determine for what percentage of time the sound is louder than any given level. These levels are described in the following sections.

## Equivalent Continuous Sound Level - $L_{eq}$

One straightforward, common way of describing sound levels is in terms of the Continuous Equivalent Sound Level, or  $L_{eq}$ . The  $L_{eq}$  is the average sound pressure level over a defined period of time, such as one hour or one day.  $L_{eq}$  is the most commonly used descriptor in noise standards and regulations.  $L_{eq}$  is representative of the overall sound to which a person is exposed. Because of the logarithmic calculation of decibels,  $L_{eq}$  tends to favor higher sound levels: loud and infrequent sources have a larger impact on the resulting average sound level than quieter but more frequent sounds. For example, in Figure 2, even though the sound level spends most of the time near about 34 dBA, the  $L_{eq}$  is 41 dBA, having been “inflated” by the maximum level of 65 dBA and other occasional spikes over the course of the hour.

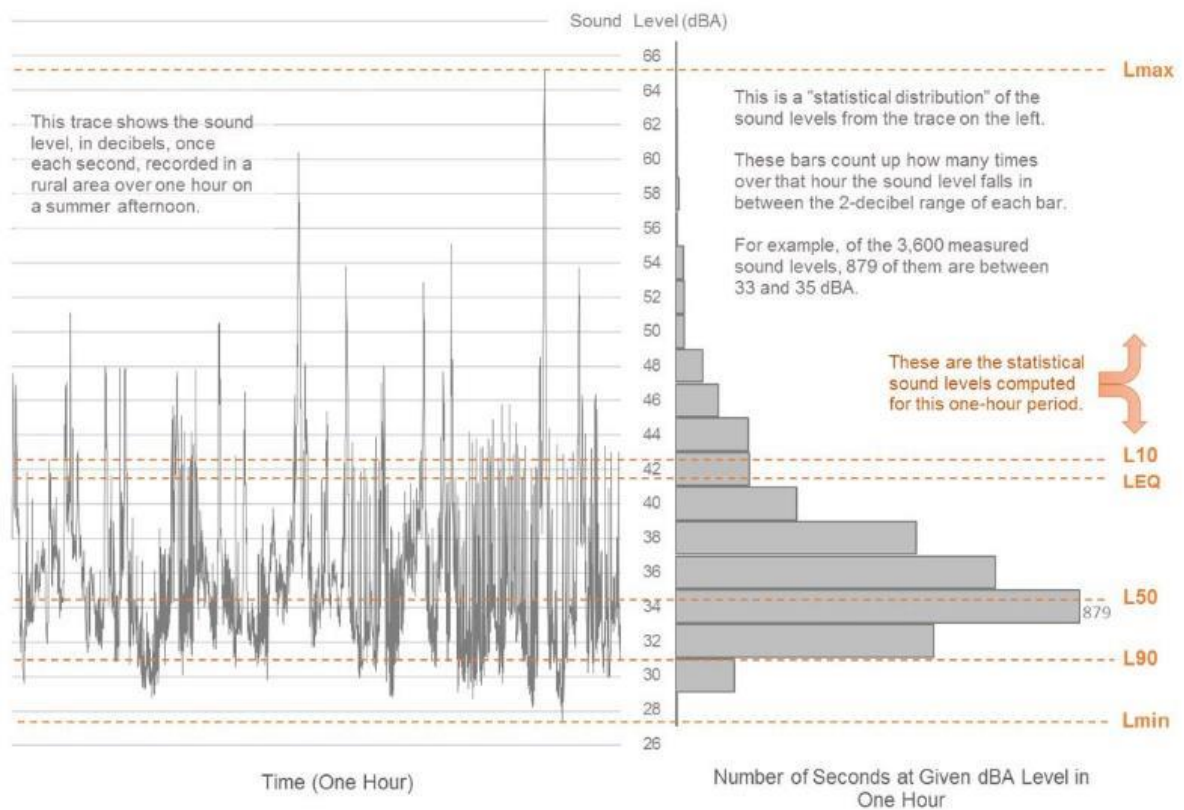


FIGURE 2: EXAMPLE OF DESCRIPTIVE TERMS OF SOUND MEASUREMENT OVER TIME

## Percentile Sound Levels – $L_n$

Percentile sound levels describe the statistical distribution of sound levels over time. “ $L_n$ ” is the level above which the sound spends “n” percent of the time. For example,  $L_{90}$  (sometimes called the “residual base level”) is the sound level exceeded 90% of the time: the sound is louder than  $L_{90}$  most of the time.  $L_{10}$  is the sound level that is





exceeded only 10% of the time.  $L_{50}$  (the “median level”) is exceeded 50% of the time: half of the time the sound is louder than the  $L_{50}$ , and half the time it is quieter than the  $L_{50}$ . Note that the  $L_{50}$  (median) and  $L_{eq}$  (mean) are not always the same, for reasons described in the previous section.

The  $L_{90}$  is the sound that persists for longer periods, and below which the overall sound level seldom falls. It tends to filter out other short-term environmental sounds that aren’t part of the source being investigated.  $L_{10}$  represents the higher, but less frequent, sound levels. These could include such events as barking dogs, vehicles driving by and aircraft flying overhead, gusts of wind, and work operations.  $L_{90}$  represents the background sound that is present when these event sounds are excluded.

Note that if one sound source is very constant and dominates the soundscape in an area, all of the descriptive sound levels mentioned here tend toward the same value. It is when the sound is varying widely from one moment to the next that the statistical descriptors are useful.

## **APPENDIX B. EDDIE DUNCAN'S CV**

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**EDDIE DUNCAN,  
INCE BD. CERT.**

Senior Director

**EXPERIENCE** | 20 Years

**EDUCATION** | MS, Environmental Studies, Green Mountain College;  
BS, Engineering Science, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

**CERTIFICATIONS** | Institute of Noise Control Engineering, Board Certified;  
Acoustical Society of America, Member

## BIO

Eddie Duncan conducts noise assessments for a wide range of public and private organizations and develops solutions to mitigate noise impacts. He is involved in all aspects of environmental noise and noise control engineering projects including measurement, analysis, modeling, design, testimony, policy development, stakeholder discussions, and project management. Eddie has two decades of experience in computer modeling and monitoring of environmental noise and has conducted noise analyses for projects from many different industries, some of which include parks and tourism, mining, renewable energy, power transmission, transportation, commercial developments, and residential developments.

## PROJECT EXPERIENCE

**NPS Natural Sounds Valuation Project.** Worked with a multi-disciplinary team to develop a study that is designed to assess the value of natural and historical sounds in National Parks. Researched and selected appropriate acoustical metrics to be used in the study. Directed the development of field-tested audio files with layered anthropogenic noise that would be used in a stated preference choice experiment for the study. The Natural Sounds and Night Skies Division will use the results of the study to provide value context to the natural and historical sounds they are charged with protecting. (2015-2021)

**Oak Hill Mine, Lewis, New York.** Managed a noise assessment of an existing wollastonite quarry that was planning to add new processing equipment to its operation. Reviewed the existing permit with the Adirondack Park Agency (APA). Measured background sound levels at neighboring residential areas and the sound emissions of the existing equipment at the site. Conducted sound propagation modeling of the existing and proposed operations to predict the sound levels throughout the area. Consulted with the APA and NYCO Minerals regarding mitigation options to reduce potential noise impacts in the surrounding area. (2020)

**Northeast Materials Group Crushing Operation, Graniteville, Vermont.** Managed a noise assessment of a proposed crushing operation at Rock of Ages Quarry which was seeking an Act 250 permit. Conducted background sound level monitoring and equipment noise emission measurements. Conducted sound propagation modeling of operational noise. Developed mitigation strategies to reduce potential noise impacts on the surrounding community. Provided expert testimony before the District Commission and the Vermont Superior Court, Environmental Division. (2017-2019)

**NCHRP 25-52 Meteorological Effects on Roadway Noise.** Assisted with project management, analysis, and reporting for a TRB project to measure and document the meteorological effects on roadway sound propagation under different atmospheric conditions. The project helped develop best practices and provide guidance on how to quantify meteorological effects on roadway noise propagation and explain those effects to the public. (2018)

**Talc Processing Facility, Ludlow, Vermont.** Managed a noise assessment of Imerys Talc Vermont's Genesis Project, a talc processing facility. The assessment included background sound level monitoring, sound level measurements of existing equipment, sound propagation modeling of over 50 sources to predict existing and future sound levels throughout the project area, and mitigation development. The assessment compared projected sound levels with local and state laws for environmental permitting. (2015-2017)

**NPS CadnaA Training Course.** Developed and provided a training course in the sound propagation modeling software, CadnaA for staff at the Natural Sounds and Night Skies Division of the National Park Service. (2015)

**Waterfront Park, Burlington, Vermont.** Consulted with the City of Burlington on noise policies and mitigation for events at Waterfront Park in support of their proposed Act 250 Permit Amendments. Reviewed existing noise policies and proposed new noise policies for events at the park. Provided a technical comparison of the implications between the existing and proposed policies in the context of Vermont's Act 250 criteria. (2014)

**Chaves Quarry, Londonderry, Vermont.** Conducted short-term sound level measurements of pre-construction background sound levels. Modeled the projected sound levels from the proposed operations at a nearby residences and recommended mitigation measures to reduce the noise impact of the project. Provided a pre-construction noise impact assessment. Provided testimony before the District Commission and before the Environmental Division of Vermont Superior Court. Analyzed post-construction sound levels for the purpose of assessing compliance with permit conditions. Authored a post-construction compliance monitoring report. (2014)

**Circus Smirkus Summer Camp, Greensboro, Vermont.** Conducted a noise impact assessment of a proposed summer camp. The assessment included pre-construction monitoring of background sound levels, modeling projected sound levels at nearby residences from camp sources, and mitigation recommendations. Sound sources incorporated into the model included a kitchen exhaust fan, performances in circus tents,

outdoor play areas, and breakout noise from the dining hall. Provided testimony in support of the study before the District Commission. (2013)

**Town of Royalton Gravel Pit, Royalton, Vermont.** Monitored sound levels throughout a community near a town gravel pit that was proposing to expand operations. Coordinated operation of equipment including a screener, loader, and haul truck during the monitoring period. Provided a letter to the client reporting the monitoring results for their use in the Act 250 permitting process. (2013)

**Natural Sound Level Data Analysis, Mount Rainier National Park.** Analyzed long-term sound level monitoring data according to NPS methodologies to assess the natural sound level, that is the sound level less anthropogenic noise, in Mount Rainier National Park. (2011)

**Edmunds Asphalt, Franklin, New Hampshire.** Modeled existing background sound levels due to traffic noise and projected sound levels from the proposed installation of an asphalt plant at an existing gravel operation. Developed mitigation recommendations to reduce noise impact at nearby residences. Provided report and testimony to the local planning board. (2011)

**Ridge Road Quarry, Randolph, Vermont.** Monitored existing background levels around a proposed gravel pit site. Modeled the projected sound levels from the proposed operation at nearby residences. Recommended mitigation measures to reduce the noise impact of the project and provided a summary of the results and recommendations in a report. Provided testimony before the local planning board and the District Environmental Commission. (2010)

**Cochran Gravel Pit, Morristown, Vermont.** Conducted a noise demonstration before the public and the District Commission at an existing gravel pit that was proposing to expand its operations. Developed a noise demonstration protocol detailing what equipment would be operating during the measurements and where monitoring would be conducted. Provided a report of sound levels monitored during the noise demonstration for the client's use in the Act 250 permitting process. (2010)

**Carrara Gravel Pit, East Middlebury, Vermont.** Worked with the developer and the community to establish a protocol for conducting the noise impact assessment for a proposed gravel pit expansion. Met with a community group and the developer on several occasions to provide noise assessment updates and to discuss community noise issues. Monitored existing background sound levels in the surrounding community and existing operational sound levels of a gravel pit. Modeled the sound levels from the proposed expansion of the gravel pit and proposed mitigation to meet the local standard and community requests. Provided a report and testimony to the local planning board. (2008)

**Mapping of Hikers' Noise Exposure, Rocky Mountain National Park.** Assisted in the development of a sound propagation model that mapped traffic noise along Bear Lake Road and assessed hikers' exposure to noise. (2008)

## PUBLICATIONS

Duncan, E., et. al., Commercial Delivery Drone Routing: A Case Study of Noise Impacts, Proceedings of the Quiet Drone International e-Symposium on UAV/UAS Noise, INCE Europe & CidB, October 2020.

Duncan, E., Kaliski, K., Old, I., and Lozupone, D., Methods for Assessing Background Sound Levels during Post-Construction Compliance Monitoring within a Community, Proceedings of the 6th International Meeting on Wind Turbine Noise 2015.

Kaliski, K., Duncan, E., et al, The Massachusetts Research Study on Wind Turbine Acoustics – Methods and Goals, Proceedings of the 2014 Institute of Noise Control Engineers NOISE-CON 2014.

Duncan, E., Using Public Input to Develop Scientifically Sound Noise Pollution Policy for Vermont's Rural Land Uses and Communities, MSES Thesis, Green Mountain College, October 2013.

Duncan, E., Using Public Input to Develop Scientifically Sound Noise Pollution Policy for Vermont's Rural Land Uses and Communities: Methodology and Initial Results, Proceedings of the 2013 Institute of Noise Control Engineers NOISE-CON 2013.

Duncan, E., Sustainable Noise Pollution Policy, Proceedings of the 2012 Institute of Noise Control Engineers INTER-NOISE 2012.

Duncan, E., Protecting Wildlife from Noise Impacts: A Review of Legislation and Legal Precedents in New England and by the Federal Government, Proceedings of the 2012 Institute of Noise Control Engineers INTER-NOISE 2012.

Kaliski, K., Duncan, E., Wilson, K., and Vecherin, S., Improving Predictions of Wind Turbine Noise using PE Modeling, Proceedings of the 2011 Institute of Noise Control Engineers NOISE-CON 2011.

Duncan, E., and Kaliski, K., A Case Study in Cooperation: A Gravel Pit and Its Community, Proceedings of the 2010 Institute of Noise Control Engineers NOISE-CON 2010.

Kaliski, K., and Duncan, E., Calculating Annualized Sound Levels for a Wind Farm, Proceedings of Meetings on Acoustics (POMA), Vol. 9-159th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America/NOISE-CON 2010.

Kaliski, K., and Duncan, E., "Propagation Modeling Parameters for Wind Power Projects," Sound & Vibration Magazine, Vol. 42 No. 12, December 2008.

Kaliski, K., and Duncan, E., Propagation Modeling Parameters for Wind Turbines, Proceedings of the 2007 Institute of Noise Control Engineers NOISECON 2007.

Kaliski, K., Duncan, E., and Cowan, J., "Community and Regional Noise Mapping in the United States," Sound & Vibration Magazine, Vol. 41 No. 9, September 2007.

## LICENSES, CERTIFICATIONS, MEMBERSHIPS, AND AFFILIATIONS

- Institute of Noise Control Engineering
  - Board Certified, 2009-Current
- Acoustical Society of America
  - Member of the Technical Committee on Architectural Acoustics, 2007-2018

# Garnet Hill

## Property Owners Association

GarnetHillPOA@gmail.com

August 15, 2023

Via email %Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov and U.S. Mail  
Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 5  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, New York 12885

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
AUG 18 2023

Via email % pcomments@apa.ny.gov and U.S. Mail  
David Plante  
Deputy Director of Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Re: Expert Recommendations by RSG on Background Sound Level Measurement Protocols for Barton Mines, Applicant for APA Project 2021-245: Barton Mines Proposed Expansion, Town of Johnsburg, Warren County

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

On behalf of the Garnet Hill Property Owners Association (GHPOA), we hereby submit the attached August 9, 2023 recommendations of RSG on the referenced matter. RSG is the engineering firm previously engaged by GHPOA on this issue.

We submit these recommendations for your consideration of the pending re-submitted application for the proposed expansion by Barton Mines Corporation, LLC ("Barton") of the Ruby Mountain mine in the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County. These recommendations by RSG supplement prior submissions by the GHPOA on this pending re-submitted application.

We respectfully request that you follow the recommendations set forth by RSG before going further with the analysis of the current and future noise from Barton's operations.

Sincerely,



Mary Whiting Puckett  
President

# MEMO

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

AUG 18 2023

**TO:** Garnet Hill Property Owners Association

**FROM:** Dana Lodico, PE, INCE Bd. Cert.

**DATE:** August 9, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Background Sound Level Measurement Protocol Recommendations

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RSG has been retained by the Garnet Hill Property Owners Association ("GHPOA") to consult on the issue of noise as it relates to Barton Mines and their permit application to expand its mining operations in Warren County, New York ("Project"). We previously reviewed Barton's September 2021 Sound Study<sup>1</sup> along with several other documents and provided documentation of our review to you in a memorandum on December 16, 2022<sup>2</sup> ("December Review"). We also conducted a preliminary review of Barton's April 2023 updated sound study<sup>3</sup> and cover letter<sup>4</sup> and provided documentation of our review to you in a second memorandum on May 30, 2023<sup>5</sup> ("May 2023 Memo").

It is our understanding that Barton Mines intends to make updated background sound measurements to address comments provided by the Adirondack Park Agency ("APA"). We have developed a list of recommended protocols for measuring background sound levels. These recommendations are provided below.

## Background ('Ambient') Sound Level Monitoring

Proper measurement of background sound levels involves the use of appropriate monitoring equipment, proper use and siting of the equipment, selection of appropriate metrics and averaging times for the data, and reporting of relevant information.

## Equipment

### ***Sound Level Data***

As described in the December Review, the measurements conducted in the study were conducted with a Quest SoundPro (SE/DL) ANSI/IEC Type 2 sound level meters for all

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<sup>1</sup> *Sound Study*, September 2021, H2H Geosciences Engineering.

<sup>2</sup> RSG to Garnet Hill Property Owners Association, *Review of Noise Assessments for Barton Mines*, 16 December 2022.

<sup>3</sup> H2H Geosciences Engineering to Adirondack Park Agency & New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, *Ruby Mountain Garnet Mine Major Permit Modification*, 1 May 2023.

<sup>4</sup> *Sound Study*, April 2023, H2H Geosciences Engineering.

<sup>5</sup> RSG to Garnet Hill Property Owners Association, *Preliminary Comments on Barton Mine's April 2023 Sound Study*, 30 May 2023.

measurements. While a Type 2 sound level meter can be used for measuring environmental sound, Type 1 is preferred.<sup>7</sup> ANSI/IEC Type 1 sound level meters are more accurate than Type 2. Table 1 below provides the difference in tolerance limits between the two classes at a few octave band samples.

**TABLE 1: TOLERANCE LIMITS AT EXAMPLE OCTAVE BAND FREQUENCIES TYPE 1 VS TYPE 2<sup>6</sup>**

General Frequency Range Description	Frequency	Type 1 Tolerance Limits	Type 2 Tolerance Limits
Low	31.5 Hz	± 2.0 dB	± 3.5 dB
Mid	1 kHz	± 1.1 dB	± 1.4 dB
High	8 kHz	+2.1 dB, -3.1 dB	± 5.6 dB

Sound level meters should be field calibrated before and after each monitoring period and laboratory calibrated within 2 years of the monitoring survey.

Microphones used for outdoor measurements must be properly fitted with windscreens.<sup>7</sup> If windscreens are not used, this would increase wind-caused pseudo sound over the microphone which would artificially elevate sound levels and affect the basis for comparing projected sound levels to background sound levels. For long-term measurements, hydrophobic windscreens may be necessary to protect the microphone from moisture.

For unattended monitoring, it is recommended that audio recording be made concurrent to sound level measurements to aid in sound source identification. If Type 2 measurement equipment is used, audio recording is strongly recommended to quantify the spectral character of the sound (as opposed to only the overall level).

### ***Meteorological Data***

At a minimum, an anemometer should be collocated with each sound level meter at microphone height to ensure that data collected when wind speeds exceed 11 miles per hour can be excluded from the analysis.<sup>7</sup> Temperature and precipitation should also be obtained, either from on-site equipment or from the local weather station.

### **Siting of Sound Equipment**

Measurements should be conducted in locations representative of the area for which they are meant to represent. This includes property boundaries of nearby residential locations and of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area. Equipment should be setback by

<sup>6</sup> IEC 61672-1, "Electroacoustics – Sound level meters – Part 1: Specifications," 2002-05

<sup>7</sup> ANSI S12.9-2013/Part 3, "Quantities and Procedures for Description and Measurement of Environmental Sound – Part 3: Short-term Measurements with an Observer Present."





approximately the same distance from prominent sound sources, including roadways and operational equipment, as the area for which the measurement is meant to represent. Care should be taken to avoid locating equipment near extraneous localized sound sources such as streams, barking dogs, mechanical equipment, etc.

Microphones are typically placed at a height of approximately 1.5 m (5-feet) above the ground to represent the ear height of a typical human. Sound monitoring equipment should be located no closer than 25 feet from reflective surfaces to minimize acoustic reflections.

## **Monitoring Period**

Background sound level monitoring in non-urban areas is typically conducted for continuous periods of 5 to 10 days. At a minimum, measurements should be conducted over a full 24-hour period, including acquisition of data during both daytime and nighttime hours, without operation of mining or sound generating maintenance activities. Measuring background over a longer period of time will capture potential changes in sound emissions from human activities and variations in sound propagation due to changing environmental conditions including temperature inversions and changing wind directions. If a shorter measurement period (less than 3 days) is used, care should be taken to ensure measurements are made during a period with weather that is conducive to monitoring (without rain, low temperatures, or wind gusts above 5 m/s).

## **Data Exclusions**

Data under the following conditions must be excluded from the documented ambient sound level results:

- Wind gust speeds above 5 m/s (11 mph)
- Temperatures below 14° F
- Precipitation and thunder
- “Seasonal” sounds (described below)
- Anomalous sounds such as nearby equipment
- Equipment interactions by field staff, other people, or animals

Biogenic sounds including insects and birds are considered “seasonal” sounds. To exclude these sounds, the ANSI S12.100 “ANS” frequency-weighting network<sup>8</sup> can be applied to all logged data for which bird and insect sound is found. This method is commonly applied in the measurement of background sound levels in quiet residential areas in New York State.<sup>9</sup> If tones above 1.25 kHz are detected, then the A-weighted

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<sup>8</sup> ANSI S12.100-2014, “Methods to Define and Measure the Residual Sound in Protected Natural and Quiet Residential Areas.”

<sup>9</sup> Example projects in New York where the ANS weighting was used can be provided upon request.



sound level can be recalculated by summing 1/3 octave bands from 20 Hz to 1.25 kHz.<sup>10</sup> This effectively removes the high-frequency portion of the sound for those periods.

Anomalous sounds can be corroborated through review of sound level data and audio recordings.

## Reporting of Data

Background measurement data is typically reported by daytime and nighttime periods and/or shorter intervals such as hourly. Data should be reported for the periods of day/week/season in which future operations are proposed to occur. This allows for an 'apples to apples' comparison of projected project sound levels and background.

Data is typically reported using the A-weighting scale, which represents human hearing, and using the equivalent continuous sound level or  $L_{eq}$  metric. Reporting of the percentile sound levels, including the  $L_{90}$  (the sound level exceeded 90% of the time) and the  $L_{10}$  (the sound level exceeded 10% of the time) can help to better explain the statistical distribution of the sound levels over time.

## Documentation

For environmental permitting in New York, the methodology used to make background sound level monitoring should be documented, including:

- Type, make, and model of measurement equipment,
- Measurement standards or guidelines that were followed,
- Environmental conditions during the measurements,
- Measurement location and site descriptions,
- Primary sound sources,
- Calibration procedure,
- Schedule and descriptions of all sound generating equipment operating during sound monitoring,
- How the data were analyzed, and
- Photographs of the monitor setup and surroundings.

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<sup>10</sup> Sounds considered tonal that get the A-weight applied are those for which a prominent discrete high frequency (>1.25 kHz) tone is found using either of the two methods:

1. If a 1/3 octave band exceeds the neighboring 1/3 octave band on either side by more than 5 dB (as in ANSI S12.9 Part 4 Annex C), or
2. If a 1/3 octave band exceeds the average of the two neighboring lower and two neighboring upper 1/3 octave bands on each side by more than 5 dB.

The latter method is used to capture complex bird harmonic sounds that would not be considered tonal under the first method.

4 Harvey Road  
North River, NY  
12856

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

AUG 04 2023

✓ Barbara Rice, Executive Director  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[barbara.rice@apa.ny.gov](mailto:barbara.rice@apa.ny.gov)

Beth McGee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[beth.mcgee@dec.ny.org](mailto:beth.mcgee@dec.ny.org)

Dear Ms. Rice and Ms. McGee:

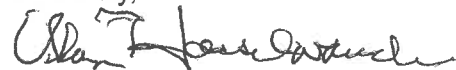
I have owned a home in North River, NY since 1979, purchased to be near the wonderful Siamese wilderness of the Adirondack Park. I have become concerned about the irresponsible behavior of the Barton Mine on Ruby Mountain as well as their application to greatly expand the mine without remedying but rather increasing the costly externalities imposed on its neighbors.

Over the last few years the duration and volume of the noise from the mine have increased dramatically causing disruption of normal peace and tranquillity. The ugly mountain of tailings has become an eyesore for miles around. There seems to be little serious ongoing environmental evaluations of the mine's effect on air and water, e.g. 13th Lake Brook and the Hudson River. We know there is a lot of dust originating from the mine, but we know nothing about its potential polluting content.

If the mining is allowed to continue in its careless manner it will negatively impact the property values and tax base of Johnsburg, causing a bad impact on the region's economy. And who will be responsible for cleaning up the mine when it ceases to exist?

I urge disapproval of the application and the temporary closing of the mine until Barton has agreed to comply with the reasonable demands of its surrounding community.

Sincerely,



Alan Hasselwander

Copy to: Mr. Mark Smith, Supervisor, Town of Johnsburg

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

MAR 20 2024

Arthur N Henningson

208 Parkland Avenue  
Glenville, N.Y. 12302

March 14, 2024

Randy Rapple, CEO

Barton

Six Warren Street

Glens Falls, N.Y. 12801

Dear Mr. Rapple:

My brother Peter gave me a copy of your March 4, 2024, letter to "Dear Neighbors" referencing the pending mining application for the Ruby Mountain site. My father (Art, Sr) purchased 138 acres and a cabin on the Barton Mines Road in August of 1963. One reason we chose the parcel for a hunting camp was the existence of an operating mine about 2 miles up the road. We thought that the road would be well maintained. We hunted high on Harvey Mountain and South Mountain and on occasion a hunter inadvertently wandered on to Barton Mine property. The mine staff corrected the wayward hunter and more than once gave him a ride down the hill. If I hunt late high on South Mountain the lights at the Ruby Mountain mine are a welcome reminder of my bearing home.

We were neighbors to the operating mine for about 20 years. The trucks loaded with ore going down the mountain stopped opposite our cabin, which was at a change to a steeper grade. The drivers put the truck in a lower gear and applied the "jake brake" and proceeded to rumble down to North River. The truck drivers often smiled and waved and my mom did the same. Decades later I learned that one of the gentlemen driving was the late Percy Goodspeed, my wife's grandfather. After the Gore mine closed we saw an increase in traffic when dozens of loads of the coarser tailings per day were hauled down the mountain to

road projects. The local resource saved the Towns and Counties substantial sums. The Bartons must mine where the resource is located. The 21<sup>st</sup> century second homes proliferating around Garnet Hill may collectively have created a more significant environmental impact with respect to wildlife, noise and traffic than the proposed modifications to the Barton mining plan.

We constructed our parking lot from mine tailings. My late mother patiently picked pieces of garnet from the tailings there and on the old mine road which passes through our property along Little Brook.

I have often camped and fished in 13<sup>th</sup> Lake and in 13<sup>th</sup> Brook. I have hiked to fish in Peaked Mountain and in Hour Pond. I hike and ski on the Garnet Hill trail system. I am sensitive to environmental issues and never observed an issue associated with Barton Mines.

I am retired from DEC Region 4 where I was employed as an Associate Environmental Analyst / Deputy Permit Agent. I was authorized to review and approve permit applications including mining, solid waste, water quality, and air emission permits. I reviewed many controversial proposals and was sometimes required to deal with unreasonable neighbors. There is no cause to second guess the DEC professionals. I am confident that if their review results in a recommendation to approve the project our environment will be protected.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Art Henningson', written in a cursive style.

Art Henningson

CC: Beth Magee, Deputy RPA. Warrensburg

Corrie Magee, APA Ray Brook

Jane C Henz  
2380 Sutton Rd  
York, PA 17403  
4/9/24

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ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

APR 12 2024

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

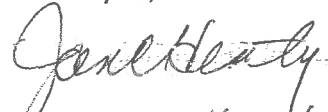
I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

  
Jane C Henz

**From:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**To:** [Petith, Stephanie L \(APA\)](#); [Stankus, Elizabeth \(APA\)](#); [Lore, Robert \(APA\)](#); [Burth, John M \(APA\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Barton Mines Expansion Project  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 13, 2022 1:45:32 PM  
**Attachments:** [letter about species in Barton Mines.pdf](#)

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**From:** Peter Horvath <phorvath@buffalo.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2022 1:45:05 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** APA Regulatory Programs Comments <RPCComments@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** 5dep.r5@dec.ny.gov <5dep.r5@dec.ny.gov>; friendsofsiameseeponds@gmail.com <friendsofsiameseeponds@gmail.com>; SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov <SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov>; Stec@neystate.gov <Stec@neystate.gov>; supervisor@johnsburg.com <supervisor@johnsburg.com>; dec.sm.NaturalHeritage <NaturalHeritage@dec.ny.gov>; Bat Conservation International <donations@batcon.org>  
**Subject:** Proposed Barton Mines Expansion Project

Some people who received this message don't often get email from phorvath@buffalo.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

**ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.**

Dear Robert Lore, Deputy Director and Beth Magee, Deputy Regional Permit Administrator,

I have attached a PDF letter that points out issues with the wetlands in the proposal and three important species (Rhodora, Northern Longeared Bats and Brook Trout).

It seems that an outside environment review needs to be done since the one done by H2H is superficial and does not address my concerns.

Thank you

Peter Horvath  
132 Old Farm Rd, PO Box 199  
North River NY 12856  
518-251-5210

ccs: Friends of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness  
Assemblymember Matthew Simpson  
NY State Senator Daniel G. Stec  
Andrea Hogan, Supervisor Town of Johnsburg, NY  
Natural Heritage  
Bat Conservation International

Dear Mr. Lore and Ms. Magee,

I am writing as a resident of North River who is deeply concerned about current operations and the proposal for expansion of the Barton Ruby Mountain mining operation. My name is Peter Horvath, I am a retired professor from the University at Buffalo. I received my PhD from Cornell University in Nutrition and Ecology. I now live in North River NY, near to the Baron Mine.

Barton's current draft proposal to increase the areal extent of mining, residual piles, truck traffic, water use and hours of operations, if permitted as proposed, will increase the attendant mine impacts. Barton should be required to mitigate current and future impacts from the mine. For the reasons listed below an outside environmental review needs to be carried out.

I would like to speak about three species that will be impacted by the proposed expansion and wetlands that will be modified or removed. The three species are a NY state threatened plant *Rhodora* (*Rhododendron canadense*), federally endangered Northern Longeared Bat and NY State's Fish the native brook trout.

*Rhodora*, *Rhododendron canadense*, is in wetland #5 and was listed by DEC as being in the site<sup>2</sup> (Pages 13,14, 41). New York Natural Heritage Program states there are only seven other known populations in New York state<sup>1</sup> The Barton proposal states that it will be protected by a 100 ft vegetation barrier (page 41, 5.1.4 and 5.1.7) however, this is only in phase one, later they are destroyed. On page 90 the legend to photo 5 states it will be excavated and filled as part of the quarry expansion. This is clear on the reclamation map (page 2752) at the end of phase 1 to end of phase 2 (page 2754). On page 5 of the Full Environmental assessment form "The wetland would be entirely excavated as part of the quarry expansion". This contradicts the statement about 100 ft barrier.

Issues regarding the wetlands, needs to be reconsidered. They also claim this wetland is likely not under APA or DEC oversight (Page 2203). Mainly due to its size, but the presence of a threaten species suggests that a more thorough inventory by outside botanists is needed. In addition, New York's Freshwater Wetlands Act was modified to change the current DEC jurisdiction for wetlands smaller than 12.4 acres and those not on the State Freshwater Wetlands Map. The map requirement will be removed in 2025 and in 2028, DEC's jurisdiction extend to wetlands as small as 7.4 acres. Questions remain if the streams in the site warrant jurisdiction by the state (Wetland Delineation Report 2.3) even if they aren't now, based on mapping by DEC. This mapping requirement will be eliminated in 2025. Finally, APA in 1988 reserved the right to restrict or prohibit using Finger Valley Wetland to store residual material. It is not possible to tell if the Finger Valley Wetland will be impacted by the retaining pools (the upper Slimes Pond). As stated on page 2202, ground water levels will be increased downstream. (page 2239 shows the settling basin). It appears that the Life of Mine will impact the Finger Valley Wetland (figure 2, page 2247).

The second species of concern is New York's state fish, the brook trout, *Salvelinus fontinalis*. In 1979, before mining started DEC reported that Brown Pond stream and Thirteenth Lake brook (C and C(TS)) were reported by DEC as breeding habitats for native brook trout. Shouldn't they be resurveyed? Brown Pond steam will basically be a storm drain when this is done (page 108, page 6 of Full Environmental Assessment Form part 1). How can that support native brook trout? Just outside the mine is a wetland at the convergence of Brown Pond stream and Slide Mountain Creek. Will this be impacted by changes in Brown Pond stream? Thirteenth Lake brook has been reported in the past by local fishers to be an excellent site for brook trout. It is now not well known for fishing. This impacts local tourism and the success of the native brook trout.

The third species that needs to be considered is the endangered Northern Longeared that was listed by DEC as being in the site<sup>2</sup>. The US Fish and Wildlife Service has added the bat to the endangered species list on November 29<sup>th</sup> of this year<sup>3</sup>. The Barton proposal did not survey for this species and importantly does not state the number of trees to be removed or the timing of removal as required in the Environmental review. As an endangered species additional requirements must be met by the developer.

As further evidence that an outside environmental review needs to be conducted is the report of Sphagnum mosses in the wetlands that suggest that some of the wetlands could be bog or fen like and contain unique plant and animal species (page 2172, page 4 of Wetland and Stream Delineation Report 4.4). The lack of details of species present in the wetlands raises issues with unknown species of interest

As your agencies continue to review the Barton mine expansion proposal, please ensure the project does not come at the expense of the nearby community and the integrity of the neighboring Siamese Ponds Wilderness.

As a member of the Friends of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness and a resident of North River, I am grateful for your attention to these concerns.

Sincerely,

Peter Horvath  
132 Old Farm Rd  
North River NY 12856  
518-251-5210

1. <https://guides.nynhp.org/rhodora/>
2. (<https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/106713.html> and [https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/wildlife\\_pdf/nlebtowns.pdf](https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/wildlife_pdf/nlebtowns.pdf)
3. <https://www.fws.gov/press-release/2022-11/northern-long-eared-bat-reclassified-endangered-under-endangered-species-act>





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*Rhodora*, *Rhododendron canadense*, is in wetland #5 and was listed by DEC as being in the site<sup>2</sup> (Pages 13,14, 41). New York Natural Heritage Program states there are only seven other known populations in New York state<sup>1</sup> The Barton proposal states that it will be protected by a 100 ft vegetation barrier (page 41, 5.1.4 and 5.1.7) however, this is only in phase one, later they are destroyed. On page 90 the legend to photo 5 states it will be excavated and filled as part of the quarry expansion. This is clear on the reclamation map (page 2752) at the end of phase 1 to end of phase 2 (page 2754). On page 5 of the Full Environmental assessment form "The wetland would be entirely excavated as part of the quarry expansion". This contradicts the statement about 100 ft barrier.

Issues regarding the wetlands, needs to be reconsidered. They also claim this wetland is likely not under APA or DEC oversight (Page 2203). Mainly due to its size, but the presence of a threaten species suggests that a more thorough inventory by outside botanists is needed. In addition, New York's Freshwater Wetlands Act was modified to change the current DEC jurisdiction for wetlands smaller than 12.4 acres and those not on the State Freshwater Wetlands Map. The map requirement will be removed in 2025 and in 2028, DEC's jurisdiction extend to wetlands as small as 7.4 acres. Questions remain if the streams in the site warrant jurisdiction by the state (Wetland Delineation Report 2.3) even if they aren't now, based on mapping by DEC. This mapping requirement will be eliminated in 2025. Finally, APA in 1988 reserved the right to restrict or prohibit using Finger Valley Wetland to store residual material. It is not possible to tell if the Finger Valley Wetland will be impacted by the retaining pools (the upper Slimes Pond). As stated on page 2202, ground water levels will be increased downstream. (page 2239 shows the settling basin). It appears that the Life of Mine will impact the Finger Valley Wetland (figure 2, page 2247).

The second species of concern is New York's state fish, the brook trout, *Salvelinus fontinalis*. In 1979, before mining started DEC reported that Brown Pond stream and Thirteenth Lake brook (C and C(TS)) were reported by DEC as breeding habitats for native brook trout. Shouldn't they be resurveyed? Brown Pond stream will basically be a storm drain when this is done (page 108, page 6 of Full Environmental Assessment Form part 1). How can that support native brook trout? Just outside the mine is a wetland at the convergence of Brown Pond stream and Slide Mountain Creek. Will this be impacted by changes in Brown Pond stream? Thirteenth Lake brook has been reported in the past by local fishers to be an excellent site for brook trout. It is now not well known for fishing. This impacts local tourism and the success of the native brook trout.

The third species that needs to be considered is the endangered Northern Longeared that was listed by DEC as being in the site<sup>2</sup>. The US Fish and Wildlife Service has added the bat to the endangered species list on November 29<sup>th</sup> of this year<sup>3</sup>. The Barton proposal did not survey for this species and importantly does not state the number of trees to be removed or the timing of removal as required in the Environmental review. As an endangered species additional requirements must be met by the developer.

As further evidence that an outside environmental review needs to be conducted is the report of Sphagnum mosses in the wetlands that suggest that some of the wetlands could be bog or fen like and contain unique plant and animal species (page 2172, page 4 of Wetland and Stream Delineation Report 4.4). The lack of details of species present in the wetlands raises issues with unknown species of interest

As your agencies continue to review the Barton mine expansion proposal, please ensure the project does not come at the expense of the nearby community and the integrity of the neighboring Siamese Ponds Wilderness.

As a member of the Friends of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness and a resident of North River, I am grateful for your attention to these concerns.

Sincerely,

Peter Horvath  
132 Old Farm Rd  
North River NY 12856  
518-251-5210

1. <https://guides.nynhp.org/rhodora/>
2. (<https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/106713.html> and [https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/wildlife\\_pdf/nlebtowns.pdf](https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/wildlife_pdf/nlebtowns.pdf)
3. <https://www.fws.gov/press-release/2022-11/northern-long-eared-bat-reclassified-endangered-under-endangered-species-act>

Dear Chairman Ernst and fellow APA Board Members,

I am a full-time resident of North River where I work as a physician for Hudson Headwaters and volunteer in several local community organizations. I am hoping that this board will listen fairly to the needs of both residents and Barton Mine. In reviewing their application, you are being asked to extend the life of the mine for another 80 years. And my question to you is an ethical one that I have confronted over my career as a Hospice doctor: Life, but at what cost?

I have been blessed to enjoy for 40 years the lands surrounding Garnet Hill and the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area, once clear-cut but now refilling with a maturing mixed hardwood forest. When I started coming up to North River, the Ruby Mountain mine operation was just being developed; after the original Gore Mountain site had reached its "end-of-life". Over the last 5 years, the Ruby Mtn operation has become much more noticeable. The occasional blasts from the mine have not changed, but the ever-enlarging tailings pile is now a constant eyesore and there is a thrum of machinery during the middle of the night echoing from the 24/7 mine operation. Given the remoteness and wild nature of the area, these realities are both surprising and disturbing. Since the problem of noise was first brought to Barton's attention by residents, the company has attempted to mitigate the problem. Unfortunately, without any feasible market for the tailings, the pile will grow.

Hooper Mine, one of the original garnet mines in the area, was abandoned years ago when there was no more easily accessible garnet. Now it is part of the Forest Preserve and is a historically rich and beautiful area with cathedral-like rock walls. Ironically, the vista from Hooper Mine over to the Ruby Mountain site reveals a modern mining operation that has already scarred the mountain and littered acres of land with a massive tailings pile that, if allowed, is destined to become 100% bigger over the next 80 years.

Your mission is to protect the Forest Preserve while at the same time to preserve the public and private resources of the park. This is a difficult balancing act. As anyone in the Town of Johnsburg can attest, Barton Mine is an important and well-respected part of the community. The North Creek Farmers Market, for which I am the volunteer market manager, is supported like many other organizations in town by generous donations from Barton Mine. However, there is another important business in the area: Garnet Hill Lodge, which also supports the work of many local volunteer agencies. I chose to become a full-time resident of this community because of Garnet Hill Lodge, the cross-country ski area, and the surrounding wilderness area.

The intangible good of the wilderness and tourism in the area is threatened by the prospect of another 80 years of mining at this site. The NYS Environmental Bond Measure passed with 67% of the vote showing the public support for the environment and concern about climate change. As you know, NYS just enlarged the wilderness area with the purchase of waterfront parcel on Thirteenth Lake which is also within earshot and eyesight of the Ruby Mountain Mine. Climatic

changes are occurring at an accelerated pace that challenge our ability to assess effects on storm water over the next ten to twenty years, to say nothing of another 80 years.

So, what should be the life of *this* mine? In the medical world, technology can maintain life indefinitely, but with significant costs to quality of life. Similarly, with today's mining technology, we can dig deeper into the ground and grind the rock finer, but at what cost?

Thank you for your attention,

Elizabeth Maher, MD

518-251-5210

bethmaher@hotmail.com





Richard G. Jenks, Jr.  
2 Woodcrest Drive  
Queensbury, NY 12804

September 18, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rppcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rppcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

In July 2023 I celebrated my 30<sup>th</sup> employment anniversary with Barton. Before joining Barton my wife, Felicia, and I resided in Savannah, Georgia where I had taken a position after graduating college with the accounting firm, Price Waterhouse (now, PwC). After several years, Felicia and I both recognized that having been raised in the Lake George area, Georgia was never going to be "home" for us nor where we wanted to raise our family. Growing up in family-owned businesses plus having exposure to private vs. publicly held businesses during my auditing time with PwC it was clear to me that my career path should prioritize finding a privately held, family-owned business. Specifically, one in or near the Adirondacks. With that criterion in mind, I set out to find a high-quality organization which checked the boxes and whose senior management would demonstrate to my satisfaction that they were running an operation with the utmost integrity; with a genuine concern for their employee's well-being; and an equal concern with its civic responsibilities. I knew I had set a high bar for qualifying an organization for my next career move and admittedly had some doubts about my ability to identify such a company. In June of 1993 my brother came across an ad for a senior accountant position at Barton and shared it with me. I knew nothing about Barton nor was it easy to research given the intentional low-profile of the mining company and its limited online presence. Qualifying this organization as my future employer would be a challenge and require deep and broad conversations with management and an intentional attentiveness to employee engagement and satisfaction. A cold call to the office



at Barton in response to the advertisement was met by the warm and courteous voice of the receptionist who rather than screening my call cordially forwarded the same directly to the Controller. The Controller advised that the company was quite far along in the interview process but extended me the courtesy of a conversation. After 45 minutes on the phone, I had not only gathered a good deal of information about Barton but remained hopeful that I had struck a chord sufficient to warrant another opportunity to discuss the open position. The follow-up call came a day later and included an invitation to visit the operations and meet the management team. That visit occurred over the next month and included both tours of the operations; introductions to many of its employees; a visit to company housing on Gore Mountain; and hours-long interviews with several of the company's managers. The offer to join Barton came the following week to include the perk of a company house on Gore Mountain. Felicia and I discussed the family-like culture which appeared very healthy, the apparent alignment with my pre-interview checklist and the existence of content, engaged employees who took great care and pride in the conduct of their jobs. It was decided, we accepted. For the last 30 years, Felicia and I (and our four children) have had the great joy and privilege of being part of the Barton family, not as a result of our last name which is non-Barton family, but by the adoptive efforts of a unique, family culture infused into an organization that cares deeply about things that truly matter – employees, community, civic duty, and oh yes, it's ever-present responsibility to mine and process its minerals in a way that minimizes its impact on the environment and its neighbors.

One of the great joys of my 30-year tenure with Barton has been to be able to serve in many different capacities, from my core competency in Finance to my involvement in operations, supply chain, human resources, and as corporate secretary and administrative liaison to the board of directors and Barton family shareholders for over 20 years. I've also been able to lead two projects that align with and speak volumes concerning Barton's deep commitment to the environment. One project that I had the privilege of leading that illustrates the Company's commitment to the environment was the renovation of Barton's corporate headquarters in Glens Falls which turned an 1865 historical site into a modern-day, LEED-Platinum certified, green building as recognized by the U.S. Green Building Council in 2009. A second project demonstrating the Company's commitment to the environment was a 2 MW solar project sited on Barton's reclaimed tailings pond area on Gore Mountain. As the Chief Financial Officer, I can attest to the fact that the primary driver of both projects had less to do with financial returns on investment and more to do with doing the right thing for both the community and the environment. An extension of the Gore Mountain solar project was our commitment to work with the Johnsbury Central School (JCS) to identify ways to educate students on the operations and benefits of solar. This commitment was recently realized as the Company paid for solar panels to be installed on the roof of the Barton-sponsored outdoor classroom at JCS. Solar power from the panels is used to run a fan and lights, but more importantly, provide educational opportunities for the JCS students.

The re-permitting of Barton's Ruby Mountain mine has unfortunately presented an opportunity for a small but vocal segment of the local population to complain or object on various grounds.

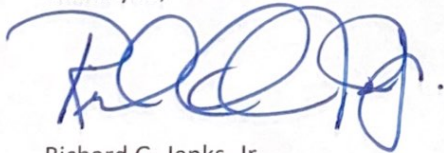


Of particular interest is the fact that this same local population, prior to submission of the mine permit, found a way to co-exist peacefully and without objection to the mine's operation. Whether the motives are driven by political winds or personal objections associated with a real estate investment it is disappointing to hear of the disingenuous tactics and attempts to disrupt 145 years of responsible resource management by Barton. That said, I'm confident that the regulatory agencies can sort through the objections of a few in favor of the benefit of many as it relates to the permitting and, by default, extension of the mining operations of Barton.

In a day and age where not all companies contribute positively to the local community and where local jobs are being lost to competition or consolidation of business outside the local area, I remain hopeful that Barton will stand as an example of what a quality employer and organization looks like and that it will be able to continue to offer future generations high quality employment and, by extension, a reason to stay or return to the Adirondacks as a great place to raise their families. Frankly, I hope others benefit from and experience what I have during my time at Barton.

In summary, the Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Jenks, Jr.", with a stylized, cursive flourish.

Richard G. Jenks, Jr.

Joe Jerkowski  
161 Adirondack Lake Rd  
Indian Lake, NY 12812

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUL 28 2023

June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

July 26, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
RE : Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations-providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

I am in the construction industry and firmly agree with promoting good company stewardship which is an important part of our local economy as well as national defense.

Barton is a major employer. Providing approximately 125 good jobs contributing to the local tax base and promoting good business practices.

Thank you,



Joseph Jerkowski P.E

Mark Karlson  
PO Box 126  
2388 Black Point Rd  
Ticonderoga NY 12883  
mark.r.karlson@gmail.com  
518-232-8140

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

AUG 26 2024

August 22, 2024

Mr. David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

### Barton Mines: Permit Modifications

Dear David: Please accept this letter as an expression of my support for the proposed Permit Modifications for Barton Mines.

I am a full time resident in Ticonderoga and I view Barton as both a major employer in our area as well as a very responsible member of the Adirondack community. In addition to employing approximately 100 people, Barton has recently announced significant contributions to the community in the form of land access for hiking trails and land preservation.

These permit modifications are required in order for Barton to continue to operate and to provide well paying jobs with full benefits to members of our Adirondack community. The North Country needs more employers like Barton who are both providing jobs and respecting the environment.

I would appreciate your support and approval of the requested permit modifications.

Regards,



Mark Karlson

Janice B. Keown  
P.O. Box 120  
Holderness, NH 03245

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

AUG 16 2024

August 12, 2024

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Plante,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations-providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

As a fifth-generation member of the Barton family, I just want to say I have seen many positive changes take place at the Ruby Mountain site. During a family reunion last year, we went on a tour of the mines, and it was very impressive to see the latest improvements. We learned that they have taken steps to recycle and reuse over 90% of the water used for mining while using only 10% fresh water. They have also invested hundreds of thousands of dollars in recent years to upgrade stormwater management systems, that collect precipitation and store it for controlled release to minimize runoff and soil erosion. Barton significantly reduced air emissions from their manufacturing activities in recent years as well as equipping their heavy equipment fleet with the most advanced emissions-control technology. Their safety record is outstanding and they take safety very seriously. It was great to see how much they value their employees and the environment they work in.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



Janice Barton Keown



Nicolette Keown  
P.O. Box 1513  
Campton, NH

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

AUG 16 2024

August 11, 2024

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations — providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

I feel very fortunate to be a member of the Barton family with the opportunity to take part in meetings and reunions. I'm reminded of how important the business values community each time I've visited North Creek and toured the facilities. Growing up within this family was also my inspiration for pursuing a career in natural resource management with a federal agency, specifically in recreation. I was so excited to read about the Barton Mines' easement gift of 200 acres on their forested land to connect two of the prime recreational trail networks. This will benefit both tourism and local residents. I look forward to hiking the new trails next time I visit!

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately one hundred twenty-five good jobs. The company is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other businesses in the area.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Nicolette Keown



**From:** [Beth Maher](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#); [5dep.r5@dec.ny.gov](mailto:5dep.r5@dec.ny.gov)  
**Cc:** [SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov](mailto:SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov); [stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov); [supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com); [friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Proposed Barton Mines Expansion Project  
**Date:** Thursday, December 15, 2022 5:37:59 PM  
**Attachments:** [first draft.pdf](#)

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from bethmaher@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Attached you will find the comments I presented today (12/15/2022) to the APA Board.

Beth Maher

518-251-5210

bethmaher@hotmail.com

132 Old Farm Rd

PO Box 199

North River, NY 12856

Dear Chairman Ernst and fellow APA Board Members,

I am a full-time resident of North River where I work as a physician for Hudson Headwaters and volunteer in several local community organizations. I am hoping that this board will listen fairly to the needs of both residents and Barton Mine. In reviewing their application, you are being asked to extend the life of the mine for another 80 years. And my question to you is an ethical one that I have confronted over my career as a Hospice doctor: Life, but at what cost?

I have been blessed to enjoy for 40 years the lands surrounding Garnet Hill and the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area, once clear-cut but now refilling with a maturing mixed hardwood forest. When I started coming up to North River, the Ruby Mountain mine operation was just being developed; after the original Gore Mountain site had reached its "end-of-life". Over the last 5 years, the Ruby Mtn operation has become much more noticeable. The occasional blasts from the mine have not changed, but the ever-enlarging tailings pile is now a constant eyesore and there is a thrum of machinery during the middle of the night echoing from the 24/7 mine operation. Given the remoteness and wild nature of the area, these realities are both surprising and disturbing. Since the problem of noise was first brought to Barton's attention by residents, the company has attempted to mitigate the problem. Unfortunately, without any feasible market for the tailings, the pile will grow.

Hooper Mine, one of the original garnet mines in the area, was abandoned years ago when there was no more easily accessible garnet. Now it is part of the Forest Preserve and is a historically rich and beautiful area with cathedral-like rock walls. Ironically, the vista from Hooper Mine over to the Ruby Mountain site reveals a modern mining operation that has already scarred the mountain and littered acres of land with a massive tailings pile that, if allowed, is destined to become 100% bigger over the next 80 years.

Your mission is to protect the Forest Preserve while at the same time to preserve the public and private resources of the park. This is a difficult balancing act. As anyone in the Town of Johnsburg can attest, Barton Mine is an important and well-respected part of the community. The North Creek Farmers Market, for which I am the volunteer market manager, is supported like many other organizations in town by generous donations from Barton Mine. However, there is another important business in the area: Garnet Hill Lodge, which also supports the work of many local volunteer agencies. I chose to become a full-time resident of this community because of Garnet Hill Lodge, the cross-country ski area, and the surrounding wilderness area.

The intangible good of the wilderness and tourism in the area is threatened by the prospect of another 80 years of mining at this site. The NYS Environmental Bond Measure passed with 67% of the vote showing the public support for the environment and concern about climate change. As you know, NYS just enlarged the wilderness area with the purchase of waterfront parcel on Thirteenth Lake which is also within earshot and eyesight of the Ruby Mountain Mine. Climatic



changes are occurring at an accelerated pace that challenge our ability to assess effects on storm water over the next ten to twenty years, to say nothing of another 80 years.

So, what should be the life of *this* mine? In the medical world, technology can maintain life indefinitely, but with significant costs to quality of life. Similarly, with today's mining technology, we can dig deeper into the ground and grind the rock finer, but at what cost?

Thank you for your attention,

Elizabeth Maher, MD

518-251-5210

bethmaher@hotmail.com

**From:** [Markwica, Mike](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#); [RALBANO@BARTON.COM](mailto:RALBANO@BARTON.COM)  
**Date:** Monday, July 22, 2024 1:22:38 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from mmarkwica@johnsburgcsd.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

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I would like to submit this letter of support for Barton's Mines.

Thank you,  
Michael J. Markwica



Support Letter for Baton Mines

--

Michael J. Markwica  
Superintendent  
Johnsburg Central School  
165 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853  
(518) 251-2921 ext. 9

*James E McGee*  
1359 rt 28  
Warrensburg NY 12885

*November 17, 2021*

Mr. Robert Lore  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA Mine Permit Modification Application**

Dear Mr. Lore,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' APA mine permit modification application.

Barton has been a valued and respected business in the Town of Johnsburg for over a century, and their proposal will enable the company to continue in this capacity for many years to come.

Barton has gone above and beyond to be a good neighbor in the development of this application. The effort Barton has made to minimize any visual impacts of its residual minerals pile should be applauded. Their new plan to place a portion of their residuals back into the mine as part of the reclamation process will help slow the growth of the pile. At the same time, they will be reclaiming portions of the pile on an ongoing basis by planting trees and other vegetation, which will help it blend into the natural landscape.

This community-minded approach on the part of the company is how they do business. While Barton sells its "Made in the Adirondacks" products all over the world, they are a private local company that provides full-time jobs to 75 local people and supports many local community organizations and causes.

Barton Mines has been a part of the Gore region since 1878 and to its credit, has been responsibly managing its mining operations as the community has grown and changed around it.

I hope the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is a well-thought-out and responsible application in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community.

Sincerely,

***James McGee***

Copy To:

Joseph Zalewski  
NYS DEC Regional Director  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)

Andrea Hogan  
Town of Johnsburg Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

[supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
140 Glen Street, Suite 101  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[simpsonm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simpsonm@nyassembly.gov)

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

[stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov)

**From:** [Magee, Corrie \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [tom.meusel@gmail.com](mailto:tom.meusel@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** RE: Barton Mines Comments  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 7:40:00 AM

---

There is no deadline for an applicant to respond to the Agency's questions. Once an application is determined complete, a public notice of completion is issued, followed by a formal public comment period.

---

**From:** tom.meusel@gmail.com <tom.meusel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 1:11 PM  
**To:** Magee, Corrie (APA) <Corrie.Magee@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Barton Mines Comments

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Hi Corrie, Thank you for your quick response and status. Is there a deadline for which Barton needs to respond to the Nov 21 Notice whereby the application would be declined?

If and when Barton does respond, what happens from there? Will there be an opportunity for public response, a hearing, etc?

Thanks again, Tom

Tom Meusel  
[tom.meusel@gmail.com](mailto:tom.meusel@gmail.com)

---

**From:** Magee, Corrie (APA) <[Corrie.Magee@apa.ny.gov](mailto:Corrie.Magee@apa.ny.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 11, 2023 9:30 AM  
**To:** [tom.meusel@gmail.com](mailto:tom.meusel@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Barton Mines Comments

Good morning, Tom.

Your 2/2/2022 and 1/10/2023 comments have been included in the Barton project file, and will be considered during Agency review. Barton has still not submitted a response to the November 2021 Notice of Incomplete Permit Application, and so the application remains incomplete.

Thank you,  
Corrie

**Corrie Magee**  
Environmental Program Specialist 1

*She/her/hers*

**NYS Adirondack Park Agency**

PO Box 99

1133 NYS Route 86

Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [corrie.magee@apa.ny.gov](mailto:corrie.magee@apa.ny.gov)

[www.apa.ny.gov](http://www.apa.ny.gov)

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**From:** [Burth, John M. \(APA\)](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Corrie \(APA\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Status of Barton Mines permit amendment  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 11, 2023 7:54:39 AM

---

Hi Corrie – Please see below and respond to Tom Meusel that his comment is part of the project file and will be considered during review of the application, Barton has not submitted a response to the November 2021 NIPA, and the project remains incomplete. Thanks!

## John M. Burth

Environmental Program Specialist 3

### NYS Adirondack Park Agency

PO Box 99  
1133 NYS Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

(518) 891-4050 | [John.Burth@apa.ny.gov](mailto:John.Burth@apa.ny.gov)  
[www.apa.ny.gov](http://www.apa.ny.gov)

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**From:** [tom.meusel@gmail.com](mailto:tom.meusel@gmail.com) <[tom.meusel@gmail.com](mailto:tom.meusel@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 3:14 PM  
**To:** Lore, Robert (APA) <[Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:Robert.Lore@apa.ny.gov)>  
**Cc:** Martino, Terry (APA) <[Terry.Martino@apa.ny.gov](mailto:Terry.Martino@apa.ny.gov)>; Zalewski, Joseph M (DEC) <[joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov)>; [SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov](mailto:SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov); [stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov); [supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com); Rice, Barbara (APA) <[Barbara.Rice@apa.ny.gov](mailto:Barbara.Rice@apa.ny.gov)>; [ernst6411@gmail.com](mailto:ernst6411@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Status of Barton Mines permit amendment

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**ATTENTION:** This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Dear Mr. Lore, It has been almost a year since I wrote my email below, regarding my concerns with Barton Mines permit amendment for expansion, without any acknowledgement or response from you or your office.

Since the APA issued a Notice of Incomplete Application (NIPA) on November 16, 2021 there has been no update or status of the application either.

As a concerned resident of North River I would like to know that status of the permit amendment. In addition I would expect that such a highly sensitive permit for expansion would require an official adjudicatory public hearing at the appropriate time.

I would appreciate an update on the above as well as any expectations for next steps.

Thank you and regards, Tom Meusel

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**From:** [tom.meusel@gmail.com](mailto:tom.meusel@gmail.com) <[tom.meusel@gmail.com](mailto:tom.meusel@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 2, 2022 3:05 PM

**To:** [robert.lore@apa.ny.gov](mailto:robert.lore@apa.ny.gov)

**Cc:** [friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofsiameseponds@gmail.com); [terry.martino@apa.ny.gov](mailto:terry.martino@apa.ny.gov); [joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joseph.zalewski@dec.ny.gov); [SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov](mailto:SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov); [stec@nysenate.gov](mailto:stec@nysenate.gov); [supervisor@johnsburgny.com](mailto:supervisor@johnsburgny.com)

**Subject:** Proposed Barton Mines Expansion Project

Dear Mr. Lore,

My family and I started visiting North River and Garnet Hill more than 30 years ago and immediately fell in love with the area for its natural beauty, peacefulness and quiet serenity that it offered to us on our visits. In 2006 we became homeowners and residents to spend more time enjoying all that the area has to offer. Unfortunately, over the past several years we have become deeply concerned about what seems to be unfettered growth and expansion of the Ruby Mountain mining operation, creating highly noticeable noise, light and dust pollution as well as traffic noise of large trucks up and down 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road.

At first, we thought it was just an occasional nuisance that we'd hear the mine operating, but then it became constant during the week, into evenings and weekends such that we no longer can sit outside our home without hearing the constant hum and blasts of the mine.

Now with the proposed expansion of the mine we cannot imagine the negative impact this will have on the area, including wildlife and the ecosystem of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness in which they thrive. I was struck by this on a recent visit to Gore Mtn in Sept. I rode the Gondola to the top of Gore and looked to the northwest and saw what looked like a strip-mine from coal country. It was shocking to discover how vast and visible the Barton mine operation had become.

The fact that there is a mine within the Adirondack Park seems to be counter to the purpose of the park. Some of the impact I've personally witnessed include:

- Dust and dirt from the mining operation as well as from the mine's massive tailings pile on my home and outdoor furniture
- Constant truck noise and road damage from increased traffic on 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Rd from the massive trucks hauling stone from the mine
- Regular humming noise and blasts from the mining operation on weekdays, after dark and on weekends
- Lighting from the mine now dilutes the sky at night washing out views of the beauty of the evening stars on some nights
- Mining runoff into nearby streams causing the water to turn white and the brook trout population to decline
- Ever increasing tailings piles that are visible from 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road, hiking trails in the surrounding area and nearby Gore Mtn

I recognize the mine has been operating for many years, but in the early days it seemed to be in harmony with the surrounding the area. That is no longer the case, and it should not be allowed to



expand its operations. In fact, I believe it needs to be reined in to reduce the current negative impact it's have on the surrounding "forever wild" area.

I appreciate you taking the time to read my letter and I hope you and the APA will re-assess this project and not allow any further expansion of the mine that will continue to come at the expense of the nearby community and integrity of the neighboring Siamese Ponds Wilderness.

Respectfully,

Tom Meusel  
North River, NY

JAN 11 2024

1.11.24

John Passacantando: Comments to APA board members and senior staff

Hello, my name is John Passacantando. My wife and I live in North River, NY, in the Garnet-Hill community. I am also the co-director of the Friends of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness. We have lived here for nine years and have been coming to the southern Adirondacks for more than 30 years.

I am not opposed to Barton Mines, and I appreciate its important history and current role as an employer in our community. Everyone I know is supportive of the jobs it provides, as we know that in our small community, all jobs are important. Mining jobs as well as the jobs of the servers, cooks, maintenance staff, Outdoor center employees of the Garnet Hill Lodge and related businesses and jobs throughout the area.

In this community we have peacefully co-existed with the mine for many years. The language in the mine's first APA permit, which was rather simply written, was issued contingent upon the operator's assurance that the mine will not be heard or seen in North River and the adjacent wilderness. The original permit was issued in 1979. Serendipitously, Paul Cormack bought the old Garnet Hill Lodge in 1970 and then built the Garnet Hill community around it. The community has second homeowners as well as full timers, more each year, and these people provide an important tax base and much community support for the Town of Johnsburg. It is designed to be a good neighbor to the surrounding wilderness.

While evaluating a major expansion of the mine for a period of up to 70 years, please note: The noise from the mine dramatically increased 6-7 years ago. This new industrial drone in the community and the adjacent wilderness was not here before. The towering piles of mill waste are new to our landscape. I have handed out a photo I took about a week ago from the old Hooper mine in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness to give you a sense of the current enormity of what you are being asked to permit for expansion. And when the wind blows hard enough, the tailings become dust clouds throughout the community and wilderness.

Barton International has indicated that the only people raising these concerns are second homeowners. That is not true. It is also not relevant. It would be like me arguing that this mine has no right to exist here because none of its executive team or board members live in the township of Johnsburg. They have a right to live wherever they want. But the impacts are in this community.

The Garnet Hill community predates the mine on Ruby Mountain. A regional DEC staffer dismissed the complaints of one of my neighbors about the constant loud noise coming from the mine by saying that “she should have known there was a large, active mine in the neighborhood.” Yes, there was a mine when she purchased her home. But it was a mine that, at the time, was not noisy – as required in its APA permit. This DEC staffer’s comment suggests that when one is buying a home in the Adirondacks they need a near clairvoyant sense of how a neighborhood will evolve over decades. I certainly hope this was a rogue comment, and that

decision makers will approach the permitting process with an accurate and fair appraisal of the situation at hand.

As you make decisions about the next 70 years for my community, know that on your watch, a waste pile has risen higher than the Great Pyramid of Giza in Egypt. It's visible from space. A new constant industrial droning, 24-hour per day, has emerged. There are questions about the stability of this waste pile, even before another 70 years of waste is piled atop it. I urge you to take the citizens' concerns seriously.

Thank you.



**From:** [drew vic](#)  
**To:** [Caldwell, Elaine M. \(APA\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Permit  
**Date:** Monday, August 12, 2024 2:15:27 PM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Mines Support VL.docx](#)

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Hello,

Please see below.

Thank you,  
Vicki Lewis

Sent from my iPhone

August 12, 2024

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885 Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977 rpcomments@apa.ny.gov  
RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing this letter to support the requested mining application for the Barton Mines Corporation. The Barton Mines Corporation has a 100+ year track record of supporting the local community and the people within it and this application is critical for the future success of our company and the families that it supports. Please approve this permit application, you know that the Company will always continue to do the right thing for the community.

Thank you,

Victoria B. Lewis

610-781-9928

drevick@yahoo.com

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

SEP 20 2023

Box 6

Wevertown, N. Y. 12886

September 1, 2023

David Plante

Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs

Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box Raybrook, N.Y. 12977

Dear Mr. Plante:

We are writing in support of Barton Mines' Permit Modification which must be approved to extend the company's Adirondack operations--providing important jobs and essential economic benefits for future generations and doing so with regard for the Adirondack environment.

Our support is based on the following:

--Our living in the area. We have had careers here and have known Barton Mines' employees for decades.

--Kris: Graduated from Albany State Magna Cum Sum Laude: Taught all the sciences (physics, chemistry, biology, earth science, environmental science, and the general sciences) at Minerva Central School for 49 years. Several students have been Barton employees.

--Art: NY State Police career mostly in the Adirondacks and an Adirondack wildlife artist and sculptor.

--We live with knowledge and care about the Adirondack environment. *In 2004, we were recipients of the New York Forest Owners of the Year Award presented to us by the Lieutenant Governor in Albany for our Forest Management Practices.*

--We are aware of the Permit Modification Plan. We believe the Barton Mines' Modifications would be correct for the future.

Thank You.

Sincerely,

  
Arthur C. Perryman

  
Kristine A. Perryman

cc: Charles Barton



JAN 11 2024

Good morning. My name is John Privitera. I have a camp in the Garnet Hills on the Eastern edge of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area, where I spend much of my time. The Siamese Ponds Wilderness includes wild Thirteenth Lake, an important access point for disabled wilderness enthusiasts.

The text of The Park Act states that the wild forest must not only be protected from development, but the wildlife and the aesthetic resources of the Park must also be conserved, protected, and preserved. This fiduciary obligation to protect the quality—the sanctity--- of the Preserve is solely in your hands.

Sound pollution impairs both the wildlife and the aesthetic resources of the Park. Visitors to wilderness areas have a reasonable expectation of hearing only sounds associated with the natural environment including wind, birds, streams, and waterfalls. And sound pollution is not just coldly measured by a meter. The source and nature of the sound so measured is of equal or greater importance. The alarm call of a raven, splash of a waterfall, or scream of a bobcat can each register very high on the decibel scale, depending upon its proximity, but these are all natural

sounds---all notes in the many chords of sonic beauty in the Adirondack wilderness—and, therefore, not sound pollution at any frequency or at any volume. Yet, the grind and drone of a constant industrial mill echoing off large faces of quarried granite is always sound pollution at any frequency and at any volume in the wilderness.

Can the public even feel a wilderness experience without sonic beauty? Industrial noise in the wilderness destroys the distinguishing factor—the most brilliant facet--- of a Forest Preserve experience.

I was quite surprised to see Barton Mine's legal representative speak during your March 2023 meeting regarding Barton's pending and still to this day incomplete application to expand its industrial operation into resource management lands and to dump waste into many acres of protected Critical Environmental Area. Barton admitted their sound pollution but claimed it must be endured by the public in the woods. This early appearance before you by Barton was procedurally inappropriate and substantively incorrect.

Nothing in the Park Act gives Barton license to impact the wildlife in the Forest Preserve or the aesthetic resources of the Park.

We ask that you listen to Barton's current operations and listen to us. Sometimes we can miss the forest for the trees. For us in the Garnet Hills and the Siamese Ponds, it is about the forest, which must be preserved in all its wilderness qualities, including its fundamental sonic beauty.

Thank you.

**From:** [Privitera, John](#)  
**To:** [Love, Aaron A \(DEC\)](#); [Cooper, Christopher \(APA\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Magee, Corrie \(APA\)](#); [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#); [dec.sm.DEP.R5; APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Barton Mine Application, NYSDEC MLF #50483; APA #A2020-0067  
**Date:** Thursday, June 1, 2023 4:40:34 PM  
**Attachments:** [Ltr to DEC-APA re Barton Mine's Expansion Appl. 4871-3210-6341.docx](#)

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Aaron and Chris:  
Please see attached.  
John

**John Privitera | Whiteman Osterman & Hanna LLP**

One Commerce Plaza | Albany | New York | 12260  
| o | 518.487.7699 | f | 518.487.7777 | Mobile | 518.669.3209  
| e | [JPrivitera@woh.com](mailto:JPrivitera@woh.com) | w | [www.woh.com](http://www.woh.com)

WHITEMAN  
OSTERMAN  
& HANNA LLP

Attorneys at Law  
*www.woh.com*

One Commerce Plaza  
Albany, New York 12260  
518.487.7600 phone  
518.487.7777 fax

John J. Privitera  
Senior Counsel  
518.487.7699 phone  
*jprivitera@woh.com*

June 1, 2023

[Aaron.Love@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Aaron.Love@dec.ny.gov)

Aaron Love, Esq.  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region V  
1115 State Route 86  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, New York 12977-0296

[Christopher.Cooper@apa.ny.gov](mailto:Christopher.Cooper@apa.ny.gov)

Christopher Cooper, Esq.  
New York State Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Route 86  
Ray Brook, New York 12977-0296

Re: Barton Mine's Expansion Application  
NYSDEC PERMIT #5-5230-00002/00002  
NYSDEC MLF #50483  
APA PROJECT #A2020-0067

Dear Sirs:

Please accept this letter on behalf of the Friends of the Siamese Ponds, a group of wilderness enthusiasts dedicated to the defense, protection, and preservation of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness, one of the largest wilderness tracts in the constitutionally protected Adirondack Forest Preserve. It includes a popular, wild, primitive canoe-camping lake, Thirteenth Lake, which

maintains a rare, protected access point for disabled wilderness enthusiasts, and a special, highly protected trail-less core area of rolling forest and streams, preserved for wildlife.

We firmly maintain that the referenced application remains incomplete until Barton discharges its legal obligation to fully abate existing nuisance conditions that are impairing the wild character of our Forest Preserve.

I. Protection and Preservation of our Constitutionally Protected Forest Preserve Necessarily Includes Shielding it From Existing Nuisance Conditions Arising From Industrial Sound Pollution and Industrial Particulate Air Pollution.

The Adirondack Park Agency Act includes a statement of legislative findings that the wild forest, wildlife and aesthetic resources of the Park must be conserved, protected, and preserved while allowing for development within the framework of the law. The statute empowers the Adirondack Park Agency (“Agency”) to fully evaluate noise and any burden on the public, which must be considered prior to granting any permits or permit amendments. Executive Law (“Ex. Law”) § 805(4)(a)(4). The Agency must also consider all impacts upon wildlife. Ex. Law § 804(4)(a)(6).

Sound pollution affects both the ecological and social aspects of wilderness. Visitors to wilderness areas have a reasonable expectation of seeing, hearing, and experiencing only phenomena associated with a specific natural environment including sounds made by wind, birds, streams and waterfalls, for example. Anthropogenic noise like the sound of mining equipment in the wilderness destroys the reasonably expected aesthetic experience of being in the wilderness, and thus the wild character of the Forest Preserve, which must be protected forever.

Paul Matzner, chair of the Nature Sounds Society and curator of the California Library of Natural Sounds of the Oakland Museum, refers to the disturbance of natural sounds in the

wilderness as a “quiet crisis.” Recent scientific research establishes that anthropogenic noise that is only 3 to 10 dB above natural sound levels is known to reduce visitor enjoyment of parks through annoyance and interference with natural quiet.<sup>1</sup> Other recent field research by biologists establishes that noise in this range has documented effects on the richness, abundance, reproductive success, behavior, and physiology of several species of wildlife.<sup>2</sup>

Physiological responses in animals range from mild annoyance to panic and escape. Factors that can influence animal responses include whether an animal is feeding, resting, caring for young, etc.; distance to the sound pollution source; source type; and suddenness and frequency of the source. Closer sound pollution sources generally are more likely to produce a response. Some indirect effects have also been documented, such as eggs kicked from nests when birds flush in response to noise, trampling or separation from young, increased predation, loss of feeding, and avoidance or abandonment of habitat. For some species, the presence of continuous noise may result in permanent avoidance of otherwise high-quality habitat. Id.

Barton's refusal to identify each piece of noise-making equipment by make and model, and video evidence, and, despite State agency requests, refusal to measure baseline, background wilderness sound when the mine including the mill is completely shut down are fatal.

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<sup>1</sup> A. Rapoza, E. Sudderth, K. Lewis, “The Relationship Between Aircraft Noise Exposure and Day-Use Visitor Survey Responses in Backcountry Areas of National Parks.” J. Acoust. Soc. Am. 138, 2090–2105 (2015).

<sup>2</sup> G. Shannon, M. F. McKenna, L. M. Angeloni, K. R. Crooks, K. M. Fristrup, E. Brown, K. A. Warner, M. D. Nelson, C. White, J. Briggs, S. McFarland, G. Wittemyer, “A Synthesis of Two Decades of Research Documenting the Effects of Noise on Wildlife.” Biol. Rev. Camb. Philos. Soc. 91, 982–1005 (2016). J. R. Barber, K. R. Crooks, K. M. Fristrup, “The Costs of Chronic Noise Exposure for Terrestrial Organisms.” Trends Ecol. Evol. 25, 180–189 (2010).

The constitutionally protected Forest Preserve demands the assertion of the Department's and the Agency's permitting power to protect and conserve the wild quality of the Siamese Ponds much the same as it requires protection of the wilderness from direct development.

Neither the Department nor the Agency may countenance, much less issue permits that knowingly impair the natural sounds of the wilderness.

The alarm call of a raven, splash of a waterfall, hoot of an owl, scream of a bobcat and howl of a coyote can each register very high on the decibel scale, depending upon its proximity, but these are all natural sounds, and therefore not sound pollution at any frequency or volume in the wilderness. Yet, the grind and drone of a constant rock mill and related industrial equipment echoing off large faces of quarried granite is always sound pollution at any frequency or volume in the wilderness.

Barton's application is incomplete because it refuses to conduct a competent assessment of its constant and cumulative sound pollution, much less endeavor to mitigate the nuisance sounds from its operations. Barton appears to acknowledge the ongoing nuisance that it maintains by arguing before the Commissioners at the March 2023 meeting that its sound pollution must be tolerated. This is not the case. Barton has no prerogative or permit to impair state land, which is set aside as wilderness, with sound pollution. It may have received a building permit for the mill building on site, but the external impact of the equipment and operations inside the building are clearly not beyond regulatory or judicial reach, including anything that may generate sound pollution, light pollution, uncontrolled stormwater runoff and other impacts.

Indeed, the core language within the very definition of wilderness in New York State demands the preservation of the primeval character of the Forest Preserve, which requires that only



natural sounds may be heard within it. The Forest Preserve is sovereign land. It is owned by the people, and it may not be molested by private parties. No entity has any pre-existing right to impair the public's land. In the Adirondacks, we define our wilderness as follows:

A wilderness area, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man – where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. A wilderness area is further defined to mean an area of state land or water ***having a primeval character***, without significant improvement or permanent human habitation, ***which is protected and managed so as to preserve, enhance and restore, where necessary, its natural conditions***, and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, ***with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable***; (2) ***has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation***; (3) has at least ten thousand acres of contiguous land and water or is of sufficient size and character as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value. (Emphasis added.)

State of New York Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan, P.22.

Barton's work to date is fatal in refusing to even consider, much less fully evaluate as the law requires, Barton's sound pollution of the wilderness. Barton's operation was inaudible except for occasional blasts until very recently. Barton has failed to complete the record with any explanation or analysis as to why conditions have changed. The noise output from Barton's operation that is cast upon the Forest Preserve has never been permitted. Barton must return to being inaudible in the wilderness.

- II. Contrary to Barton's Flawed Legal Position, Barton Does Not Have a Permit to Maintain a Nuisance, and Park Wilderness Visitors and Residents Have No Obligation to Suffer It.

The existing nuisance conditions from Barton, primarily arising out of constant sound pollution and episodic offsite fugitive dust, are recent phenomena and are not acceptable as a matter of law.

The many comments and testimonials that the Department and the Agency have received since Barton submitted its application to expand are uniform and consistent in establishing that the nuisance conditions relating to sound pollution and dust have arisen in the past four or five years. There is nothing in the record to the contrary. In fact, Barton does not dispute it.

Rather, Barton decided to seek to escape its legal obligation to abate the undeniable recent nuisance conditions by arguing at a public meeting that the wilderness and the community must accept the nuisance burden forever because the mine gained its first approval over forty years ago.

Specifically, Barton's legal representative spoke during the March 2023 APA meeting public comment period and claimed that the nuisance must be endured, based upon a misrepresentation of the facts to the Agency by Barton, and a significant misstatement of New York Law to the Commissioners. The factual misrepresentations are corrected by the April 24, 2023 letter of Patrick Teague, which is in the record. Many nearby residents are full time and have been in the Garnet Hills for a long time. Id.

The effort at a legal argument, that the residential community and the Garnet Hill Lodge "came to the nuisance" and thus must live with it, finds no support in New York jurisprudence even if the nuisance conditions began more than five years ago, which they did not. Barton lacks any permit or right to impair the rights of wilderness enthusiasts to a wilderness experience free of industrial sounds and industrial dust, and Barton may not impair the rights of homeowners or

Garnett Hill Lodge visitors to the quiet woods of the Adirondacks that are its strength and core value.

New York jurisprudence has long held that where property is so utilized as to constitute a public or private nuisance, the fact that an individual thereafter purchases or occupies property in an area affected by the nuisance will not defeat the right to its abatement, or the recovery of damages due to its continuance, since the fact that the complainant came to a nuisance does not constitute a defense or an estoppel nor justify the continued operation of the nuisance.<sup>3</sup> Absent the existence of a prescriptive right by reason of adverse use over the period of the statute of limitations, a property owner may obtain relief from a nuisance despite having acquired title with knowledge of the condition constituting the nuisance.<sup>4</sup> Barton has not acquired any rights over the quality of the wilderness. And Barton cannot impair the rights of the public at large to the quiet enjoyment of the wilderness.

For all these reasons, Barton must abate its nuisance conditions and Barton's public position at an Agency meeting that it has a right to be a nuisance must be rejected as a matter of law.

III. Barton's Application is Incomplete Without Dust Data, Further Independent Engineering Analysis, and an Effective and Enforceable Dust Suppression and Management Plan.

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<sup>3</sup> Bly v. Edison Electric Illuminating Co., 175 N.Y. 1, 64 N.E. 745 (1902); Campbell v. Seaman, 63 N.Y. 568, 1876 WL 12084 (1876); Gordon v. Village of Silver Creek, 127 A.D. 888, 112 N.Y.S. 54 (4<sup>th</sup> Dep't 1908), aff'd, 197 N.Y. 509, 90 N.E. 1159 (1909); Friedman v. Columbia Mach. Works & Malleable Iron Co., 99 A.D. 504, 91 N.Y.S. 129 (2<sup>nd</sup> Dep't).

<sup>4</sup> Fordham Operating Corp. v. Westchester County, 82 Misc. 2d 566, 370 N.Y.S 2d 977 (Supp 1975), order aff'd, 51 A.D.2d 1014, 382 N.Y.S.2d 292 (2d Dep't 1976).

Large plumes of dust regularly blow off the Barton waste piles into the woods, waters, wildlife habitat, roads, gardens, and homes that are downwind of Barton. These air pollution events establish that Barton does not have control over the massive quantity of very fine particulates, described as 'flour' or 'fine-grain', that Barton now generates pursuant to their current fine garnet/waterjet cutting and polishing business model.

This out-of-control dust problem is new to the wilderness and the community, and it is escalating at a rapid rate, as Barton admits in their May 1, 2023 submission. That is, in Barton's recent application to expand, the company stated that its expanding piles of waste materials, covering a vast 73 acres, consisted of 6% 'fine-grain' waste. Yet, in the May 1 submission, Barton states that this powdery waste that is prone to air pollution events has increased over the past year or so to 10% of the existing waste. P. 9.

This new disclosure does not include any description in the record of the current run-of-the-mill percentage of dust-prone waste rock, but the growth implies much more than 10% fine dust during current production, at least 25,000 cubic yards a year. This powdery material is so fine that Barton has been and proposes to continue to create "tailings slimes," as they call it, to mix it with water, and to pump it around the mine site in a slurry. The record on this operation is incomplete and there is no discussion of what Barton does when their wastewater lagoons become full of the waste rock mud.

The record remains incomplete in part because there is no laboratory data on file as to the constituents of the dust, both on site and where it is deposited downwind, and the concentration and size fraction of the airborne dust at the Barton fence line and in the adjacent community and wilderness. If Barton is unwilling to complete the record on this issue, we maintain that the

Department or the Agency must take and analyze offsite samples and compare these data with the composition of the dust onsite. The community is entitled to know, at the very least, whether Barton's air pollution events comply with existing Clean Air Act legal requirements. See generally, 40 CFR Part 50 (National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter).

Barton presents no engineering analysis of the stability of the dust, including that which is maintained in part as rock mud that gradually fills the wastewater lagoons on site. Barton theorizes that the rock mud rock may be managed when it is later mixed, as the company proposes, with coarse-grained waste piles. Without any analysis of costs, Barton simply asserts that management of its waste, including the newly formed nuisance dust, by any method other than piling it around on site is "not considered an economically viable option". P. 10. Industrial management of waste always comes at a cost, and Barton's bold assertion that doing anything other than piling up the waste on site as they go is cost prohibitive fails to provide the Agency and the Department with the tools to gauge completeness; the assertion by an applicant that something is expensive is simply not fact-based environmental impact alternatives analysis.

The most recent example of an air pollution event from the nuisance dust problem occurred on May 16, 2023, as depicted in the photographs that were promptly submitted to the Department and the Agency soon after the event. The wind conditions were not extraordinary, since we only had gusts up to about 30 miles per hour that day. See generally, <http://www.nysmesonet.org/weather/meteogram#network=nysm&stid=ilak>.

The community and the wilderness will certainly endure more significant wind conditions in the future, particularly as climate change escalates the force of the prevailing westerlies and sometimes swings blasts of arctic winds southerly, across the rapidly expanding 73 acres of waste

material. Barton also proposes to increase the height of the waste piles by 100 feet, exposing the piles to higher wind velocities at altitude and decreasing wind protection from adjacent landforms.

The Department's December 15, 2022 Letter Regarding Dust states that Barton's mining permit, Condition 14, Dust Control, requires that, "Water or other approved dust palliatives must be applied to haulage ways and other parts of the mine, as often as necessary, to prevent visible dust from leaving the mine property."

Barton's Mining permit requires prevention of offsite dust migration. They have failed to prevent this, violating their permit and maintaining a nuisance.

- 1) Barton must provide a critique of methods deployed to date and the reasons they were unsuccessful;
- 2) Barton must determine the sources of the offsite dust (e.g., face of tailings pile, road traffic, slime deposition area, etc.);
- 3) Barton must measure concentration and composition of dust (PM<sub>2.5</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>, total particulates, and toxic constituents) at the Barton boundary at all elevations, and in the community. The practice of measuring air pollution (and noise for that matter) only at the fence line and at the closest receptor, as a way to measure worst-case conditions, is not necessarily valid with a mountain-top mining operation, where steep topography complicates deposition patterns;
- 4) Barton must evaluate how the proposed increase in width and height of the expanded tailings pile may increase offsite dust migration (e.g., exposure to more frequent and stronger winds); and

- 5) On Page 46 of the revised application, Barton proposes several dust suppression options for the new tailings pile, including vegetative reclamation, temporary vegetative covers (hydroseeding), annual placement of a biodegradable treatment recently tested and found to “drastically reduce the potential for fugitive dust,” application of water to roads and storage piles, and installation of a meteorological station to monitor weather conditions. Each of these methods must be fully and successfully deployed to abate the ongoing fugitive dust nuisance.
- 6) The Department and the Agency should consider and apply recently issued dust management plans for aggregate piles at Norlite in Cohoes, the Dunn Mine and Landfill in Rensselaer and LaFarge Cement in Ravena as templates for a Barton Dust BMP.
- 7) The amended New York State Community Risk and Resiliency Act (CRRRA) and DEC Commissioner's Policy 49 “Climate Change and Policy Action” impose a legal mandate upon the Department and the Agency to evaluate how changes in future climate conditions (e.g., changes in rainfall intensity, drought, and wind speed) may affect the generation of offsite dust. There is nothing in the record on this, rendering the application incomplete as a matter of law.

These approaches, and other options as well, need to be presented in a Dust Mitigation and Best Management Plan (“BMP”). The alternatives need to be further explained, including details on implementation and monitoring. For example, the BMP needs to explain the feasibility of watering the entire waste pile, roads and other dust source areas prior to expected high wind conditions, including whether Barton has enough volume of water available; the stability of the

biodegradable treatment to wind and water erosion and how the frequency of application is determined; the basis upon which to conclude that an effective temporary vegetative cover via hydroseeding can be established; and, the expected success in the winter months.

Barton increased the estimate of fines in the waste rock from 6% in its initial application (10/15/21) to 10% in the revised application, a 67% increase (from 6% to 10%), without a BMP in place and without a projection as to potential increases in offsite dust transport.

In the areas of waste pile expansion Barton's geotechnical consultant (see Appendix T) outlines plans to clear the area to bedrock, then compact a coarse material base 10-20 feet high, using a vibratory roller, the sound of which is yet to be measured or abated. The potential for dust generation from this activity and the mitigation alternatives when dust is generated must be explained in the record before the application is deemed complete.

For all of these reasons, data sets as to the constituents, concentration and size fractions of the dust and a reliable and enforceable dust suppression and management plan, including a daily BMP, which is approved by the Department and the Agency, are absolutely necessary elements of a complete application. Moreover, an applicant must always abate existing nuisance conditions before governmental consideration of a permit application at the location where the nuisance exists.

IV. Barton's Application is Incomplete Without a Fully Developed Record as to Barton's Abandonment of its Original Reclamation Plan Which Formed the Basis for the Agency's Site Plan Approval.

Barton's application for the original site plan approval and mining activities was closely scrutinized. The Agency subjected the proposed development to a hard look and made sure that



the active progression of both mining and reclamation activities would follow the intent and the result of Barton's original Master Plan, which provided as follows:

*Mine Visual Impact Reduction*

The mine will be excavated in benches starting from top to bottom. The anticipated depth of the excavation is 2-Q01+. The initial phase (see section) of the mine can be easily screened by preserving existing vegetation at the edge of the excavation. This concept becomes more effective when a 10+ foot berm is maintained with the vegetation (also controls runoff). By maintaining this natural screen around the mine, the visual impact of the mining equipment and operation is eliminated at all visual reference points at lower elevations. The access road during the initial phase enters the mine from the north which is also screened from the dominant views.

As the middle phases (see section) of the mine are excavated, the mining operation can still be screened completely by the vegetated berm. However, views of the back and side walls of the mine become exposed. As the various benches are developed, the exposed side and back walls are reclaimed at each level. As the upper walls are exposed to view above the vegetation, they are already reclaimed.

Three (3) specific tasks are required at the completion of each bench to accomplish this phased visual impact reduction: grading, rock excavation and planting.

Grading the edges of each bench to blend smoothly and naturally into the existing landforms will create a more naturally shaped excavation. The side walls will be graded to reflect the surrounding slopes and topography.

Exposed rock on the walls of the mine will be blasted in such a way as to create a natural rock face. To ensure the safety of the operation, this irregularity must be controlled to provide a stable condition for future bench excavations. Random pockets or benches will be provided in the rock face for planting. The goal of this rock excavation is to match as closely as possible the natural rock outcroppings common in the Adirondacks.

The final task for reclaiming the benches is planting. On-site vegetation will be transplanted from the next bench to the side and back walls of the completed bench. Stockpiled topsoil will be spread to provide a growing medium. A seed mixture of grasses and cover crops will also be planted to control erosion on reclaimed benches.

The extent and shape of the garnet deposit cannot be determined exactly. If valuable deposits are discovered with a previously reclaimed wall as overburden, the wall may have to be excavated and reclaimed again to uncover the deposit.

*Tailings Area Impact Reduction*

The tailings area visual impact reduction concept is similar but reversed. The tailings area is basically a settling basin for fine stone waste. As each basin fills in, another is constructed above it and so on. Ultimately the entire area is graded and reclaimed. Revised 2023 Application, Appendix H, Current APA and DEC Permits.

Barton has a regulatory obligation to implement a progressive, year-by-year reclamation plan in all areas of land that have been mined, over the life of the mine. 6 NYCRR Part 420 *et seq.* Each one-to-five-year permit application by Barton, such as the one at hand, must describe the reclamation that has occurred, according to the progressive reclamation plan, during the past incremental term of the permit that is expiring. See 6 NYCRR Part 421.1(e)(4). Barton has not done this, or it has violated the regulations and failed to do it completely.

Moreover, any state permit that grants a right to mine land must include a required reclamation schedule that imposes the various phases of reclamation that must be done during the term of the permit, as permit conditions. The reclamation plan must include final elevations upon re-application of the overburden of soil that has been scraped and stored prior to mining activity, the details of a revegetation plan, and a long-term plan for the wastewater lagoons and slurry management areas that are built and used during the life of the mine. *Id.* Barton proposes no progress on reclamation during the 1–5-year term of the permit it is seeking.

Further, to the extent that Barton intends to reclaim one or more of its many wastewater and stormwater lagoons as mountain ponds or wetlands adjacent to the Siamese Ponds Wilderness, these areas must function in harmony with the ecosystem, and the long-term plan for these surface

water or wetland areas must be articulated and imposed as a permit condition. As a matter of law, Barton must detail the expected long term water quality and ecosystem functionality of the abandoned wastewater lagoons. 6 NYCRR Part 422.3(d)(3).

The Agency is entitled to a site plan that achieves the Agency's original intent of an invisible operation. Remarkably, when the Department and the Agency asked Barton to submit some reclamation and visual impact alternatives by application of a standard, common professional analysis, Barton said no. See, Barton's May 1, 2023 submission by H2H, Response paragraph 6(b), p. 27. The application is incomplete on this basis alone.

V. Barton's Application to Expand Remains Incomplete Until it Presents a Life of Mine Plan That Does Not Include Dumping Waste in the Park's Legally Protected Critical Environmental Areas.

Critical Environmental Areas ("CEAs") are defined by law as the more sensitive features of the Park's natural environment, which are priority areas, protected against development to conserve the integrity of the Park's ecosystems and the public's lands, values and resources. 9 NYCRR 570.3(g). CEAs are subcategories of the general land use area classifications and are provided extra protection by the law. These CEAs include all wetlands, high elevations, areas around designated study rivers, any area in the Park within 1/4 mile of a river designated as wild, scenic and recreational and, as relevant here, all lands in the Park within 1/8 mile of "State lands classified as wilderness", such as the Siamese Ponds Wilderness immediately adjacent to Barton's mine.

The law does not prioritize one CEA over another. Wilderness border buffers on private land must receive legal protection that is equal in every measure to the hard work the Department and the Agency do every day seeking to protect every square foot of wetland in the Park.

Here, Barton sought and received an industrial use classification for its land, allowing the mine, with a full understanding that all industrial activities on its site would have to be located beyond the 1/8-mile (660 foot) setback from the Forest Preserve, treating the full 660 foot setback area as if it were entirely wetland, just as the law does.

Yet, when the Department and the Agency inform Barton that its application to expand is incomplete because its submissions do not lay out in the public record the absolute need to dump waste in a CEA in the Park, or explore alternatives before proposing such a significant environmental impact, Barton does not provide for any mitigation, much less submit any analysis. Rather, the company states that it has already had an impact by dumping waste in some of the CEA, so it might as well expand the waste footprint. And it proposes to dump waste well within earshot and eyesight of the public while paddling on Thirteenth Lake, a gateway wild water within the Siamese Ponds Wilderness.

The Department and the Agency must not be led into error by Barton's disregard for the Act's legal requirements to protect sensitive resources such as CEAs.

Barton's application to expand must be declared incomplete until Barton submits a Life of Mine Plan that avoids all CEAs on its industrial lands.

VI. Barton's Application is Incomplete Because it Fails to Assess, Much Less Mitigate, the Ecological Impact of Clearcutting, Grubbing and Removing Sixty-Seven Acres of Forest Adjacent to the Forest Preserve.

As set forth in Appendix E of the revised Barton Application, the company briefly describes how, over time, Barton will clear cut 67 acres of mountainside, including the removal of 42,000 trees. Barton does not present clear timelines for proposed expansion activities, including

much of forest destruction it will engage in during the expected 1-5-year permit term it is now seeking.

As presented, it appears that 40 of the 67 acres will be scraped down to bedrock then 10-20 feet of waste rock will be compacted in place to create a drainage system for the expansion of Barton's waste dumping area. The current discussion does not explain the fate of 27 of the acres. The dump location is classified by the Agency as resource management, while the quarry is industrial.

The application contains no mention of the overall ecological impacts of this waste management plan, nor any specific discussion of the noise, dust, visual, fauna (including bats), or water quality impacts that are expected. The Agency and the Department simply lack the necessary information to consider this. Therefore, the application must be deemed incomplete.

VII. The Application Must Be Deemed Incomplete Because Barton Has Failed to Provide Data and Studies in Relation to the Impact of Climate Change and Forest Removal Upon Tailing Pile Stability, Stormwater Flow, and Process Effluent and Receiving Waters Water Quality. The Application Fails to Include Data for a Finding Under the CRRA.

Barton has not used current climate data and projections of future climate conditions to mitigate current and future environmental impacts. Barton must assess the likelihood of increasing harmful site discharges to downstream and downgradient receptors. Barton removal of mountain-top, steep slope forest will reduce water retention capacity influencing stream water quality and exacerbate climate change impacts, including extreme precipitation and drought. The proposed expanded waste pile and quarry containments cells, permanent geological structures, must be designed for millennia, or longer. Engineering design must ensure stability for seismic events, future climate conditions and other factors that may cause incremental or catastrophic failure or

temperature changes in the runoff. Barton geotechnical consultant Knight Piésold lists several important caveats and conditions that must be met to ensure expanded waste pile stability for the life of mine (Appendix T of the revised application). There is no discussion on long-term stability, including costs for maintenance and replacement of underdrain systems and required protective caps.

Barton's expanding waste pile footprint and expanding wastewater lagoons are likely to impact downgradient natural resources because of the volume, temperature, increased instability, and potential rock mud constituents in the effluent.

Potential impacts of failure to consider climate change is evident in the Barton SPPP. (STORMWATER POLLUTION AND PREVENTION PLAN (MSGP 0-17-004 PERMIT # NYR00F623, INDIVIDUAL SPDES PERMIT # NY0034959) dated October 22, 2022.) It is scientifically accepted that past climate data alone can no longer be used as a proxy for future conditions. However, to size stormwater retention basins for heavy precipitation events, it uses old rainfall data assuming a 10-year, Type II 24-hour storm of 3.69 inches. Best available NYSERDA/DEC information for the same storm for life of mine ("LOM") is up to 4.32 inches, a 17% increase. For a LOM future 100-year storm, which must be considered, the precipitation is underestimated by up to 88% (see <https://www.nyclimatescience.org/resources/resource::1485>).

Indeed, Barton's "stormwater practice sizing" is based on volume calculations from July, 2014. See Appendix E "Maintenance Inspection Checklist." The current condition of the many ponds is not described, nor is the rate of their shrinking capacity to deal to with process waters and stormwaters due to siltation from the increased volumes of rock mud. They include "Godzilla Pond," "Alley Pond," "Entrance Pond," "Crusher Pond," and many other ponds including "C-1,

C-2, C-7” and others. All this data is woefully outdated and therefore New York State’s off-site public natural resources, including Brown’s Pond Brook and Thirteenth Lake Brook, are not clearly protected. Brown’s Pond Brook is a trout spawning stream, yet the temperature and other impacts from Barton’s runoff to this resource are not in the record. Since Barton’s application fails to include an ecological survey and a full assessment of the flora and fauna impacted by the company, the record is incomplete as to whether Brown’s Pond Brook still supports trout spawning.

For all these reasons, Barton’s application is incomplete. The CRRA contains a legal mandate that imposes obligations upon the Department and the Agency to develop a record before making a finding that Barton’s extensive and enduring plan is fully resistant to the significant storm events that the future holds.

VIII. Any Further Expansion by Barton into Resource Management Areas is Incompatible with the Adirondack Park Agency Act

Barton assiduously avoids discussion of the land use classification of much of their holdings. A manufacturing mill, other associated buildings and equipment, and a dump in resource management areas are not preferred uses in these sensitive lands. Moreover, Barton’s request to expand further into resource management areas with a permanent waste pile is also inconsistent with the Act.

Resource management areas are defined as “those lands where the need to protect, manage and enhance forest, agricultural, recreational and open space resources is of paramount importance because of the overriding natural resource and public considerations.” Exec Law § 805(3)(g).

Barton’s application to destroy portions of resource management forest, destroy wildlife habitat, and permanently remove the forest floor down to bedrock so as to create a dump violates

the statutory objective to “protect the delicate, physical and biological resources, encourage proper and economic management of forest, agricultural and recreational resources and preserve the open spaces that are essential and basic to the unique character of the Park” Id. at (g)(2).

The placement of mineral extraction structures, the active mineral extraction process, and the dumping of waste tailings are not classified as primary compatible uses of resource management areas. Rather, they are merely secondary uses. Id. at (g)(4).

As a matter of law, secondary uses are “those which are generally compatible with such area, depending upon their particular location and impact upon nearby uses”. Id. at (3)(a). Such a finding cannot be made with respect to Barton’s plan, adjacent to Forest Preserve. Barton’s application remains incomplete until it mitigates impacts upon resource management areas protected by the Act and relocates all waste, equipment and buildings to within industrial lands.

IX. The Scope of Barton’s Proposed Environmental Assessment is Too Narrow as a Matter of Law.

The scope of New York State’s environmental analysis of Barton’s application to expand cannot be narrower than it would be if the mine were outside of the Park. The scope must at least as wide as the critical studies, alternatives analysis, cumulative impact analysis and hard look in which New York engages in any other Type 1 action. The Department and the Agency must not be led into a segmentation error based upon Barton’s wrongful insistence that some of its sound pollution is allowed. The mine is integrated, from blasting to breaking and crushing and milling the granite; cumulative impacts must be considered, and the mill operation cannot be segmented. Indeed, broader, and deeper environmental analysis is required, including an ecological and biological survey, and application of Agency project guidelines to this work, because of the fiduciary duty to protect and conserve the Forest Preserve. Each impact must be studied and all



New York State Department of  
Environmental Conservation  
New York State Adirondack Park Agency  
Re: Barton Mine's Expansion Application  
June 1, 2023 – Page 21

reasonable alternatives to a project's proposed impact must be explored and explained on the record in an environmental assessment, followed by detailed findings as to each mitigation alternative.

Finally, environmental impacts must be mitigated to the extent that they are at all feasible to protect quality of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area, part of our Forest Preserve.

Sincerely,

*John J. Privitera*

John J. Privitera

Cc: Corrie Magee ([Corrie.Magee@apa.ny.gov](mailto:Corrie.Magee@apa.ny.gov))  
Beth Magee ([Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.Magee@dec.ny.gov))  
[dep.r5@dec.ny.gov](mailto:dep.r5@dec.ny.gov)



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**Staff**

Peter Bauer  
*Executive Director*

Claudia K. Braymer, Esq.  
*Deputy Director*

Christopher Amato, Esq.  
*Conservation Director  
and Counsel*

February 14, 2024

**Via Email**

John Ernst  
Chair  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Barbara Rice  
Executive Director  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

**Re: Failure by the Adirondack Park Agency to Comply With the  
Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act**

Dear Mr. Ernst and Ms. Rice:

Protect the Adirondacks! Inc. ("PROTECT") strongly supports the continuing efforts by New York State to address the adverse effects of climate change, including the provisions of the groundbreaking Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act ("CLCPA"). The Adirondack Park is already experiencing significant adverse effects of climate change, including shorter winters, less snowfall, more severe storm events, warming waters, infestations of non-native species, and changing forest composition. It is therefore particularly disappointing that the Adirondack Park Agency ("APA"), charged by statute with protecting the natural resources of the Adirondack Park, is failing to comply with the CLCPA's mandate that all State agencies require and consider an analysis of greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions associated with a proposed project prior to issuing a permit or approval. The Agency's lack of compliance with this critical statutory mandate is difficult to understand given PROTECT's repeated written requests to the APA that it comply with the CLCPA, and the fact that the regulatory tools for conducting the requisite GHG emissions analyses are readily available.

**Protect the Adirondacks**

PO Box 48, North Creek, NY 12853 518.251.2700

[www.protectadks.org](http://www.protectadks.org) [info@protectadks.org](mailto:info@protectadks.org)

*Follow Us on Twitter @ProtectAdkPark and Like Us on Facebook*

The purpose and goal of the CLCPA is to achieve economy-wide reductions in Statewide GHG emissions. Article 75 of the Environmental Conservation Law (“ECL”), enacted as part of the CLCPA, requires the Department of Environmental Conservation (“DEC”) to promulgate regulations ensuring that Statewide GHG emissions be reduced to 40% below 1990 levels by 2030, and 85% below 1990 levels by 2050. ECL § 75-0107(1). DEC promulgated those regulations that translate the statutorily required statewide GHG emission percentage reduction limits into specific limits based on estimated 1990 GHG emission levels. *See* 6 NYCRR Part 496.

As part of the strategy to achieve the necessary reduction in GHG emissions, section 7(2) of the CLCPA imposes a mandatory duty on all State agencies to consider the GHG emissions associated with the issuance of a permit or approval:

In considering and issuing permits, licenses, and other administrative approvals and decisions . . . *all state agencies, offices, authorities and divisions shall consider whether such decisions are inconsistent with or will interfere with the attainment of the statewide [GHG] emissions limits established in [ECL Article 75].* Where such decisions are deemed to be inconsistent with or will interfere with the attainment of the statewide [GHG] emissions limits, each agency, office, authority or division shall provide a detailed statement of justification as to why such limits/criteria may not be met, and identify alternatives or [GHG] mitigation measures to be required where such project is located.

Ch. 106, Laws of 2019, § 7(2); (emphasis added).

Although the CLCPA does not exempt any agency permit or approval from the GHG emissions requirement, APA should at a minimum require a GHG emissions analysis for major projects subject to the Agency’s permit jurisdiction. PROTECT has previously requested that the APA fulfill its climate protection obligations under the CLCPA by requiring applicants for particular major projects to conduct the GHG analysis mandated by section 7(2) of the Act. Specifically, by letters dated October 31, 2022, and September 13, 2023, PROTECT requested the APA to require the GHG emissions analysis mandated by the CLCPA for, respectively, the Stackman major subdivision project in the Town of Jay, Essex County and the Barton Mines expansion project in the Town of Johnsbury, Warren County. APA did not respond to either letter and has so far failed to require a GHG emissions analysis for both projects.

In contrast to APA’s failure to require GHG emissions in its review process, DEC recently issued a Notice of Incomplete Application (“NIPA”) for the Barton Mines project that, among other things, required the applicant to comply with the GHG emissions analysis requirements of the CLCPA:

Please submit a GHG emission analyses that quantifies the increase in upstream and direct GHG emissions resulting from all proposed modifications including the increase in hours for quarry mining, the increase in greenhouse gas emissions from truck traffic as described in the traffic impact assessment, and the increase in hours of operation for supplier vehicles. Please also confirm that all other GHG emissions from the site will remain the same except those explicitly described.

All estimated greenhouse gas emissions calculations should be provided in metric tons per year and in units of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) using the 20-year global warming potentials found in 6 NYCRR Part 496. These estimates should be inclusive of the full scope of applicable GHG emissions defined in 6 NYCRR Part 496. For upstream GHG emissions calculations, refer to the 2023 Statewide GHG Emissions Report Appendix: CLCPA Emission Factors available at <https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/climatechange/greenhouse-gas-emissions-report#Report>.

DEC Notice of Incomplete Application and Technical Comments (Jan. 26, 2024) at 7.

Unfortunately, the APA's NIPA for the Barton Mines project, issued on January 12, 2024, included no requirement for compliance with the CLCPA's GHG emissions analysis requirement. APA staff has indicated that the APA's failure to include that requirement in its NIPA was not due to DEC's inclusion of the requirement in the DEC NIPA.

The CLCPA's mandate could hardly be more plain and, as the DEC NIPA makes clear, the regulatory tools for compliance with the CLCPA's GHG emissions analysis requirements are readily available. We therefore once again call upon the APA to comply with its obligations under the CLCPA by requiring a GHG emissions analysis for all major projects in which APA is "issuing permits, licenses, and other administrative approvals and decisions." Ch. 106, Laws of 2019, § 7(2).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Amato", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christopher Amato  
Conservation Director and Counsel  
Protect the Adirondacks! Inc.  
P.O. Box 48  
North Creek, NY 12853  
Office: (518) 251-2700  
Cell: (518) 860-3696



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February 21, 2024

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**Chair**

**Via Email**

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Michael Wilson  
**Vice-Chairs**

Bernard Melewski, Esq.  
[Bernard@BernardMelewski.com](mailto:Bernard@BernardMelewski.com)  
Attorney for Barton Mines Company, LLC

Barbara Rottier  
**Secretary**

**Re: Barton Mines Company, LLC Application for Mine Expansion**

David Quinn  
**Treasurer**

Dear Bernie:

Nancy Bernstein  
John Caffry  
Andy Coney  
Dean Cook  
James C. Dawson  
Lorraine Duvall  
Robert Glennon  
Roger Gray  
Evelyn Greene  
Sidney Harring  
Sheila Hutt  
Dale Jeffers  
Patricia Morrison  
John Nemjo  
Peter O'Shea  
Philip Terrie  
Chris Walsh

Peter Bauer has asked me to respond to your letter dated February 15, 2024, written on behalf of Barton Mines Company, LLC ("Barton") which requests that Protect the Adirondacks! Inc. ("PROTECT") remove from its website certain information concerning Barton's application to expand its operations at the Ruby Mountain Mine in the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County. You claim that PROTECT's website contains "false and misleading information" about the application, and that the information constitutes an "attack [on] the reputation" of Barton. As discussed below, with two minor exceptions that will be clarified, the statements on PROTECT's website are legally defensible, factually accurate, and supported by Barton's own application materials. I will address each of your claims in the order in which they are raised in your letter.

**Staff**

**The Need for a Solid Waste Management Facility Permit**

Peter Bauer  
**Executive Director**

Your letter correctly notes that PROTECT sent a letter to the Department of Environmental Conservation ("DEC") dated January 4, 2024, stating that the massive waste disposal site on the Ruby Mountain Mine property, which Barton euphemistically refers to as the "Resource Mineral Engineered Storage Facility," is a solid waste management facility as defined by Environmental Conservation Law ("ECL") § 27-0701(2) and therefore requires a Part 360 permit pursuant to ECL § 27-0707(1). As stated in Barton's application, the waste disposed of at the facility is from an industrial process utilizing a crusher and milling operation that generates two waste streams: a slurry containing fine-grained particles and coarse-grained solid waste. The slurry is disposed of in the Middle Pond and Upper Pond on the waste pile and the coarse-grained waste is disposed of on the pile.

Claudia K. Braymer, Esq.  
**Deputy Director**

Christopher Amato, Esq.  
**Conservation Director  
and Counsel**

As you note, the DEC Regional Attorney responded by letter dated January 18, 2024, stating that "[t]he tailings described in your letter were generated at the

mine and are managed on-site and therefore do not require a solid waste management facility permit.” The Regional Attorney’s letter cited 6 NYCRR Part 363-2.1(e) as the basis for his conclusion. However, the cited regulation exempts from the solid waste permitting requirements only “mining and drilling waste;” in other words, wastes that are generated as a result of mining activity. In contrast, the two waste streams being disposed of at the waste pile are generated by an industrial process involving crushing and milling and are therefore not generated by mining activity. Because these two waste streams are created by an industrial process, not by mining, they do not fall within the exemption granted by 6 NYCRR Part 363-2.1(e). The fact that this industrial process occurs on Barton property and is co-located with a mine confers no independent exemption under either statute or regulation.

In fact, as pointed out in PROTECT’s January 4 letter, the DEC regulations specifically include certain mining wastes within the definition of “solid waste” and, because the disposal facility receives two industrial solid waste streams from the milling and crushing process, it meets the definition of a “solid waste management facility.” See 6 NYCRR §§ 360.2(a)(1), 360.2(b)(101). PROTECT’s letter also notes that Barton’s plan to “store” the coarse-grained industrial tailings waste in the waste pile in perpetuity constitutes disposal of that waste, *id.* § 360.2(b)(262) (specifying that “any waste retained on-site for a period in excess of 12 months constitutes disposal”), and that Barton’s APA permit repeatedly refers to the waste pile as a disposal site for unwanted/spent waste material. See 6 NYCRR § 360.2(a)(1) (defining “solid waste” as “discarded materials . . . resulting from industrial [or] mining . . . operations” when the “material” is “spent, worthless, or in excess to the generator”, and is “processed,” “place[d]” onto the land, or “accumulated or transferred instead of or before being processed or disposed”).

These factual and legal issues were fully set forth in our seven-page January 4 letter to DEC and the Adirondack Park Agency (“APA”). Significantly, the Regional Attorney’s one-page response fails to address the facts and law cited in PROTECT’s letter and provides no detailed factual or legal analysis to support his conclusion that the waste disposal facility is exempt from the Part 360 permit requirements.

As I’m sure you understand, a one-page letter from a DEC Regional Attorney that fails to address the legal and factual arguments in PROTECT’s letter does not constitute the last word on this issue and is certainly not binding on PROTECT. We respectfully disagree with the Regional Attorney’s conclusion—as is our right in this public regulatory process. However, to address your concerns we have updated the website post to refer to the Regional Attorney’s letter and our reasons for disagreeing with his legal conclusion.

### **Violation of APA Permit**

You also claim as false PROTECT’s statements that Barton is “in violation of its APA permit, which sets specific limits on the allowable size and volume” of the waste disposal pile and that “the APA staff recently informed Barton that it has exceeded those limits.” As stated in our January 4 letter, the APA’s Notice of Incomplete Application (“NIPA”) requires Barton “to clearly indicate that RM pile expansion beyond what is currently permitted by Agency Permit 87-39B has not been authorized.” APA’s NIPA is confirmation of the accuracy of PROTECT’s statement that

Barton violated its current APA permit. Moreover, although not stated in PROTECT's January 4 letter, it is our understanding that the APA has opened an enforcement file on this matter.

In any event, PROTECT's letter also notes that "by 2023 Barton by its own estimates had disposed of approximately 8.7 million cubic yards of waste in the RM pile—far above the 5.9 million cubic yards authorized by the APA permit." Your letter does not dispute this. In fact, in a submission to DEC and APA dated January 2020, Barton stated that "[t]he current tailings pile foot print is +/- 73 acres with a peak elevation of ~2,275 ft. amsl." Thus, Barton apparently did not know in 2020 whether the waste pile had already exceeded the APA permit's size and elevation limits but was assuming that it was at, near, or already exceeding those limits. Since Barton annually disposes from 350,000 to 400,000 tons of waste in the pile, it appears from simple mathematics that Barton has exceeded the APA permit limits. Therefore, PROTECT continues to maintain that Barton has exceeded the waste pile limits specified in its APA permit.

### **Frequency of Blasting**

You claim that Barton is not seeking to increase the frequency of blasting. However, it appears that additional blasting will be necessary to construct three new containment pits for industrial wastes from the milling process. Please advise if we are incorrect in this assumption.

### **Increase in Operations**

You claim that PROTECT's statement that Barton is seeking to increase operations at the site is incorrect. However, as your letter acknowledges in the very next paragraph, Barton is proposing to "extend[] its Monday-Friday Quarry operations for one hour, to 4:30 p.m." In addition, Barton's application proposes to increase trucking from the mine site from 5 trips per day to up to 16 trips per day. We therefore believe that is correct to characterize Barton's application as seeking to increase operations.

### **Operate Equipment 24 Hours a Day**

Your letter claims that the website's statement that Barton is seeking to operate industrial equipment at the site 24 hours a day is incorrect because Barton is already operating its processing mill and crushing 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We agree that the website statement could be misinterpreted to suggest that Barton is not currently operating its mill and crushing operation 24 hours a day and have modified it to state that Barton is seeking to continue those operations 24 hours a day.

### **Engineering Design for the Waste Pile**

You claim that the website's statement that Barton "failed to provide any engineering designs" for its waste pile is incorrect because Barton "submitted detailed engineering designs" for the pile as part of Appendix T of its application.

There are several problems with your assertion. First, as noted by both DEC and APA in their recent NIPAs, the submission in Appendix T is not sealed by an engineer licensed in New York



State. Second, the submission referenced in your letter (Appendix T) is merely a “geotechnical certification letter,” which has as its stated limited purpose “to provide the results of . . . a high-level geotechnical evaluation of the H2H design concepts . . . .” The letter states only that the H2H design concept is “geotechnically feasible” and includes the significant caveat that “due to the nature of the facility, *and the general lack of engineered fill placement*, an observational approach has been and will continue to be taken with regards to the geotechnical design and associated construction . . . .” (Emphasis added). Thus, Barton’s own consultant has acknowledged that the disposal of waste at the pile lacks an “engineered” design. To remedy this lack of engineering design, the consultant recommends that “[t]o evaluate the performance of the facility and to identify potential modifications, it is imperative that a qualified geotechnical engineer remain closely engaged with the project as the facility evolves.”

Third, Barton’s Appendix T submission includes the express warning that “*this document should not be taken as engineering approval* to construct the entirety of the proposed facility without ongoing design work as needed . . . by a qualified engineer and appropriate QA/QC during the plan implementation.” For all of these reasons, PROTECT stands by its statement that Barton has failed to provide engineering designs for the waste pile.

## **Conclusion**

Your letter states that “Barton and its employees deserve fair treatment,” but you fail to mention the residential community, local businesses and recreational users of nearby Forest Preserve lands that will bear the brunt of Barton’s proposed mine expansion. This omission unfortunately reflects Barton’s dismissive attitude toward the people who will have to live with the impacts of Barton’s expanded operations for years to come. Since Barton is apparently monitoring PROTECT’s website, it is fitting to conclude this response by quoting the following statement from PROTECT’s website post on the Barton project:

The expansion of Barton Mines will have major impacts on the quality of life of area residents, many of whom live in homes that pre-date mining on Ruby Mountain, and on the Forest Preserve in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area. Forest Preserve lands classified as Wilderness are supposed to be the most highly protected lands in the state. All involved in monitoring and scrutinizing Barton’s applications for this massive expansion are mystified by the company’s refusal to talk with or meet with local residents and business negatively impacted by their mining activities. Barton Mines has refused to undertake mitigation measures to control dust, abate noise, or screen or limit visual impacts. The company’s unwillingness to have any good faith discussions with neighbors to find solutions that allow the company to meet its objectives while ensuring that it is a good neighbor is a stark departure from how the company has conducted its affairs for decades. Protect the Adirondacks encourages Barton Mines to engage with the area residents and businesses negatively impacted by its mining activities.

I trust that this letter satisfactorily addresses the concerns raised in your letter. We have modified PROTECT’s website as set forth above and will also post your letter and our response.



Please feel free to contact me if you wish to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Amato", with a stylized, flowing script.

Christopher Amato  
Conservation Director and Counsel

Cc: Corrie Magee, APA  
Barbara Rice, APA  
Sarah Reynolds Esq. APA  
Beth Magee, NYSDEC  
Aaron Love, Esq. NYSDEC



RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JAN 08 2024

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and Counsel**

January 4, 2024

John M. Burth  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Beth Magee  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 5  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

**Re: Significant Violations by Barton Mines Company, LLC  
Ruby Mountain Garnet Mine  
NYSDEC Mine Permit #5-5230-00002/00002  
APA Permit: P79-140, P70-356, P87-39, P87-39A, P87-39B,  
P88-393, P88-393A**

Dear Mr. Burth and Ms. Magee:

I write on behalf of Protect the Adirondacks!, Inc. concerning significant ongoing violations by Barton Mines Company, LLC ("Barton") of environmental statutes and regulations administered by the Department of Environmental Conservation ("DEC") and the Adirondack Park Agency ("APA"). These violations are occurring at Barton's Ruby Mountain Garnet Mine site in the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County (the "Mine Site"). As you know, Barton has applied to DEC and APA for modifications to its existing environmental permits to allow a significant expansion of the Mine Site, and that application is currently pending before the agencies.

The Mine Site includes an immense tailings waste disposal site that currently occupies more than 73 acres and is over 2,000 feet in height. Barton has disposed of, and continues to dispose of hundreds of thousands of cubic yards of tailings waste annually at this on-site disposal facility. As discussed in detail below, the tailings disposal site, which Barton euphemistically refers to as the "Resource Mineral" ("RM") pile, is a solid waste management facility as defined by Environmental Conservation Law ("ECL") § 27-0701(2) and therefore requires a Part 360 permit pursuant to

**Protect the Adirondacks**  
PO Box 48, North Creek, NY 12853 518.251.2700  
www.protectadks.org info@protectadks.org  
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ECL § 27-0707(1). To our knowledge, Barton has never applied for or obtained a Part 360 permit for the tailings waste disposal site and it is therefore operating in continuing violation of ECL Article 27 and DEC's Part 360 regulations.

Barton is also operating in violation of its APA permit. Barton's current APA permit sets specific limits on the allowable size of the tailings disposal site and the APA staff has informed Barton that it has exceeded those limits. Because the APA permit states that the entire permit becomes void if Barton fails to comply with any condition in the permit, Barton is currently operating the mine without an APA permit in violation of the Adirondack Park Agency Act ("APA Act").

We urge DEC and APA to immediately suspend review of Barton's pending application for a permit modification pending resolution of these violations as provided for in DEC's regulations.

### **Barton is in Violation of ECL Article 27 and Part 360**

#### **A. Barton's Tailings Waste Meets the Definition of "Solid Waste"**

As described by Barton, the tailings waste generated by its mining operations is material that has been removed from the ground and is processed through a crusher and a milling operation prior to being transported to the tailings disposal site for permanent disposal:

Material is taken from the active quarry area to the nearby primary crusher. Crushed material is conveyed to the onsite mill for additional processing and removal of RM. Residual Minerals from the mill are hydraulically conveyed to the RM engineered storage facility and water is recovered through a series of drains and ponds for reuse in the beneficiation process . . . RM produced at the mill are hydraulically conveyed [to] an engineered storage facility where they are separated by a cyclone system into fine-grained (silt/clay particle size) and coarse-grained (sand particle size) RM. Fine-grained RM that leaves the cyclone system is in the form of a slurry that is conveyed via gravity to the Upper Pond where they settle to the bottom and water filters through the engineered storage facility and the water is recovered in the lower ponds for reuse in material processing at the onsite mill. Coarse-grained RM remains at the engineered storage facility.

Mine Permit Amendment & Modification, Barton Mines Company, LLC, Ruby Mountain Garnet Mine (Dec. 2023) ("Barton Applic.") at 18-19. Thus, the tailings disposal site (which Barton refers to as the "engineered storage facility")<sup>1</sup> consists of mining wastes generated by the mill following processing.

Barton's tailings waste meets both the statutory and regulatory definition of "solid waste." ECL § 27-0101(1) defines "solid waste" as:

all putrescible and non-putrescible materials or substances discarded or rejected as being spent, useless, worthless or in excess to the owners at the time of such discard

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<sup>1</sup> Contrary to Barton's claim, the tailings disposal site is not "engineered" because to our knowledge Barton has not submitted any engineering designs or plans for the site.

or rejection, . . . including but not limited to garbage, refuse, industrial and commercial waste, sludges from air or water control facilities, rubbish, ashes, contained gaseous material, incinerator residue, demolition and construction debris, discarded automobiles and offal but not including sewage and other highly diluted water carried materials or substances and those in gaseous form.

This definition is further refined by DEC’s implementing regulations, which define “solid waste” as “discarded materials including solid, liquid, semi-solid, or contained gaseous material, *resulting from* industrial, municipal, commercial, institutional, *mining* or agricultural operations or from residential activities including materials that are recycled or that may have value.” 6 NYCRR § 360.2(a)(1) (emphasis added).

Barton acknowledges that “[t]here are no permitted, economically feasible, Barton-owned properties that can accommodate the volume of residual minerals generated from the mine.” Barton Applic. at 26. Thus, by Barton’s own admission, the tailings waste is “discarded or rejected as being spent, useless worthless or in excess,” and constitutes “discarded materials . . . resulting from . . . mining . . . operations.” ECL § 27-0101(1); 6 NYCRR § 360.2(a)(1). It therefore meets the statutory and regulatory definition of “solid waste.”

Barton claims that “[t]he residual minerals meet NYSDEC’s criteria for uncontaminated rock to be used as a substitute for conventional aggregate, pursuant to 6 NYCRR Part 360-1.5(b)(11) and are not considered a solid waste (Appendix R).”<sup>2</sup> Barton Applic. at 19. However, the cited DEC regulation has been repealed, and the documentation in Appendix R to the application is an expired DEC Beneficial Use Determination (“BUD”) from 2015 that is based on the repealed regulation. Thus, the RM waste is not covered by an existing BUD.

In any event, it is clear that the tailings waste is not destined for beneficial use—or reuse of any kind—because the application assumes that the vast majority of the waste will be permanently disposed of in a massive tailings disposal site occupying over 100 acres that will be “reclaimed” by being covered with topsoil and revegetated—much like the final cap on a solid waste management facility. *See* Barton Applic. at 5 (stating that Barton will “incorporate concurrent reclamation of the RM storage facility through native plantings to progressively blend the facility into the surrounding landscape.”).

#### B. The Tailings Disposal Site is a Solid Waste Management Facility

ECL § 27-0101(2) defines a “solid waste management facility,” as:

any facility employed beyond the initial solid waste collection process including, but not limited to, transfer stations, baling facilities, rail haul or barge haul facilities, processing systems, including resource recovery facilities or other facilities for reducing solid waste volume, sanitary landfills, facilities for the disposal of construction and demolition debris, plants and facilities for compacting,

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<sup>2</sup> Appendix R does not include any documents in the December 2023 application, but the 2015 DEC BUD is included in the original 2020 application.

composting or pyrolyzation of solid wastes, incinerators and other solid waste disposal, reduction or conversion facilities.

DEC's regulations further define a solid waste management facility as "a location and associated devices employed in the management of solid waste beyond the initial collection process. The term includes all structures, appurtenances or improvements on the land used for the management or disposal of solid waste." 6 NYCRR § 360.2(b)(101). Barton's tailings disposal site is a location for management of solid waste beyond the initial collection process because the tailing wastes disposed of there are initially collected at the mill. The milling operation is an industrial process, that includes chemicals, washes, grinders, separators, and waste material that Barton refers to as "slimes." The mill's industrial wastes are then:

[H]ydraulically conveyed [to] an engineered storage facility where they are separated by a cyclone system into fine-grained . . . and coarse-grained RM. Fine-grained RM that leaves the cyclone system is in the form of a slurry that is conveyed via gravity to the Upper Pond [on the tailings disposal site] where they settle to the bottom and water filters through the engineered storage facility and the water is recovered in the lower ponds for reuse in material processing at the onsite mill. Coarse-grained RM remains at the engineered storage facility [the tailings disposal site]."

Barton Applic. at 19. The tailings disposal site receives industrial wastes from the milling process, including fine-grained and coarse grained tailings, liquids and "slimes." The tailings disposal site therefore meets the statutory and regulatory definitions of a "solid waste management facility."

Barton states plainly that it plans to permanently "store"—which means dispose of because there is no plan to ultimately use the industrial tailings waste—its tailings waste on-site. The application acknowledges that "Barton's long-term plan is to store all fine-grained RM within the confines of the quarry while expanding the coarse-grained RM engineered storage facility, both laterally and vertically . . . *In other words, the long-term RM strategy is for the majority of coarse-grained RM to be deposited in the RM engineered storage facility.*" *Id.* at 30; (emphasis added). Barton's plan to "store" the coarse-grained industrial tailings waste in the waste pile in perpetuity constitutes disposal of that waste. *See* 6 NYCRR § 360.2(b)(262) (specifying that "any waste retained on-site for a period in excess of 12 months constitutes disposal.").

Furthermore, the current APA permit for the Mine Site makes clear that the tailings waste disposal site is a solid waste management facility, and not merely an "engineered storage facility" as claimed by Barton. Barton Applic. at 19. APA Permit 87-39B refers to the tailings disposal site as a "single wet tailing *disposal area*;" "mineral tailing *disposal area*;" a "single *disposal area*;" the "*disposal facility*;" and the "*disposal pile*." APA Permit 87-39B, annexed hereto as Exhibit A, at 1, 3, 4; (emphases added). The APA permit also states that "[t]he mine operation and its employment and economic benefits are dependent upon economical *disposal* of tailings." *Id.* at 6; (emphasis added).

Thus, the RM pile is a solid waste management facility requiring a permit and Barton's failure to apply for and obtain a solid waste management facility permit for its tailings waste disposal site constitutes a continuing violation of ECL Article 27 and Part 360.<sup>3</sup>

### **Barton is Operating Without a Valid APA Permit**

The Findings of Fact in Barton's current APA permit specify the allowable maximum size and capacity of the tailings disposal site as follows:

The single [tailings] disposal area would have a final 73 acre size, a peak elevation of 2,275 ft. msl, 5.9 million cubic yard volume capacity, and an estimated life of 35 years or the year 2033.

APA Permit 87-39B at 3.

It is clear from Barton's application and the APA's response to it that Barton has violated the size limits for the tailings disposal site imposed by the APA Permit. The APA NIPA states:

Figure 2 titled "Life of Mine Phases" within the narrative titled "Mine Permit Amendment and Modification" indicates that Residual Mineral (RM) pile lateral expansion began in year 2020. Please revise this figure and all references to it *to clearly indicate that RM pile expansion beyond what is currently permitted by Agency Permit 87-39B has not been authorized* and Phase 1 has not commenced.

APA NIPA at 3; (emphasis added). Barton's response to the NIPA does not contest the APA's claim that Barton's expansion of the tailings disposal site is "beyond what is currently permitted" by the existing APA permit. See H2H Geoscience Engineering, Response to Comments (Dec. 2023).

In fact, information provided in Barton's application supports APA's determination that the existing tailings disposal site has expanded beyond what the APA permit allows. The application states that Barton generates approximately 250,000 cubic yards of tailings waste annually. Barton Applic. at 26. Assuming that Barton generated this volume of industrial tailings waste commencing in 1988 (though this level of waste generation could well have begun earlier), by 2023 Barton by its own estimates had disposed of approximately 8.7 million

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<sup>3</sup> The need for the engineering, technical and environmental analysis and review required by an application for a Part 360 permit is underscored by the APA's Notice of Incomplete Application dated June 12, 2023 ("APA NIPA"), which states:

[I]t is unclear as to whether the Agency can authorize the expansion of the geotechnically complex RM pile at this time when it is subject to change during construction and those unanticipated changes have not been evaluated for potential undue environmental impacts.

APA NIPA at 3.

million cubic yards of waste in the RM pile—far above the 5.9 million cubic yards authorized by the APA permit.<sup>4</sup>

Barton's violation of the APA permit condition limiting the size of the tailings waste disposal site means that its mining operations are not authorized by a valid APA permit. Barton's APA permit provides:

The project shall be undertaken as described in the application and the Findings of Fact herein, and in compliance with the Conditions herein. *Failure to comply with the application, Findings of Fact, or Conditions voids the permit.*

APA Permit 87-39B at 8; (emphasis added).

Thus, by its own terms, the existing APA permit has been voided by Barton's failure to comply with the permit's limitations on the size of the tailings waste disposal site, and Barton is therefore operating its mine in violation of the APA Act. Executive Law § 809(2)(a).

### **Review of Barton's Application Should be Suspended**

Due to the violation of its existing permit, APA should immediately suspend its review of Barton's pending application for a permit modification pending resolution of this violation.

Moreover, the DEC regulations provide for suspension of the permit review process during the pendency of an enforcement action:

Processing and review of an application may be suspended by written notice to the applicant if an enforcement action has been or is commenced against the applicant for alleged violations of the ECL or other environmental laws administered by the department at the facility or site that is the subject of the application. The alleged violations may be related to the activity for which the permit is sought or to other provisions of law administered by the department. Such suspension of processing and review may remain in effect pending final resolution of the enforcement actions.

6 NYCRR § 621.3(e).

Because Barton is in violation of ECL Article 27, Part 360 and the APA Act, we urge DEC and APA to immediately initiate an enforcement action against Barton and to suspend review of Barton's application pending resolution of these significant violations.

We look forward to your response to this letter.

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<sup>4</sup> Barton conveniently ignores the capacity limitation in the APA permit when describing the permit conditions applicable to the tailings waste disposal site. See Barton Applic. at 19 ("APA Permit 87-39B allows RM engineered storage facility lateral footprint of 73.0 acres, peak elevation of 2,275 ft. amsl, and a reclamation side slope of 2:1.").

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Amato", with a stylized, cursive script.

Christopher Amato  
Conservation Director and Counsel

Cc: Basil Seggos, DEC Commissioner  
Tom Berkman, DEC Deputy Commissioner and General Counsel  
John Ernst, APA Chair  
Barbara Rice, APA Executive Director  
David Plante, APA Deputy Director for Regulatory Affairs



# EXHIBIT A

To The County Clerk: This permit  
is void unless recorded before  
September 26, 1994

Please index it in the grantor  
index under the following names:

1. Barton Mines Corporation
2. Trust of C.R. Barton, Jr.

THIS PERMIT AMENDS PERMIT 87-39 ISSUED JANUARY 7, 1988

STATE OF NEW YORK  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, New York 12977  
(518) 891-4050

In the Matter of the Application of

BARTON MINES CORPORATION  
AND TRUST OF C.R. BARTON, JR.

PERMIT

Project 87-39B

for a permit pursuant to §809  
of the Adirondack Park Agency Act

SUMMARY

Barton Mines Corporation is granted a permit, on conditions, for an amended mineral extraction tailing pile in an area classified Resource Management by the Official Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan Map in the Town of Johnsbury, Warren County.

AUTHORIZATION

This permit authorizes a single wet tailing disposal area at Tailing Valley, Ruby Mountain Site, provided it is undertaken as described in the application and the Findings of Fact herein and in compliance with the Conditions herein. Failure to undertake the project in accordance with the application, Findings of Fact and Conditions voids the permit. In the case of conflict, the Conditions control.

FINDINGS OF FACT

General

1. The 801± acre project site is currently owned by H. Hudson Barton, Clarence J. Lewis, Jr., and A.D. Barton, Jr., as Trustees under an Agreement of Trust established by C.R. Barton, Jr., et al. dated August 25, 1953. The property is described in the following four deeds recorded in the Warren County Clerk's Office:

<u>Date of Recordation</u>	<u>Book</u>	<u>Page</u>
March 16, 1948	262	129
June 22, 1960	399	313
April 6, 1988	704	239
April 6, 1988	704	249

Barton Mines Corporation, a New York corporation, has its principal office at North Creek, Warren County, New York, and leases the project site.

The project site is shown on the Town of Johnsbury, Warren County Tax Map Section 2, Block 1 as Parcels 29, 2 and 3 and Section 4, Block 1, Parcels 19 and 20.

2. The property lines for the project site are shown on a map entitled "Topographic Maps of Barton Mines Corporation-Ruby Mountain Project," by David F. Barrass, L.S., dated December 15, 1990 and "Map of Part of Lands of Barton Mines Corporation," by Leslie W. Coulter, dated December 24, 1947.
3. The original 580± acre project site is roughly bisected by Brown Pond Brook, which flows in a southerly direction. Lands east of the brook are classified Industrial Use and lands west of the brook are Resource Management on the Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan Map. A small portion of the project site, southeast of Thirteenth Lake Road, is classified Rural Use. In 1988, the applicant purchased an additional 221 acres southwest of Tailings Valley Area.

A portion of the Finger Valley site lies in a critical environmental area within one-eighth of a mile of State land designated the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area pursuant to the State Land Master Plan.

#### Project History

4. On May 18, 1979, the Agency conceptually approved, pursuant to Section 809(13)(d) of the Adirondack Park Agency Act, Project 78-401, a mineral extraction, proposed by Barton Mines Corporation (BMC). On May 23, 1979, BMC applied for final approval of the first phase (initial clearing and grading) of this large scale project. On June 26, 1979, the Agency issued Permit P79-140 approving this phase on several conditions.
5. On February 11, 1980, the Agency issued Permit P79-356 approving the final phase of the mineral extraction use on a 580 acre parcel of land on the slopes of Ruby Mountain and Big Thirteenth Lake Mountain in the Towns of Johnsbury (548 acres) and Indian Lake (32 acres).

In Agency Project 81-20, the electric powerline to serve the site was authorized.

6. On March 2, 1987, BMC applied for a major amendment to Permit P79-356 to allow it to dispose of its tailings using a wet rather than a dry disposal method at two locations in one drainage basin on its property. This was deemed a material change, resulting in Agency Permit 87-39 issued January 7, 1988. The starter dam and initial disposal at Tailing Valley was started but no disturbance has occurred at the Finger Valley site. As a result of a feasibility study required by Condition 13, the Agency staff and applicant recognized difficulties in a wetland replacement proposal.

The Tailings Valley and Finger Valley sites would occupy 29 and 30 acres, respectively, at peak capacity, and have an estimated operational life of 8 and 9 years respectively.

On July 24, 1992, the Agency issued Permit 87-39A authorizing an effluent pipeline across a wetland. To date, an estimated 1 million cubic yards has already been disposed in Tailing Valley.

7. The effluent discharge to Thirteenth Brook from the settling ponds is subject to DEC SPDES Permit NY-0034959 and consent order R5-0846-90-3 dated December 4, 1991. The starter dam is subject to DEC file 5-5230-00002/00003-1.

Description of the Amended Project as Proposed

8. The applicant proposes to amend the mineral tailing disposal area from 2 areas to one single area (Tailings Valley) and thereby avoid disturbance to Finger Valley area and its associated wetland and water resources. A summary of the details and documents on the proposed changes to Project 87-39 are as follows:
  - a. The single disposal area would have a final 73 acre size, a peak elevation of 2,275 ft. msl, 5.9 million cubic yard volume capacity, and an estimated life of 35 years or the year 2033.
  - b. The design of the project is described in a report entitled "B112102, Design of the Expanded Tailings Valley Tailings Facilities, Ruby Mt. Project," by Steffen, Robertson and Kirsten, Inc., dated October 1993.
  - c. Site reclamation is described in a report entitled "Addendum to Report 80201/3, Ruby Mt. Garnet Mine, Mine and Reclamation Plan Design," by Samuel B. Bamberg, dated September 1993. In a letter dated February 24, 1994, the applicant agreed to modify the reclamation plan by concentrating the deposition for the next two years into the southwest corner or the area of greatest off-site visibility, so that a test area and phased reclamation can begin as soon as practical. Once the

upper embankment becomes operational, some final reclamation process would begin between the seventh and fourteenth year of operation.

- d. The advantages of the amended project are numerous:
- (1) Volume capacity increased from 2.14 to 5.9 million cubic yards.
  - (2) Extension of mine life from 17 to 30 to 35 years.
  - (3) Lower pile elevations and shorter distances to pump slurry, hence lower operating costs.
  - (4) Avoid costs for wetland replacement, shorter road and one less starter embankment.
  - (5) Negligible increase of total acreage of disturbance,
  - (6) Reduced areas of off-site visibility, including receptor sites 5, 6A and 7B,
  - (7) Avoid disturbing 1.9 acre wetland and drainage associated with Finger Valley.
- e. A topsoil storage area is shown on Figure 4.7. A letter of credit for reclamation is currently at \$226,600 as required by DEC.
- f. To assist in mitigating visual impact, "Area 9" and "Area 7B," located on a copy of a topographic map labeled "Exhibit 1, Location of Potential Visual Screening Vegetation," have been identified as "no cut area" during operation of the disposal facility.
- g. Currently 87 people are employed by BMC with 41 employees dependent on Ruby Mountain operations.
- h. Finger Valley wetland, subject of a report entitled "Physical and Biological characteristics of the Finger Valley Wetland," by William D. Countryman, dated December 20, 1991, will be retained undisturbed in its natural condition. The slimes pond, depending on its condition when it is reclaimed, may develop as a wetland through natural succession as shown on Figure 4.11 dated November 1993.
- i. As the disposal pile progresses uphill, additional diversion ditches will be constructed and the current east-west ditches will be modified to function as a seepage drainage. Additional finger drains will be installed per original specifications. Discharge from the wet tailing system is piped to Thirteenth Lake Brook.
- j. The leaking water reservoir is no longer used for water supply, but BMC has adapted to the limited supply and water withdrawal prohibition from Brown Pond Brook.

Flow data on Thirteenth Lake Brook is part of an ongoing monitoring program. BMC requests to permanently withdraw up to 68 gpm from Thirteenth Lake Brook.

#### Project Site

9. The site of the single tailing facility overlays and expands the original authorized and commenced Tailings Valley area. A comparison of the area of disturbance is shown on Figure 4.1 dated November 1993. The expanded area has similar site characteristics. The topsoil stockpile is within 30 to 150 feet of an unnamed stream.
10. In a letter dated January 6, 1994, the DEC indicated that their mining permit will have to be modified by submitting APA approved and updated reclamation narrative and maps.
11. The 1992 Countryman report on Finger Valley Wetland states that it is a typical northern forested wetland with limited biological communities and physical extent, and is a relatively undisturbed natural ecosystem that is neither diverse nor complex. No unusual or rare species were found.
12. Brown Pond Brook is still an important cold water brook trout fishery per DEC fisheries personnel, including a spawning and nursery area for native trout, aquatic insects and source of cool water during critical summer low flows. The existing 26.6 ft. by 1.8 ft. dam on the brook creates a small water pool and traps sediments; the tree cover and very short water retention time prevents any significant water temperature increases. The water from Thirteenth Brook is pumped to the modified drop box at the Brown Pond Brook dam which is sealed to prevent water withdrawals from the brook.

#### Project Impacts

13. Agency staff review of the "Wetland Mitigation Plan for Barton Mine Site Finger Valley Wetland," by Southern Tier Consulting, Inc., dated March 6, 1992, found substantive concerns and problems with the design, construction, monitoring and maintenance of a proposed replacement wetland stated in a letter dated December 24, 1992. Avoiding any disturbance to the existing Finger Valley wetland will preserve the values and functions of this wetland, including seasonal food sources for members of the surrounding forest community, maintain natural ground and surface water quality, and provide a seed source for the eventual Tailings Valley slimes pond area. Further compliance with Condition 13 of Permit 87-39 is no longer necessary.
14. The single failing facility will have a final height of 2,275 ft. msl, which is 45 ft. lower than the two piles originally authorized. As a result, based on an updated

visual analysis, three of the seven visible receptor sites will not be visible or will be screened vegetationally. There will be a slight increase in the number of acres where the piles will not be visible. There will be an increased duration of visibility due to the lengthened life of the facility and uncertainty of phased reclamation. The applicants' effort to begin disposal and earlier reclamation and test plots in the more visible areas will enhance mitigation. Limiting vegetation or timber harvesting on intervening treed areas between the tailing area and visual impact receptor areas during operations is a good interim mitigative measure.

15. The mine operation and its employment and economic benefits are dependent upon economical disposal of tailings. The significant lengthening of the life of the tailing pile and concomitant reduction in operating expenses provides a positive employment and local economy benefit.
16. The elimination of the tailing pile and operations in Finger Valley significantly increases the undisturbed buffer to the adjoining State Wilderness area.
17. A public notice of the permit amendment request was sent to adjoining property owners. One telephone call concerning water quality in Thirteenth Lake Brook was received, however, BMC reports required by a DEC permit indicates compliance with established water quality standards. One letter expressing no objection to the amendment request and support for the applicant was received.
18. Maintaining an undisturbed soil and vegetation buffer with properly installed erosion control is important to protecting the water quality of the unnamed stream immediately south of the topsoil stockpile area. Timely implementation and regular maintenance of the erosion control measures are important preventative measures.
19. Implementation of test vegetation plots will enhance prompt and successful reclamation when operations permit. Research and design of the test plot, including details on soil amendments, fertilizing and plant species will help ensure prompt and successful revegetation of the tailings to control erosion and mitigate the visual impact of the 73 acre tailing pile.
20. Considering the environmental and economic benefits and no public opposition of the amended tailing pile, the permit amendment request has been deemed a non-material change pursuant to 9 NYCRR 572.19.

The requested amendments are minor amendments within Section 809(8)(b)(1) of the Adirondack Park Agency Act in that they do not involve a material change in permit conditions, applicable law, environmental conditions or technology since the issuance of Permit 87-39.

21. The project will not cause any change in the quality of "registered," "eligible," or "inventoried" property as those terms are defined in 9 NYCRR 426.2 for the purposes of implementing §14.09 of the New York State Historic Preservation Act of 1980.
22. Continuing the prohibition of water withdrawals from Brown Pond Brook will maintain this valued aquatic ecosystem with limited natural flows. DEC fisheries personnel have not observed adverse impacts from limited water withdrawal from Thirteenth Brook to date, however, sedimentation in Brown Pond Brook and Thirteenth Lake Brook is a continuing concern. Retaining the existing dam at Brown Pond Brook as a component of the erosion and sedimentation control plan can help mitigate impacts to their value aquatic resource and its associated wetlands.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

If undertaken in compliance with the conditions herein:

1. The project would be consistent with the Land Use and Development Plan.
2. The project would be compatible with the character description and purposes, policies and objectives of the land use area wherein it is proposed to be located.
3. The project would be consistent with the overall intensity guidelines for the land use area involved.
4. The project would comply with the shoreline restrictions.
5. The project would not have an undue adverse impact upon the natural, scenic, aesthetic, ecological, wildlife, historic, recreational or open space resources of the Park or upon the ability of the public to provide supporting facilities and services made necessary by the project, taking into account the economic and social benefits that might be derived therefrom.
6. The Agency has considered the public policy of the State set forth in ECL 24-0103, the statement of legislative findings set forth in ECL 24-0105, and the effect of the project upon the public health and welfare, fishing, flood, hurricane and storm dangers, and the protection and enhancement of the several wetland functions and benefits.



CONDITIONS

1. The project shall be undertaken as described in the application and Findings of Fact herein, and in compliance with the Conditions herein. Failure to comply with the application, Findings of Fact or Conditions voids the permit. In the case of conflict, the Conditions control.
2. No construction of buildings, subdivision of land, or other "land use or development" as defined in §802(28) of the Adirondack Park Agency Act, not expressly authorized by this permit shall be undertaken without an additional Agency permit, amended permit, or letter of nonjurisdiction pursuant to 9 NYCRR Part 571.
3. This project may not be undertaken until this permit is recorded in the Warren County Clerk's Office. This permit shall be void unless so recorded by September 26, 1994, in the names of all persons listed on the first page hereof and in the names of all owners of record of any portion of the project site on the date of recordation. The applicant shall ensure that all landowners' names are included on the first page of this permit.
4. This permit is binding on the applicant, any person undertaking the project, and all present and future owners of any part of the project site. If the amended project is not substantially commenced within two years of the date the permit is recorded, it may not be undertaken or continued unless a new or renewed permit is issued.
5. Copies of this amended permit and Permits 87-39 and 87-39A shall be furnished by the applicant to all subsequent owners or lessees of the project site prior to sale or lease. All deeds conveying all or a portion of the lands subject to this permit shall contain references to this permit as follows: "The lands conveyed are subject to Adirondack Park Agency Permits 87-39, 97-39A and 87-39B issued July 28, 1994, the terms and conditions of which are binding upon the heirs, successors and assigns of the grantors and all subsequent grantees."
6. All conditions of Permit 87-39 regarding erosion control (5, 6) and water withdrawal (8, 11) shall be adhered to, except as amended by the findings of fact and conditions herein.

The dam at Brown Pond Brook shall be maintained as a supplemental sedimentation basin. The pool created by the dam shall be periodically cleaned of trapped sediment, as needed, during low flows, using the existing cleared access. Prior to dredging, a temporary flow diversion dam and pipe(s) shall be installed to maintain natural flow of clean water. Existing vegetation within 35 feet of the impoundment area shall be preserved.

7. Beginning in the 1994 operating season, deposition of tailings shall be as described in Finding of Fact 8c and revised Figure 4.3, to promote earlier reclamation of the pile most visible by off-site receptors. By March 31, 1995, the research and proposed test revegetation program shall be submitted for the 0.9 acre test area for Agency review and approval. The test revegetation program shall include design and layout of test plots; details on site preparation, soil amendments, and fertilizing; plant species and planting density including some tree seeds or seedlings; and evaluation methods. The plant species shall be indigenous species and analysis of proposed soil amendments shall ensure that groundwater and surface water quality shall be maintained and at a minimum, shall not exceed established DEC standards. The approved test reclamation program shall be implemented in the spring of 1996. Based on deposition progress and successful reclamation test(s), the final reclamation process shall be implemented in phases to the extent possible.
8. Temporary and permanent erosion control measures shall be timely implemented and maintained for the topsoil stockpile area. A minimum 35 ft. undisturbed and uncut vegetation buffer shall be maintained between the unnamed stream and the southerly limits of the stockpile.
9. Prior to any timber harvest operations south of the Tailings Valley facility on BMC leased land, the "no cut areas" described in Finding of Fact 8f shall be marked in the field. This "no cut area" is intended to provide natural screening to minimize off-site visual impacts. The applicant or any successors in interest can seek to modify any portion of this "no cut area" for good cause shown, including but not limited to, inapplicability due to implementation of phased reclamation areas, harvesting requirements which would otherwise impede other critical mining operations, and changes or alterations in operational plans which render such screening of no effect. In any event, this "no cut area" shall no longer be operative effective October 1 of the year following written certification by the Adirondack Park Agency that the subject reclamation plan has been successfully implemented.

Timber harvesting activities shall comply with Agency jurisdiction, application and standards in 9 NYCRR 573.7.
10. No "regulated activity" as defined in the Agency's Freshwater Wetland Regulations (9 NYCRR Part 573) shall occur on the project site without prior Agency approval. Such activities include, but are not limited to, new land use or development in, subdivision of, clearcutting more than three acres within, or dredging or filling of a wetland, or any other activity, whether or not occurring within the wetland, which pollutes it or substantially impairs its functions, benefits or values.

11. Any new on-site sewage disposal system installed on the project site shall comply with New York State Department of Health's "Wastewater Treatment Standards for Individual Household Systems" (10 NYCRR Appendix 75-A) and with Agency standards in 9 NYCRR Appendix Q-4. Additionally, no new conventional on-site sewage disposal system shall be installed on existing slopes in excess of 15%, nor located within 100 ft. of any water supplies, bodies of water, wetlands and permanent or intermittent streams.
12. The Agency may conduct such on-site investigations, examinations, tests and evaluations as it deems necessary to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions hereof. Such activities shall take place at reasonable times and upon advance notice where possible.
13. At the request of the Agency, the applicant shall report in writing the status of the project including details of compliance with any terms and conditions of this permit.
14. Nothing contained in this permit shall be construed to satisfy any legal obligations of the applicant to obtain any governmental approval or permit from any entity other than the Agency, whether federal, State, regional or local.

THIS PERMIT SHALL EXPIRE WITHIN SIXTY DAYS OF THE DATE OF  
ISSUANCE UNLESS THE ORIGINAL PERMIT IS DULY RECORDED IN THE  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK ( F WARREN COUNTY IN THE NAME(S) OF THE  
OWNER(S) OF RECORD OF LAND AT THE TIME OF RECORDATION. IN  
ORDER FOR THE PERMIT TO BE RECORDED IN THE COUNTY CLERK'S  
OFFICE. THE APPLICANT MUST PAY THE COUNTY CLERK THE  
FOLLOWING FEES AT THE TIME OF RECORDING: TEN DOLLARS, AND  
IN ADDITION THERETO, THREE DOLLARS FOR EACH PAGE OR PORTION  
OF A PAGE OF THE PERMIT AND ANY ATTACHMENTS TO IT. THE  
ORIGINAL OF THE PERMIT WILL BE RETURNED TO THE APPLICANT BY  
THE COUNTY CLERK.

PERMIT issued this 28<sup>th</sup> day  
of July, 1994.

ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

BY:

William J. Curran  
William J. Curran  
Director of Regulatory Programs

STATE OF NEW YORK)

: ss:

COUNTY OF ESSEX )

On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1994, before me, the  
subscriber, personally appeared William J. Curran, to me  
personally known and known to me to be the same person described  
in and who executed the within instrument, and he acknowledged to  
me that he executed the same.

Richard R. Terry  
Notary Public

RDJ:tal

RICHARD R. TERRY  
Notary Public, State of New York  
Qualified in Essex County  
No. 4297021  
Commission Expires Dec. 31, 1995



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Claudia K. Braymer, Esq.  
**Deputy Director**

Christopher Amato, Esq.  
**Conservation Director  
and Counsel**

January 10, 2024

John M. Burth  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Beth Magee  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 5  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

**RE: Comments on Barton Mines Expansion  
Town of Johnsburg, Warren County**

Dear Mr. Burth and Ms. Magee:

Protect the Adirondacks ("PROTECT") submits these additional comments concerning the application by Barton Mines Corporation, LLC ("Barton") for expansion of the Ruby Mountain Mine in the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County. PROTECT's additional comments are set forth in the attached report prepared by Sterling Environmental Engineering, P.C.

As described in the attached report and recognized by DEC, Barton is currently in violation of Clean Water Act requirements concerning control of stormwater discharge and individual point source discharges. These violations are in addition to the other significant environmental violations at the Barton mine site identified in PROTECT's January 4, 2024 letter.

We therefore reiterate our request that review by DEC and APA of Barton's expansion application be immediately suspended pending resolution of these violations.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Protect the Adirondacks, please let me express our gratitude for the opportunity to submit these comments.

**Protect the Adirondacks**

PO Box 48, North Creek, NY 12853 518.251.2700

[www.protectadks.org](http://www.protectadks.org) [info@protectadks.org](mailto:info@protectadks.org)

*Follow Us on Twitter @ProtectAdkPark and Like Us on Facebook*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Amato", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christopher Amato  
Conservation Director and Counsel  
Protect the Adirondacks! Inc.  
P.O. Box 48  
North Creek, NY 12853  
Office: (518) 251-2700  
Cell: (518) 860-3696



January 10, 2024

Mr. John M. Burth  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, New York 12977

Ms. Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC – Region 5  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, New York 12885

Subject: Barton Mines Company, LLC  
Ruby Mountain Garnet Mine  
Major Permit Modification  
NYSDEC Mine Permit #5-5230-00002/00002  
APA Permit #P79-140, P70-356, P87-39, P87-39A, P87-39B, P88-393, P88-393A  
STERLING File #2024-01

Dear Mr. Burth and Ms. Magee,

Sterling Environmental Engineering, P.C. (STERLING) has been retained by Protect the Adirondacks to evaluate potential environmental impacts associated with the Ruby Mountain Garnet Mine (the “mine”) and the mine’s application for a major permit modification. The enclosed comments focus on the December 2023 submission by Barton Mines Company, LLC (“Barton”) in response to comments by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the Adirondack Park Agency (APA).

**Environmental Review:**

The permit process requires a full understanding of the proposed action and the potential for any significant adverse environmental impact, including long-term impacts. We recognize the value of the mine, both in terms of its mineral resources and local economic impact, but a mine of this magnitude must be operated in a manner that is protective of both human health and the environment. Several areas of potential impact are subjectively discussed by Barton in the application documents, and Barton reaches the conclusion that no significant environmental impacts are anticipated; however, no objective criteria supporting these statements are included (see discussion of dust and stormwater below).

The proposed action is Type 2 pursuant to 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(45) solely for the reason that the Adirondack Park Agency Act establishes SEQRA-like review, record, and decision making standards for the APA. These standards are contained at Executive Law Sections 807, 808, and 809. Section 809 specifically requires the APA to determine that “the project would not have an undue adverse impact upon the natural, scenic, aesthetic, ecological, wildlife, historic, recreational or open space resources of the park...”

*“Serving our clients and the environment since 1993”*

The proposed action includes a 30% expansion in the Life of Mine and a 140% increase in lateral excavation boundary, which would classify as a Type 1 action if following the SEQRA process. Type 1 actions are those more likely to have a significant adverse impact on the environment. The baseline condition for this review is the original land prior to the mine's existence.

### **Stormwater & Industrial Process Water**

The application documents indicate that the mine holds two permits under the State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) program: 1) a Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity (Permit ID NYR00F623); and 2) an Individual SPDES Permit for the discharge of industrial process water (Permit ID NY0034959).

Recent inspections by the NYSDEC on August 17, 2022, and August 7, 2023, have noted "marginal" compliance with both permits. The inspection reports identify numerous "violations" with both permits; however, formal Notices of Violation do not appear to have been issued. The findings of both inspections conflict with current application documents.

#### *MSGP Permit:*

- In the 2022 inspection, NYSDEC noted that a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) was not maintained onsite, did not include required inspection and reporting requirements, did not include preventative maintenance procedures, and did not reflect current site conditions. NYSDEC directed the mine to prepare a revised SWPPP. This is a significant violation considering that the SWPPP is the controlling document for implementing the industrial stormwater management systems and complying with the SPDES Permit.
- The April 2023 MSGP SWPPP included in the permit application documents is not a comprehensive update. As an example, the April 2023 MSGP SWPPP includes an Appendix D titled "Existing Industrial Stormwater Pollution & Prevention Plan (SWPPP)" that is also dated April 2023 and includes an Appendix G titled "Existing SWPPP Documents" that contains two additional SWPPPs. The entire document is extremely awkward to follow and difficult to understand. It is unclear what stormwater infrastructure currently exists on the site and if the infrastructure is effective in managing stormwater. A single SWPPP should be developed and submitted that reflects today's conditions and procedures for mine personnel to use in the day-to-day operation. A separate standalone document should be prepared that designs stormwater management features for the proposed expansion. The onsite SWPPP should then be updated as mining progresses and additional stormwater features are installed, modified, or discontinued.
- In the 2023 inspection, NYSDEC noted that stormwater within "Big Crusher Pond" and "Frog Pond" was observed to be gray, turbid, and actively discharging to Brown Pond Brook. Proper implementation of the MSGP SWPPP should have identified this as a deficiency requiring corrective action. The proposed permit modification includes significant construction and material handling activities on both the east and west sides of Brown Pond Brook that discharges directly to Thirteenth Brook. Locations of erosion and sediment controls and maintenance of stormwater basins are not clearly defined in the MSGP SWPPP.
- The mine is a regulated Petroleum Bulk Storage (PBS) facility (PBS ID 5-393827) with 26,775 gallons of onsite petroleum storage. The SWPPP does not include a discussion of petroleum storage and handling as a potential pollutant source. Based on the quantity of aboveground storage and



proximity to surface water, a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures (SPCC) plan is required.

*Individual Permit:*

- In the 2022 inspection, NYSDEC noted that an unauthorized discharge occurred with no notification to NYSDEC and no sampling of the effluent. The permit application documents indicate that discharge from ponds is authorized by the SPDES permit and occurs infrequently during significant storm events, which appears to conflict with the NYSDEC inspection report. The application documents should include a clear description of water sources, collection, treatment, and discharge associated with the Individual SPDES Permit.
- The Individual SPDES Permit indicates the use of a Water Treatment Chemical (WTC) that was approved for use in 1998. The application documents should confirm current operations use of the same WTC and in the same amount as originally permitted. Any change to the WTC type and quantity should include a SPDES permit modification and toxicity assessment.
- The Individual SPDES Permit requires development of a Best Management Practice (BMP) Plan that is reviewed and updated annually. The cover of the MSGP SWPPP references the Individual SPDES Permit, but the document contains no description of the industrial discharge or BMPs. A standalone BMP Plan should be developed that is specific to the Individual SPDES Permit.

**Solid Waste Management**

The issues regarding solid waste management at the mine site are fully discussed in the letter from Protect the Adirondacks to DEC and APA dated January 4, 2024 and will not be restated here.

**Dust**

The permit application documents includes a brief subjective narrative related to dust. The narrative states that dust can be generated during “unique conditions” including when wind exceeds 5 miles per hour. Supporting data should be included documenting the prevailing wind direction and speed probability (i.e., wind rose). 5 miles per hour is a low threshold to be considered a unique condition. Dust is stated to be mitigated through concurrent reclamation, hydroseeding, annual placement of biodegradable treatment, application of water, and installation of monitoring equipment. Most of these mitigation measures have long lead times to implement (e.g., reclamation). The mine includes acres of bare dust-generating material located on the elevated tailings pile. More detail is needed regarding the specific day-to-day material handling, monitoring, and mitigation measures. What parameters are actively being monitored and what are the action levels and responses? Offsite dust migration can be deposited in waterways and other sensitive areas. A fugitive dust control plan should be developed with clear criteria for determining when dust control measures must be employed.

The mine has an Air Facility Registration (NYSDEC ID 5-5230-00002) that was issued in 2007 with no expiration date. Air regulations have since been revised and include 10-year terms for Air Facility Registrations. Air emission sources, emission rates, and emission controls should be reviewed to determine if conditions have changed and if a registration continues to apply. A 10-year term should be applied to ensure air emissions continue to be reviewed over the duration of mine operations.

## Residual Materials Management

The permit application document refers to the October 30, 2023 geotechnical assessment letter by Knight Piesold as a “certification”. The geotechnical letter is clearly titled as an “assessment” and explicitly states in the conclusions that the assessment should not be taken as an engineering approval. The Knight Piesold assessment indicates that the tailings storage facility is likely to be geotechnically feasible, but is contingent on several key assumptions. Several assumptions are related to means and methods of site preparation and material placement with quality control testing. The authors rightly state that a qualified geotechnical engineer needs to be closely engaged with ongoing investigations, monitoring, and redesign, if necessary. The application documents provide insufficient detail about the ongoing investigation and monitoring program and do not clearly designate who will be managing, overseeing, and certifying the program. A design of the expansion needs to be included in the application documents that is stamped by a qualified geotechnical engineer licensed in the State of New York.

The geotechnical feasibility assessment appears to follow standard practices for slope stability analysis; however, the following comments are provided:

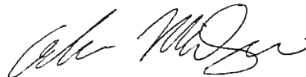
- Considering this is a feasibility level assessment and that construction is similar to a landfill, a minimum factor of safety of 1.5 should be required for both drained and undrained scenarios consistent with 6 NYCRR 363-4.3. Based on the construction assumptions, a sensitivity analysis should be required to assess if material properties have a significant impact on stability.
- The assessment states that the mine is in an area of low seismic activity; however, the mine is near the highest seismic hazard region in New York State as indicated on the USGS seismic hazard map. The assessment states that undrained behaviors (i.e., liquefaction) can be triggered by earthquake loading, even if only moderate in nature. Therefore, a seismic scenario should be required to demonstrate a minimum factor of safety of 1.0 consistent with 6 NYCRR 363-4.3.
- The Slope/W output shows deep seated failures that occur at the minimum safety factor and appear to be controlled by the assumed seepage conditions. Based on the size of the failures and the nature of the assumptions, a sensitivity analysis should be required to assess if different seepage conditions have a significant impact on stability.
- The Slope/W output shows only the single failure surface associated with the lowest safety factor. The output should be required to show the start and exit regions for the failure surfaces as well as the next 10 lowest safety factor failure surfaces. This will facilitate the review of the scenarios that show shallow veneer-like failures to determine if there are deeper seated failures with only slightly higher safety factors that need additional consideration.
- The assessment stresses the importance of the underdrain system for seepage control and long-term stability; however, no specific details are included related to engineering design, installation, monitoring, and maintenance. The application documents should include a design of the drainage and seepage control system.

**Environmental Monitor**

The mine has been in existence for 41 years and is requesting a modification to continue operating for another 67 years. This duration will span the careers and likely the lifetime of people currently involved in the design, review, and operation of the mine. As indicated in these review comments, written plans are only effective if they can be followed and are properly implemented. It is imperative that compliance oversight occurs more frequently than annual inspections and 5-year permit terms. STERLING recommends that the NYSDEC and APA require the mine to fund Environmental Monitors assigned specifically to the mine. Environmental Monitors are routinely assigned by NYSDEC to facilities regulated under Part 360. Key factors for determining the need for an Environmental Monitor are when: 1) the compliance history reveals the inability to comply with environmental laws and regulations; 2) the past or current practices have resulted in conditions that pose a significant threat to public health or the environment; and 3) the facility needs additional oversight due to exceptional circumstances related to its size, throughput, materials handled, or location. This is one of only two garnet mines in the United States and is located in the sensitive Adirondack Park. Based upon the compliance issues raised by the NYSDEC and the scale of the operations in such a sensitive environment, the use of independent monitors is particularly appropriate.

We appreciate your consideration of these comments.

Very truly yours,  
STERLING ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING, P.C.



Andrew M. Millspaugh, P.E.  
Vice President

[Andrew.Millspaugh@sterlingenvironmental.com](mailto:Andrew.Millspaugh@sterlingenvironmental.com)



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**Conservation Director  
and Counsel**

September 13, 2023

John M. Burth  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Beth Magee  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 5  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

**RE: Barton Mines Corporation, LLC  
APA Project 2021-0245  
Proposed Ruby Mountain Mine Expansion  
Land Use Area: Low Intensity Use and  
Town of Johnsburg, Warren County**

Dear Mr. Burth and Ms. Magee:

Protect the Adirondacks ("PROTECT") submits this letter to reiterate our request that the Adirondack Park Agency ("APA") and the Department of Environmental Conservation ("DEC") include, as part of its permit application review for the above project, an evaluation of the direct and upstream greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions associated with the major expansion of the Ruby Mountain Mine proposed by Barton Mining Corporation, LLC ("Barton") in the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County ("the Project"). As discussed in detail below, the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act ("CLCPA") requires all state agencies, "[i]n considering and issuing permits, licenses, and other administrative approvals and decisions," to determine whether such action "will be inconsistent with or will interfere with the attainment of the statewide [GHG] emission limits" established in Article 75 of the Environmental Conservation Law ("ECL"). Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, Ch. 106, Laws of 2019, § 7(2).

Barton's proposed expansion will result in increased GHG emissions from on-site machinery and industrial equipment and from additional truck

**Protect the Adirondacks**  
PO Box 48, North Creek, NY 12853 518.251.2700  
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traffic. To date, Barton has failed to submit an analysis of the Project's direct and upstream GHG emissions and, to our knowledge, neither the APA nor the DEC have taken any steps to evaluate the Project's potential GHG emissions. PROTECT first requested that APA and DEC include a GHG emissions analysis as part of its review of the Project in its comment letter dated July 22, 2022. Ltr. from Peter Bauer, PROTECT Executive Director, to Rob Lore, APA and Beth Magee, DEC at 7-8. The APA subsequently issued a Notice of Incomplete Application, dated June 12, 2023 and DEC issued technical comments on the application dated July 7, 2023. Neither of these requested any information concerning the Project's potential or projected direct and upstream GHG emissions. PROTECT urges APA and DEC either to request that the applicant provide an analysis of the Project's direct and upstream GHG emissions or confirm that the agencies are conducting their analysis of those emissions as required by the CLCPA.

### **The CLCPA Mandates a GHG Emissions Analysis for All Permit Applications**

The CLCPA establishes economy-wide requirements to reduce Statewide GHG emissions. Article 75 of the ECL (enacted as part of the CLCPA) requires the Department of Environmental Conservation ("DEC") to promulgate regulations ensuring that Statewide GHG emissions be reduced to 40% below 1990 levels by 2030, and 85% below 1990 levels by 2050. ECL § 75-0107(1). As required by the CLCPA, DEC promulgated regulations translating the statutorily required statewide GHG emission percentage reduction limits into specific limits based on estimated 1990 GHG emission levels. *See* 6 NYCRR Part 496. The regulations establish Statewide GHG emissions limits for 2030 and 2050, respectively, of 245.87 and 61.47 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents (measured on a 20- year Global Warming Potential basis). *Id.*

Section 7(2) of the CLCPA imposes a mandatory duty on all State agencies to consider the GHG emissions associated with the issuance of a permit or approval:

In considering and issuing permits, licenses, and other administrative approvals and decisions . . . all state agencies, offices, authorities and divisions shall consider whether such decisions are inconsistent with or will interfere with the attainment of the statewide [GHG] emissions limits established in [ECL Article 75]. Where such decisions are deemed to be inconsistent with or will interfere with the attainment of the statewide [GHG] emissions limits, each agency, office, authority or division shall provide a detailed statement of justification as to why such limits/criteria may not be met, and identify alternatives or [GHG] mitigation measures to be required where such project is located.

Ch. 106, Laws of 2019, § 7(2).

After enactment of the CLCPA and promulgation of the GHG emissions limits, DEC denied two permit applications based on section 7(2) of the CLCPA: the applications by Danskammer Energy, LLC ("Danskammer") and Astoria Gas Turbine Power, LLC ("Astoria") for Clean Air Act Title V permits associated with construction and repowering of natural gas-fired electric generating plants. In denying the applications, DEC stated:

Section 7(2) of the [CLCPA] has three elements. First . . . the Department must consider whether a Title V permit for the Project would be inconsistent with or interfere with the attainment of the Statewide GHG emission limits established in ECL Article 75. Second, if the issuance of a Title V permit for the Project would be inconsistent with or would interfere with the Statewide GHG emission limits, then the Department must also provide a detailed statement of justification for the Project notwithstanding the inconsistency. Third, in the event a sufficient justification is available, the Department must also identify alternatives or GHG mitigation measures to be required for the Project.

DEC, Notice of Denial of Title V Air Permit (Oct. 27, 2021) at 6, available at [https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/permits\\_ej\\_operations\\_pdf/danskammerdecision102721.pdf](https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/permits_ej_operations_pdf/danskammerdecision102721.pdf).

Based on its review of the projected direct and upstream GHG emissions associated with the Danskammer project, DEC concluded that it could not issue the requested permit:

As described further below . . . the Project would be inconsistent with or would interfere with the attainment of the Statewide [GHG] emission limits established in Article 75 of the [ECL]. Moreover, Danskammer has not demonstrated that the Project is justified as it has failed to show either a short term or long term reliability need for the Project. Nor has Danskammer identified adequate alternatives or GHG mitigation measures. Accordingly, given that the Department is unable to satisfy these elements required by Section 7(2) of the [CLCPA] the Department is compelled to deny the Title V Application.

*Id.* at 2.

As explained by DEC, “[t]his determination of inconsistency is based primarily on the fact that the Project would be a new source of a substantial amount of GHG emissions, including both direct and upstream GHG emissions . . . .” *Id.* at 7. Of particular importance is the fact that DEC based its denial on GHG emissions analyses prepared by Danskammer, including “the responses to DEC’s three separate [Notices of Incomplete Applications] as submitted by the Applicant.” *Id.*

DEC undertook a similar analysis in denying the Astoria application, concluding that denial of the application was required because the Department was unable to satisfy the elements required by Section 7(2) of the CLCPA. DEC, Notice of Denial of Title V Air Permit (Oct. 27, 2021), available at [https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/permits\\_ej\\_operations\\_pdf/nrgastoriadecision102721.pdf](https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/permits_ej_operations_pdf/nrgastoriadecision102721.pdf).

A legal challenge to DEC’s denial of the Danskammer permit application was recently dismissed, with the Court concluding that “to give Section 7 [of the CLCPA] meaning, the Court finds that the plain language of the statute must be interpreted to grant the DEC the requisite authority to deny a permit when the grant of the permit would be inconsistent with or interfere with the attainment of the goals of the CLCPA, and the grant cannot otherwise be justified or the adverse effects mitigated.” *Danskammer Energy, LLC v. Dep’t. of Env’tl. Conserv.*, 76 Misc.3d 196, 250 (Sup. Ct. Orange County, June 8, 2022).

Accordingly, PROTECT again urges APA and DEC to fulfill their obligation under the CLCPA either by requesting the applicant to provide an analysis of the Project's direct and upstream GHG emissions or confirming that the agencies are conducting their own analysis of those emissions.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Protect the Adirondacks, please let me express our gratitude for the opportunity to submit these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Amato", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christopher Amato  
Conservation Director and Counsel  
Protect the Adirondacks! Inc.  
P.O. Box 48  
North Creek, NY 12853  
Office: (518) 251-2700  
Cell: (518) 860-3696



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*Executive Director*

Claudia K. Braymer, Esq.  
*Deputy Director*

Christopher Amato, Esq.  
*Conservation Director  
and Counsel*

**Via Email**

June 21, 2024

John M. Burth  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

**RE: Comments on Barton "White Paper"  
Barton Mines Expansion  
Town of Johnsburg, Warren County**

Dear Mr. Burth:

Protect the Adirondacks ("PROTECT") submits these additional comments concerning the application by Barton Mines Corporation, LLC ("Barton") for expansion of the Ruby Mountain Mine in the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County.

Specifically, this letter responds to legal arguments made in a submission from Barton, characterized by Barton as a "white paper" and apparently received by the Adirondack Park Agency ("APA") on May 24, 2024, claiming that the APA lacks authority to issue a five-year permit for the proposed mine expansion. As discussed below, Barton's letter mischaracterizes the applicable law and seeks to undermine and nullify the APA's environmental review obligations under the Adirondack Park Agency Act ("APA Act"), Executive Law article 27. Contrary to Barton's claim, APA has authority to issue a five-year permit, and a permit term limited to five years is particularly warranted in light of Barton's failure to provide critical engineering information regarding the massive on-site waste disposal facility it proposes to significantly expand.

**The "White Paper" is Unsigned and Therefore Inadmissible**

Barton's submission, entitled, "The Life of Mine Standard for Permitting Mining Projects in New York State," is undated and unattributed. Despite being a legal memorandum that cites statutes and case law, asserts legal interpretations and makes legal arguments, the submission bears no attorney or law firm signature and provides no information concerning its authorship. On this ground alone, the anonymous submission is inadmissible and should be rejected.

While this matter is not before a court, the Rules of the Chief Administrator of the Courts are instructive and provide:

**Protect the Adirondacks**

PO Box 48, North Creek, NY 12853 518.251.2700

[www.protectadks.org](http://www.protectadks.org) [info@protectadks.org](mailto:info@protectadks.org)

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Signature. Every pleading, written motion, and other paper, served on another party or filed or submitted to the court shall be signed by an attorney . . . with the name of the attorney . . . clearly printed or typed directly below the signature. Absent good cause shown, the court shall strike any unsigned paper if the omission of the signature is not corrected promptly after being called to the attention of the attorney . . . .

22 NYCRR § 130-1.1(a). The Rules make clear that the signature requirement is crucial to prevent fraudulent, frivolous or inaccurate filings:

Certification. By signing a paper, an attorney . . . certifies that, to the best of that person's knowledge, information and belief, formed after an inquiry reasonable under the circumstances, (1) the presentation of the paper or the contentions therein are not frivolous . . . and (2) where the paper is an initiating pleading, (i) the matter was not obtained through illegal conduct . . . and (ii) the matter was not obtained in violation of {the rule prohibiting unsolicited communications with a potential client).

*Id.* § 130-1.1(b).

Although these rules apply to judicial proceedings, it is standard practice for submissions—legal or otherwise—to an administrative agency to comply with the signature requirement for the same reason: to ensure the legitimacy of the submission. This requirement has been adopted by APA and applies to all submissions for major project permit applications, including Barton’s mine expansion application. *See*, APA Application for Major Projects General Information Request at 9 (requiring person signing a major project application to affirm that “I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this application, including all attachments. I believe this information to be true, accurate and complete. in addition, in the case of any project sponsor corporation, limited liability corporation, partnership or other legal entity, I also affirm that I am authorized to submit this application on behalf of that entity”). Because Barton’s “White Paper” submission is unsigned and thus fails to comply with both standard practice for legal submissions and with APA application signing requirements, APA should reject the submission and disregard it.

Even if APA chooses to consider Barton’s submission, it is legally flawed and APA should not alter its position regarding the five-year permit term.

### **DEC’s Mining Permit Jurisdiction Does Not Eliminate or Truncate APA Review**

Barton’s submission objects to APA “approving at this time only the early phase of the project, with subsequent phases subject to new permit application requirements and *de novo* review.” White Paper at 1. Barton argues that APA’s approach is “legally impermissible under the Mined Land Reclamation [Law]. . . [and is] at odds with the Department of Environmental Conservation’s (“DEC’s”) longstanding Life of Mine Review Policy (“LOM Policy”).” *Id.* Barton goes on to claim that Environmental Conservation Law § 23-2703(2) vests “exclusive jurisdiction in the DEC to regulate mining operations and reclamation activities” and that “APA is without authority to substantively regulate mining activities or reclamation.” *Id.* Barton’s argument is contradicted by the plain language of the APA Act, inconsistent with prior mining permits issued by APA, and not supported by the case law interpreting the Mined Land Reclamation Law (“MLRL”).

Barton's planned major expansion of its Ruby Mountain Mine, located on lands classified Rural Use, Resource Management and Industrial Use by the Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan Map, is a Class A regional project as defined by the APA Act and therefore requires an APA permit. Executive Law §§ 810(e)(1)(d), 810(e)(12), 810(e)(17); 810(f)(1), 810(f)(8). APA cannot lawfully issue the permit unless it makes a finding that "[t]he project would not have an undue adverse impact upon the natural, scenic, aesthetic, ecological, wildlife, historic, recreational or open space resources of the park or upon the ability of the public to provide supporting facilities and services made necessary by the project, taking into account the commercial, industrial, residential, recreational or other benefits that might be derived from the project." *Id.* § 809(10)(e); *Matter of Jorling v. Adirondack Park Agency*, 214 AD3d 98, 105 (3d Dept. 2023 (in reviewing proposed marina expansion, "APA was required to . . . determine" whether findings required by APA Act § 809(10)(e) could be made before issuing permit). Barton does not—and cannot—square its claim that APA's review "is preempted by the MLRL" with APA's statutory duty to make the findings required as a prerequisite to issuing a Class A regional project permit for the proposed mine expansion. White Paper at 1.

Barton's reliance on *Hunt Bros., Inc. v. Glennon*, 81 NY2d 906 (1993) is misplaced because that decision refutes, rather than supports, Barton's preemption argument. Indeed, in *Hunt Bros.* the Court of Appeals specifically rejected the mining company's argument that APA's regulation of mining activities is preempted by the MLRL:

The statute creating and empowering the APA is aimed at establishing a superagency to regulate development in the Adirondack Park region, which the Legislature has singled out for special protection because of its unique environmental significance . . . *Inasmuch as the APA's mission concerns the broad area of land use planning within the Adirondack Park district, its enabling statute is not a law "relating to the extractive mining industry." Consequently, ECL 23-2703 . . . does not deprive the agency of all jurisdiction to regulate petitioner's activities.*

81 NY2d at 909; (emphasis added). Moreover, as noted by the Court, there is concurrent "no 'bureaucratic competition' or 'confusion' over the respective roles of the APA and the DEC regarding the regulation of mining operations . . . within the Adirondack Park" because "the DEC and the APA, as well as the State Department of Health, have been party to a Memorandum of Understanding under which the agencies have agreed to coordinate their respective regulatory responsibilities with regard to projects in the Park." 81 NY2d at 909-910.

Barton's preemption argument is also contradicted by previous permits issued by APA for mining operations. To cite just one recent example, the Red Rock Quarry permit issued by APA in January 2022, included permit conditions regarding lighting; signs; vegetative cutting; location and depth of mining operations; days and hours when drilling, blasting and crushing are permitted; the hours when truck traffic is permitted; the number of truck trips allowed per day; and reclamation of the site. In fact, Barton's prior APA permits included conditions governing maximum final grades for all earth slopes; riser details for settling basin outlets; stormwater runoff interceptors; restrictions on the waste pile height and size; revegetation requirements for the waste pile; blasting restrictions; restrictions on water withdrawals; erosion and sedimentation control; dust control; wetland

protection and mitigation; removal of trees and vegetation; control of noise impacts; and truck traffic. *See, e.g.*, APA Permit Nos. 79-140, 79-356, 81-20, 87-39.

Barton's additional argument that APA's approach violates DEC's purported Life of Mine Policy is wrong on several counts. First, Barton provides no citation to the alleged policy and it apparently does not exist; there is no "Life of Mine" policy included on DEC's website, either as a DEC policy or Division of Mineral Resources technical guidance. In fact, the only reference to the purported policy is in a 36 year-old court decision, which referred to DEC's "so-called 'Life of Mine Review Policy'" as being "described in a DEC internal memorandum." *Guptill Holding Corp. v. Williams*, 140 AD2d 12, 15-17 (3d Dept. 1988). Thus, it is doubtful that the policy cited by Barton exists.

Second, even if a Life of Mine policy exists, it is a DEC internal policy, not an APA policy, and thus is not binding on APA. Nor is the policy binding even on DEC. *See Matter of Adirondack Wild: Friends of the Forest Preserve v New York State Adirondack Park Agency*, 161 AD3d 169 at 177-178 (3d Dept. 2018) ("An administrative agency's internal guidelines are not binding rules or regulations because they do not impose fixed, general principle(s) to be applied by an administrative agency without regard to other facts and circumstances relevant to the regulatory scheme of the statute it administers").

### **APA's Phased Approval Approach is Consistent With its Regulations and With APA's Prior Permitting of Barton's Operations**

In any event, APA's approach is consistent with its own regulations for phased projects and is warranted considering Barton's failure to provide basic information about the long-term impacts of its proposed mine expansion. The APA regulations provide that "[p]ermits may be granted for the development of large scale projects or other projects to be undertaken in sections, subject to conditions relating to improvements and services for and completion of the total project that the agency deems reasonable and necessary." 9 NYCRR § 572.6(a). The regulations specifically provide for APA's phase-by-phase approval of large scale projects: "An agency decision *relating to a section of a project* shall contain findings and conclusions with respect to the likely impact of the entire project and its compliance with section 809(9) or 809(10) of the Adirondack Park Agency Act." *Id.* § 572.6(d); (emphasis added). Indeed, APA's prior Class A regional project permits issued to Barton adopted the same phased approval approach. *See* APA Permit No. 79-140 at 1 (providing conceptual review approval of mining plan "subject to re-examination based on final design"); APA Permit No. 79-356 at 6 ("The project sponsors are proposing the initial phase of a mineral extraction use on a 580 acre parcel of land on the slopes of Ruby Mountain and Big Thirteenth Lake Mountain . . . The project sponsor[s] will be submitting at least one additional Application for Project Permit for the mineral extraction use . . ."); APA Permit No. 81-20 at 9 ("This permit authorizes the final phase as described in the project sponsor's Application for Project Permit received October 22, 1979").<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup>APA has taken a phased approach to the ongoing review of other mineral extraction/industrial use project applications, such as the Peckham Materials Corporation project in the Town of Chester mentioned by Barton. APA issued a permit to Peckham on April 4, 2023 (APA Permit 2023-0016) that authorizes mineral extraction, and other activities, and expires in November 2028, unless an application for an new permit term is received prior to that time. *See* <https://apa.ny.gov/Projects/PermitsIssued/P2023-0016-Permit-Final.pdf>.

APA's phased approval approach is necessary because of Barton's failure to provide crucial information concerning, among other things, its massive on-site solid waste disposal facility. As stated in the expert report submitted as part of PROTECT's January 10, 2024 comments:

The permit application document refers to the October 30, 2023 geotechnical assessment letter by Knight Piesold as a "certification". The geotechnical letter is clearly titled as an "assessment" and explicitly states in the conclusions that the assessment should not be taken as an engineering approval. The Knight Piesold assessment indicates that the tailings storage facility is likely to be geotechnically feasible, but is contingent on several key assumptions. Several assumptions are related to means and methods of site preparation and material placement with quality control testing. The authors rightly state that a qualified geotechnical engineer needs to be closely engaged with ongoing investigations, monitoring, and redesign, if necessary. *The application documents provide insufficient detail about the ongoing investigation and monitoring program and do not clearly designate who will be managing, overseeing, and certifying the program. A design of the expansion needs to be included in the application documents that is stamped by a qualified geotechnical engineer licensed in the State of New York.*

Report of Sterling Environmental Engineering, P.C. (Jan. 10, 2024) at 4; (emphasis added).

Rather than complying with APA's reasonable request that Barton have its waste pile submission signed by a New York-licensed professional engineer, Barton protested that "[w]e are not aware of any past mining application/permit in the Adirondack Park that had a similar requirement" and demanded that APA "advise us of the reasoning for this requirement." Email from Bernard Melewski, Esq. to Corrie Magee (APA) re: Follow Up to Your Call (Jan. 19, 2024). Barton had the same response to APA's request that its noise analysis be signed by a New York-licensed engineer. *Id.*

### **APA's Approach is Not Inconsistent With SEQRA**

Lastly, Barton's claim that APA's phased approval approach "is fundamentally inconsistent with the policies and substantive requirements of SEQRA," White Paper at 5, is meritless and utterly at odds with its argument that APA lacks any substantive environmental review authority over the Barton mine expansion. Barton's white paper correctly notes that projects subject to APA permit requirements are exempt from SEQRA because "the APA's mandates under Executive Law [section] 809 are more protective of the environment than is SEQRA. *Id.* at 5-6, citing *Association for Protection of the Adirondacks v. Town Bd. of Town of Tupper Lake*, 64 AD3d 825, 826-27 (3d Dept. 2009). Yet Barton simultaneously claims that "[t]he MLRL expressly limits the scope of the APA's jurisdiction over mining projects, vesting exclusive jurisdiction in the DEC to regulate mining operations and reclamation activities." *Id.* at 2. Thus, Barton is seeking, in essence, a complete exemption from SEQRA-type review of its major expansion by claiming that APA has no authority to conduct an environmental review of its project (and to impose appropriate permit conditions to mitigate or avoid adverse environmental impacts) but at the same time claiming

exemption from SEQRA due to APA's permit jurisdiction (that requires a greater-than-SEQRA review of environmental impacts). APA should reject Barton's legally flawed, self-serving and circular claims. APA should reject Barton's legally flawed, self-serving and circular claims.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Protect the Adirondacks, please accept our gratitude for the opportunity to share our comments on the Barton Mines application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Amato', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christopher Amato  
Conservation Director and Counsel

Cc: Beth Magee  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 5  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885



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**Executive Director**

Claudia K. Braymer, Esq.  
**Deputy Director**

Christopher Amato, Esq.  
**Conservation Director  
and Counsel**

#### **Via Email**

August 12, 2024

John M. Burth  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Beth Magee  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 5  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

**RE:           Barton Mines Company, LLC  
Ruby Mountain Garnet Mine  
Major Permit Modification  
NYSDEC Mine Permit #5-5230-00002/00002  
APA Permit #P79-140, P70-356, P87-39, P87-39A, P87-  
39B, P88-393, P88-393A  
Town of Johnsburg, Warren County**

Dear Mr. Burth and Ms. Magee:

Protect the Adirondacks ("PROTECT") submits these additional comments concerning the application by Barton Mines Corporation, LLC ("Barton") for expansion of the Ruby Mountain Mine in the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County. These comments address Barton's most recent submission, dated July 2024, in response to the third Notice of Incomplete Permit Application (NIPA) and corresponding comments issued by the Department of Environmental Conservation ("DEC") and the Adirondack Park Agency ("APA"). For the reasons set forth below and in the attached expert engineering report from Sterling Environmental Engineering, P.C., Barton's application remains seriously deficient and cannot be deemed complete.

#### **Protect the Adirondacks**

PO Box 48, North Creek, NY 12853 518.251.2700

[www.protectadks.org](http://www.protectadks.org) [info@protectadks.org](mailto:info@protectadks.org)

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## **Climate Change**

The application fails to include any data or analysis concerning the potential climate change impacts of the proposed mine expansion and thus fails to provide critical information requested in the NIPAs and required by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (“CLCPA”), Ch. 106, Laws of 2019, § 7(2). Although the mine expansion will result in a tripling of heavy-duty truck trips, the continued operation of multiple sources of greenhouse gas (“GHG”) emissions, and the clear-cutting of approximately 36 acres of forest, Barton has failed to provide any analysis of the climate change impacts of these actions.

The APA’s most recent NIPA stated:

The proposal appears to result in the conversion of approximately 36 acres of forest to a non-forested covertype during Phase I, and associated loss of forest carbon storage and forest carbon sequestration potential. Section 9.0 on page 56 of the narrative response document titled “Climate Change,” should be revised to account for this loss.

APA Third NIPA (Jan. 12, 2024) at 5.

Barton’s response to this comment is that “[t]he narrative has been updated to address Climate Change.” Letter from Bowman to DEC and APA (July 15, 2024) at 19. But the Climate Change narrative does not address the loss of carbon storage and forest carbon sequestration potential associated with the clearcutting of 36 acres of forest during Phase I of the project as requested by APA. On this ground alone the application cannot be deemed complete.

Moreover, the Climate Change narrative is woefully inadequate, consisting entirely of vague conclusory statement that are unsupported by any data or analysis. For example, Barton states that “[t]he Barton project as proposed will have a negligible impact on and will not impede New York State goals on . . . GHG emissions” but fails to provide any data concerning Barton’s current GHG emissions or how those emissions are projected to change as a result of the mine expansion. Barton Mine Permit Amendment and Modification (July 2024) at 67. Barton likewise fails to provide any data to support its claim that “[t]otal emissions from all sources for the life of the proposed project will remain essentially unchanged.” And Barton peppers its discussion with vague and qualified assertions such as that GHG emissions will be “essentially” unchanged, that the number, type and use of mobile equipment at the mine “should” remain the same, and that future (unspecified) technological advances “may” lead to a decrease in GHG emissions from mine operations. *Id.*

Section 7(2) of the CLCPA imposes a mandatory duty on all State agencies to consider the GHG emissions associated with the issuance of a permit or approval:

In considering and issuing permits, licenses, and other administrative approvals and decisions . . . all state agencies, offices, authorities and divisions shall consider whether such decisions are inconsistent with or will interfere with the attainment of

the statewide [GHG] emissions limits established in [ECL Article 75]. Where such decisions are deemed to be inconsistent with or will interfere with the attainment of the statewide [GHG] emissions limits, each agency, office, authority or division shall provide a detailed statement of justification as to why such limits/criteria may not be met, and identify alternatives or [GHG] mitigation measures to be required where such project is located.

Ch. 106, Laws of 2019, § 7(2).

PROTECT urges DEC and APA to require Barton to conduct the GHG analysis as mandated by the CLCPA and as requested by PROTECT in its previous comment letter dated September 13, 2023. APA and DEC must fulfill their obligation under the CLCPA either by requiring the applicant to provide an analysis of the Project's direct and upstream GHG emissions or by confirming that the agencies are conducting their own analysis of those emissions.

### **Additional Environmental Issues**

PROTECT's comments identifying significant deficiencies in Barton's application concerning management of stormwater and industrial process wastewater, dust control, the so-called residual materials waste dump, and environmental monitoring are set forth in the report from Sterling Environmental Engineering attached hereto as Exhibit A.

### **Barton's "Legal Analysis"**

Barton has submitted as Appendix Y to the application materials a document entitled, "Legal Analysis of Permitting Authority and Practices for NYSDEC and APA." PROTECT has already responded to this submission, previously obtained by PROTECT through a FOIL request, by letter dated June 24, 2024. For your convenience, a copy of PROTECT's response to Barton's legal analysis is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

### **Conclusion**

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Protect the Adirondacks, please let me express our gratitude for the opportunity to submit these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Amato", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christopher Amato  
Conservation Director and Counsel



# EXHIBIT A



August 12, 2024

Mr. John M. Burth  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, New York 12977

Ms. Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC – Region 5  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, New York 12885

Subject: Barton Mines Company, LLC  
Ruby Mountain Garnet Mine  
Major Permit Modification  
NYSDEC Mine Permit #5-5230-00002/00002  
APA Permit #P79-140, P70-356, P87-39, P87-39A, P87-39B, P88-393, P88-393A  
STERLING File #2024-01

Dear Mr. Burth and Ms. Magee,

Sterling Environmental Engineering, P.C. (STERLING) has been retained by Protect the Adirondacks to evaluate potential environmental impacts associated with the Ruby Mountain Garnet Mine (the “mine”) and the mine’s application for a major permit modification. The enclosed comments focus on the July 2024 submission by Barton Mines Company, LLC (“Barton”) in response to the third Notice of Incomplete Permit Application (NIPA) and corresponding comments issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the Adirondack Park Agency (APA).

### **Drawing Consistency**

As further described in the following comments, the application drawings need to be reviewed and revised for consistency across the various reports. As an example, conflicting terminology is used related to ponds for the management of seepage water from the Residual Materials (RM) Pile Area. The Bowman cover letter refers to “Basin 2” and “Basin 3”, the Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) refers to a “Process Water Pond”, the Geotechnical Review refers to the “Lower Raft Pond”, and the overall Site Plan Map refers to the “SPDES Pond Complex”. As further described below, control and management of tailings water is essential for geotechnical stability of the RM Pile and for protection of the environment from reported uncontrolled overflows during storm events. Clear detail on the seepage collection and management system is essential for a comprehensive review of the current operation and the proposed modification. The application documents lack any detail regarding the finger drains and the “closed loop” system for managing process water.

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**Stormwater & Industrial Process Water**

The revised MSGP SWPPP is much more clearly organized, however, the following comments remain:

- Phased construction is indicated for improvements to existing stormwater management practices and installation of new practices. The drawings depict the “end of phase” conditions but there is no description of when or how during each phase the improvements will be constructed. For example, at the end of Phase 1, the SPDES Pond Complex is reconstructed into DA-2 Basin and a Process Water Pond; however, no details are provided for how the existing SPDES Pond Complex will be decommissioned, how the new basin/pond will be constructed, and how seepage water will be managed during the decommissioning/construction process.
- The proposed DA-2 Basin and Process Water Pond appears to require creation of a dam with a height of 30 feet and an impounding capacity greater than 1,000,000 gallons, which is subject to dam safety regulations and a Protection of Waters permit. Construction details of the proposed impoundment should be provided.
- *Section 5 – Spills and Releases* and the drawings must describe and depict the actual bulk petroleum storage areas that are potential sources of pollution to stormwater. The reportable spill language must be updated to indicate that any discharge to land is reportable. A spill is only not reportable if occurring on an impervious surface, cleaned within 2 hours, and confirmed less than 5 gallons.
- *Section 7 – Stormwater Controls* must further describe the roles and responsibilities for inspections. The mine includes erosion and sediment controls, which require inspection by a “Qualified Person” who has received four hours of NYSDEC endorsed training every three years. Further, the mine includes structural stormwater practices, which require inspection by a “Qualified Professional” such as a licensed Professional Engineer, Registered Landscape Architect, or other NYSDEC endorsed individual.
- *Section 7 – Stormwater Controls* must be revised to indicate corrective actions must be initiated within one day and completed within seven days.
- The description of finger drains and seep water management conflicts with Response #5 in the Bowman cover letter. The SWPPP states that finger drains discharge to process water ponds south of the mill. The cover letter states that the drains discharge to Basin 2 and Basin 3, which are located north and south of the mill. Details of the existing drainage system and proposed future drainage system need to be provided. This should include specific details related to engineering design, installation, monitoring, and maintenance.
- The Mine Permit Amendment & Modification refers to discharge of industrial process water from Outfalls 001 and 002 as “treated” discharge; however, there does not appear to be any water treatment. The Individual SPDES Permit requires development of a Best Management Practice (BMP) Plan that is reviewed and updated annually. The SWPPP only includes the Individual SPDES Permit as an appendix but contains no information about the collection and reuse of water for the “closed loop” system or the frequency and duration of uncontrolled overflow discharges from extreme precipitation events. This information needs to be provided.

**Dust**

The application documents remain deficient with respect to dust management. Our prior January 10, 2024 comment is reiterated below and remains relevant:

- The permit application documents includes a brief subjective narrative related to dust. The narrative states that dust can be generated during “unique conditions” including when wind exceeds 5 miles per hour. Supporting data should be included documenting the prevailing wind direction and speed probability (i.e., wind rose). 5 miles per hour is a low threshold to be considered a unique condition. Dust is stated to be mitigated through concurrent reclamation, hydroseeding, annual placement of biodegradable treatment, application of water, and installation of monitoring equipment. Most of these mitigation measures have long lead times to implement (e.g., reclamation). The mine includes acres of bare dust-generating material located on the elevated tailings pile. More detail is needed regarding the specific day-to-day material handling, monitoring, and mitigation measures. What parameters are actively being monitored and what are the action levels and responses? Offsite dust migration can be deposited in waterways and other sensitive areas. A fugitive dust control plan should be developed with clear criteria for determining when dust control measures must be employed.

**Residual Materials Management**

The July 2024 Geotechnical Review Report by Bowman includes a certification by a professional engineer licensed to practice in the State of New York; however, our prior January 10, 2024 technical comments remain unanswered and are reiterated below:

- Considering this is a feasibility level assessment and that construction is similar to a landfill, a minimum factor of safety of 1.5 should be required for both drained and undrained scenarios consistent with 6 NYCRR 363-4.3. Based on the construction assumptions, a sensitivity analysis should be required to assess if material properties have a significant impact on stability.
- The assessment states that the mine is in an area of low seismic activity; however, the mine is near the highest seismic hazard region in New York State as indicated on the USGS seismic hazard map. The assessment states that undrained behaviors (i.e., liquefaction) can be triggered by earthquake loading, even if only moderate in nature. Therefore, a seismic scenario should be required to demonstrate a minimum factor of safety of 1.0 consistent with 6 NYCRR 363-4.3.
- The Slope/W output shows deep seated failures that occur at the minimum safety factor and appear to be controlled by the assumed seepage conditions. Based on the size of the failures and the nature of the assumptions, a sensitivity analysis should be required to assess if different seepage conditions have a significant impact on stability.
- The Slope/W output shows only the single failure surface associated with the lowest safety factor. The output should be required to show the start and exit regions for the failure surfaces as well as the next 10 lowest safety factor failure surfaces. This will facilitate the review of the scenarios that show shallow veneer-like failures to determine if there are deeper seated failures with only slightly higher safety factors that need additional consideration.
- The assessment stresses the importance of the underdrain system for seepage control and long-term stability; however, no specific details are included related to engineering design, installation, monitoring, and maintenance. The application documents should include a design of the drainage and seepage control system.

In addition, the application documents do not provide adequate information to support Barton's claim that the proposed temporary and final revegetation is feasible for maintaining long-term stability. The documents state that hydroseeding will be performed to establish temporary vegetation on portions of the RM Pile that have not achieved final elevation. Supporting information should be provided that hydroseeding directly on the RM material with no organic substrate (e.g., topsoil) will establish vegetation. Further, the RM Pile has slopes steeper than 3:1, which requires special considerations for stabilization to ensure seed remains in place in accordance with the New York State Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control. No information has been provided regarding how this will be achieved.

The 2024 Revegetation Testing Program Monitoring Report is inconclusive and repeatedly states that the source testing program reports have not been located. Monitoring reports that were located are reported as "incomplete" or "did not supply sufficient information". A new revegetation testing program should be developed and implemented to verify the proposed intermediate and final revegetation methods (e.g., soil preparation, species selection, planting, and maintenance) will be successful.

### **Proposed Monitoring Plan**

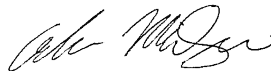
The application documents include a brief two-page qualitative monitoring plan. The plan does not describe any quantitative metrics or action levels that would trigger a re-evaluation of the geotechnical assessment or construction practices. For example, how much movement by an inclinometer is a concern? The monitoring plan should list specific assumptions that will be regularly monitored, the parameters that will be monitored to validate the assumptions, and the action levels that will require reporting to the agencies and additional review or a design change.

### **Environmental Monitor**

As previously indicated in our January 10, 2024 comments, STERLING recommends that the NYSDEC and APA require the mine to fund Environmental Monitors assigned specifically to the mine. The resubmitted application documents further detail the complexity of this project within the sensitive Adirondack Park. Real-time oversight is necessary to stay up to date on the current operations. Regulatory review for a project of this scale cannot be restricted to permit renewals on a five-year basis.

We appreciate your consideration of these comments.

Very truly yours,  
STERLING ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING, P.C.



Andrew M. Millspaugh, P.E.  
Vice President

[Andrew.Millspaugh@sterlingenvironmental.com](mailto:Andrew.Millspaugh@sterlingenvironmental.com)

## EXHIBIT B

**Board of Directors**

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*Executive Director*

Claudia K. Braymer, Esq.  
*Deputy Director*

Christopher Amato, Esq.  
*Conservation Director  
and Counsel*



**Via Email**

June 21, 2024

John M. Burth  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

**RE: Comments on Barton “White Paper” Barton  
Mines Expansion  
Town of Johnsburg, Warren County**

Dear Mr. Burth:

Protect the Adirondacks (“PROTECT”) submits these additional comments concerning the application by Barton Mines Corporation, LLC (“Barton”) for expansion of the Ruby Mountain Mine in the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County.

Specifically, this letter responds to legal arguments made in a submission from Barton, characterized by Barton as a “white paper” and apparently received by the Adirondack Park Agency (“APA”) on May 24, 2024, claiming that the APA lacks authority to issue a five-year permit for the proposed mine expansion. As discussed below, Barton’s letter mischaracterizes the applicable law and seeks to undermine and nullify the APA’s environmental review obligations under the Adirondack Park Agency Act (“APA Act”), Executive Law article 27. Contrary to Barton’s claim, APA has authority to issue a five-year permit, and a permit term limited to five years is particularly warranted in light of Barton’s failure to provide critical engineering information regarding the massive on-site waste disposal facility it proposes to significantly expand.

**The “White Paper” is Unsigned and Therefore Inadmissible**

Barton’s submission, entitled, “The Life of Mine Standard for Permitting Mining Projects in New York State,” is undated and unattributed. Despite being a legal memorandum that cites statutes and case law, asserts legal interpretations and makes legal arguments, the submission bears no attorney or law firm signature and provides no information concerning its authorship. On this ground alone, the anonymous submission is inadmissible and should be rejected.

While this matter is not before a court, the Rules of the Chief Administrator of the Courts are instructive and provide:

Signature. Every pleading, written motion, and other paper, served on another party or filed or submitted to the court shall be signed by an attorney . . . with the name of the attorney . . . clearly printed or typed directly below the signature. Absent good cause shown, the court shall strike any unsigned paper if the omission of the signature is not corrected promptly after being called to the attention of the attorney . . . .

22 NYCRR § 130-1.1(a). The Rules make clear that the signature requirement is crucial to prevent fraudulent, frivolous or inaccurate filings:

Certification. By signing a paper, an attorney . . . certifies that, to the best of that person's knowledge, information and belief, formed after an inquiry reasonable under the circumstances, (1) the presentation of the paper or the contentions therein are not frivolous . . . and (2) where the paper is an initiating pleading, (i) the matter was not obtained through illegal conduct . . . and (ii) the matter was not obtained in violation of {the rule prohibiting unsolicited communications with a potential client).

*Id.* § 130-1.1(b).

Although these rules apply to judicial proceedings, it is standard practice for submissions—legal or otherwise—to an administrative agency to comply with the signature requirement for the same reason: to ensure the legitimacy of the submission. This requirement has been adopted by APA and applies to all submissions for major project permit applications, including Barton’s mine expansion application. *See*, APA Application for Major Projects General Information Request at 9 (requiring person signing a major project application to affirm that “I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this application, including all attachments. I believe this information to be true, accurate and complete. in addition, in the case of any project sponsor corporation, limited liability corporation, partnership or other legal entity, I also affirm that I am authorized to submit this application on behalf of that entity”). Because Barton’s “White Paper” submission is unsigned and thus fails to comply with both standard practice for legal submissions and with APA application signing requirements, APA should reject the submission and disregard it.

Even if APA chooses to consider Barton’s submission, it is legally flawed and APA should not alter its position regarding the five-year permit term.

### **DEC’s Mining Permit Jurisdiction Does Not Eliminate or Truncate APA Review**

Barton’s submission objects to APA “approving at this time only the early phase of the project, with subsequent phases subject to new permit application requirements and *de novo* review.” White Paper at 1. Barton argues that APA’s approach is “legally impermissible under the Mined Land Reclamation [Law]. . . [and is] at odds with the Department of Environmental Conservation’s (“DEC’s”) longstanding Life of Mine Review Policy (“LOM Policy”).” *Id.* Barton goes on to claim that Environmental Conservation Law § 23-2703(2) vests “exclusive jurisdiction in the DEC to regulate mining operations and reclamation activities” and that “APA is without authority to substantively regulate mining activities or reclamation.” *Id.* Barton’s argument is contradicted by



the plain language of the APA Act, inconsistent with prior mining permits issued by APA, and not supported by the case law interpreting the Mined Land Reclamation Law (“MLRL”).

Barton’s planned major expansion of its Ruby Mountain Mine, located on lands classified Rural Use, Resource Management and Industrial Use by the Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan Map, is a Class A regional project as defined by the APA Act and therefore requires an APA permit. Executive Law §§ 810(e)(1)(d), 810(e)(12), 810(e)(17); 810(f)(1), 810(f)(8). APA cannot lawfully issue the permit unless it makes a finding that “[t]he project would not have an undue adverse impact upon the natural, scenic, aesthetic, ecological, wildlife, historic, recreational or open space resources of the park or upon the ability of the public to provide supporting facilities and services made necessary by the project, taking into account the commercial, industrial, residential, recreational or other benefits that might be derived from the project.” *Id.* § 809(10)(e); *Matter of Jorling v. Adirondack Park Agency*, 214 AD3d 98, 105 (3d Dept. 2023 (in reviewing proposed marina expansion, “APA was required to . . . determine” whether findings required by APA Act § 809(10)(e) could be made before issuing permit). Barton does not—and cannot—square its claim that APA’s review “is preempted by the MLRL” with APA’s statutory duty to make the findings required as a prerequisite to issuing a Class A regional project permit for the proposed mine expansion. White Paper at 1.

Barton’s reliance on *Hunt Bros., Inc. v. Glennon*, 81 NY2d 906 (1993) is misplaced because that decision refutes, rather than supports, Barton’s preemption argument. Indeed, in *Hunt Bros.* the Court of Appeals specifically rejected the mining company’s argument that APA’s regulation of mining activities is preempted by the MLRL:

The statute creating and empowering the APA is aimed at establishing a superagency to regulate development in the Adirondack Park region, which the Legislature has singled out for special protection because of its unique environmental significance . . . *Inasmuch as the APA's mission concerns the broad area of land use planning within the Adirondack Park district, its enabling statute is not a law "relating to the extractive mining industry." Consequently, ECL 232703 . . . does not deprive the agency of all jurisdiction to regulate petitioner's activities.*

81 NY2d at 909; (emphasis added). Moreover, as noted by the Court, there is concurrent “no ‘bureaucratic competition’ or ‘confusion’ over the respective roles of the APA and the DEC regarding the regulation of mining operations . . . within the Adirondack Park” because “the DEC and the APA, as well as the State Department of Health, have been party to a Memorandum of Understanding under which the agencies have agreed to coordinate their respective regulatory responsibilities with regard to projects in the Park.” 81 NY2d at 909-910.

Barton’s preemption argument is also contradicted by previous permits issued by APA for mining operations. To cite just one recent example, the Red Rock Quarry permit issued by APA in January 2022, included permit conditions regarding lighting; signs; vegetative cutting; location and depth of mining operations; days and hours when drilling, blasting and crushing are permitted; the hours when truck traffic is permitted; the number of truck trips allowed per day; and reclamation of the site. In fact, Barton’s prior APA permits included conditions governing maximum final grades for

all earth slopes; riser details for settling basin outlets; stormwater runoff interceptors; restrictions on the waste pile height and size; revegetation requirements for the waste pile; blasting restrictions; restrictions on water withdrawals; erosion and sedimentation control; dust control; wetland protection and mitigation; removal of trees and vegetation; control of noise impacts; and truck traffic. *See, e.g.*, APA Permit Nos. 79-140, 79-356, 81-20, 87-39.

Barton's additional argument that APA's approach violates DEC's purported Life of Mine Policy is wrong on several counts. First, Barton provides no citation to the alleged policy and it apparently does not exist; there is no "Life of Mine" policy included on DEC's website, either as a DEC policy or Division of Mineral Resources technical guidance. In fact, the only reference to the purported policy is in a 36 year-old court decision, which referred to DEC's "so-called 'Life of Mine Review Policy'" as being "described in a DEC internal memorandum." *Guptill Holding Corp. v. Williams*, 140 AD2d 12, 15-17 (3d Dept. 1988). Thus, it is doubtful that the policy cited by Barton exists.

Second, even if a Life of Mine policy exists, it is a DEC internal policy, not an APA policy, and thus is not binding on APA. Nor is the policy binding even on DEC. *See Matter of Adirondack Wild: Friends of the Forest Preserve v New York State Adirondack Park Agency*, 161 AD3d 169 at 177-178 (3d Dept. 2018) ("An administrative agency's internal guidelines are not binding rules or regulations because they do not impose fixed, general principle(s) to be applied by an administrative agency without regard to other facts and circumstances relevant to the regulatory scheme of the statute it administers").

### **APA's Phased Approval Approach is Consistent With its Regulations and With APA's Prior Permitting of Barton's Operations**

In any event, APA's approach is consistent with its own regulations for phased projects and is warranted considering Barton's failure to provide basic information about the long-term impacts of its proposed mine expansion. The APA regulations provide that "[p]ermits may be granted for the development of large scale projects or other projects to be undertaken in sections, subject to conditions relating to improvements and services for and completion of the total project that the agency deems reasonable and necessary." 9 NYCRR § 572.6(a). The regulations specifically provide for APA's phase-by-phase approval of large scale projects: "An agency decision *relating to a section of a project* shall contain findings and conclusions with respect to the likely impact of the entire project and its compliance with section 809(9) or 809(10) of the Adirondack Park Agency Act." *Id.* § 572.6(d); (emphasis added). Indeed, APA's prior Class A regional project permits issued to Barton adopted the same phased approval approach. *See* APA Permit No. 79140 at 1 (providing conceptual review approval of mining plan "subject to re-examination based on final design"); APA Permit No. 79-356 at 6 ("The project sponsors are proposing the initial phase of a mineral extraction use on a 580 acre parcel of land on the slopes of Ruby Mountain and Big Thirteenth Lake Mountain . . . The project sponsor[s] will be submitting at least one additional Application for Project Permit for the mineral extraction use . . ."); APA Permit No. 81-20 at 9

(“This permit authorizes the final phase as described in the project sponsor’s Application for Project Permit received October 22, 1979”).<sup>1</sup>

APA’s phased approval approach is necessary because of Barton’s failure to provide crucial information concerning, among other things, its massive on-site solid waste disposal facility. As stated in the expert report submitted as part of PROTECT’s January 10, 2024 comments:

The permit application document refers to the October 30, 2023 geotechnical assessment letter by Knight Piesold as a “certification”. The geotechnical letter is clearly titled as an “assessment” and explicitly states in the conclusions that the assessment should not be taken as an engineering approval. The Knight Piesold assessment indicates that the tailings storage facility is likely to be geotechnically feasible, but is contingent on several key assumptions. Several assumptions are related to means and methods of site preparation and material placement with quality control testing. The authors rightly state that a qualified geotechnical engineer needs to be closely engaged with ongoing investigations, monitoring, and redesign, if necessary. *The application documents provide insufficient detail about the ongoing investigation and monitoring program and do not clearly designate who will be managing, overseeing, and certifying the program. A design of the expansion needs to be included in the application documents that is stamped by a qualified geotechnical engineer licensed in the State of New York.*

Report of Sterling Environmental Engineering, P.C. (Jan. 10, 2024) at 4; (emphasis added).

Rather than complying with APA’s reasonable request that Barton have its waste pile submission signed by a New York-licensed professional engineer, Barton protested that “[w]e are not aware of any past mining application/permit in the Adirondack Park that had a similar requirement” and demanded that APA “advise us of the reasoning for this requirement.” Email from Bernard Melewski, Esq. to Corrie Magee (APA) re: Follow Up to Your Call (Jan. 19, 2024). Barton had the same response to APA’s request that its noise analysis be signed by a New York-licensed engineer. *Id.*

### **APA’s Approach is Not Inconsistent With SEQRA**

Lastly, Barton’s claim that APA’s phased approval approach “is fundamentally inconsistent with the policies and substantive requirements of SEQRA,” White Paper at 5, is meritless and utterly at odds with its argument that APA lacks any substantive environmental review authority over the Barton mine expansion. Barton’s white paper correctly notes that projects subject to APA permit requirements are exempt from SEQRA because “the APA’s mandates under Executive Law

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<sup>1</sup> APA has taken a phased approach to the ongoing review of other mineral extraction/industrial use project applications, such as the Peckham Materials Corporation project in the Town of Chester mentioned by Barton. APA issued a permit to Peckham on April 4, 2023 (APA Permit 2023-0016) that authorizes mineral extraction, and other activities, and expires in November 2028, unless an application for a new permit term is received prior to that time. See <https://apa.ny.gov/Projects/PermitsIssued/P2023-0016-Permit-Final.pdf>.

[section] 809 are more protective of the environment than is SEQRA. *Id.* at 5-6, citing *Association for Protection of the Adirondacks v. Town Bd. of Town of Tupper Lake*, 64 AD3d 825, 826-27 (3d Dept. 2009). Yet Barton simultaneously claims that “[t]he MLRL expressly limits the scope of the APA’s jurisdiction over mining projects, vesting exclusive jurisdiction in the DEC to regulate mining operations and reclamation activities.” *Id.* at 2. Thus, Barton is seeking, in essence, a complete exemption from SEQRA-type review of its major expansion by claiming that APA has no authority to conduct an environmental review of its project (and to impose appropriate permit conditions to mitigate or avoid adverse environmental impacts) but at the same time claiming exemption from SEQRA due to APA’s permit jurisdiction (that requires a greater-than-SEQRA review of environmental impacts). APA should reject Barton’s legally flawed, self-serving and circular claims. APA should reject Barton’s legally flawed, self-serving and circular claims.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Protect the Adirondacks, please accept our gratitude for the opportunity to share our comments on the Barton Mines application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Amato", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christopher Amato  
Conservation Director and Counsel

Cc: Beth Magee  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 5  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885



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**Executive Director**

Claudia K. Braymer, Esq.  
**Deputy Director**

Christopher Amato, Esq.  
**Conservation Director  
and Counsel**

#### **Via Email**

August 12, 2024

John M. Burth  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Beth Magee  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 5  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

**RE:           Barton Mines Company, LLC  
              Ruby Mountain Garnet Mine  
              Major Permit Modification  
              NYSDEC Mine Permit #5-5230-00002/00002  
              APA Permit #P79-140, P70-356, P87-39, P87-39A, P87-  
              39B, P88-393, P88-393A  
              Town of Johnsbury, Warren County**

Dear Mr. Burth and Ms. Magee:

Protect the Adirondacks ("PROTECT") submits these additional comments concerning the application by Barton Mines Corporation, LLC ("Barton") for expansion of the Ruby Mountain Mine in the Town of Johnsbury, Warren County. These comments address Barton's most recent submission, dated July 2024, in response to the third Notice of Incomplete Permit Application (NIPA) and corresponding comments issued by the Department of Environmental Conservation ("DEC") and the Adirondack Park Agency ("APA"). For the reasons set forth below and in the attached expert engineering report from Sterling Environmental Engineering, P.C., Barton's application remains seriously deficient and cannot be deemed complete.

#### **Protect the Adirondacks**

PO Box 48, North Creek, NY 12853 518.251.2700

[www.protectadks.org](http://www.protectadks.org) [info@protectadks.org](mailto:info@protectadks.org)

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## **Climate Change**

The application fails to include any data or analysis concerning the potential climate change impacts of the proposed mine expansion and thus fails to provide critical information requested in the NIPAs and required by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (“CLCPA”), Ch. 106, Laws of 2019, § 7(2). Although the mine expansion will result in a tripling of heavy-duty truck trips, the continued operation of multiple sources of greenhouse gas (“GHG”) emissions, and the clear-cutting of approximately 36 acres of forest, Barton has failed to provide any analysis of the climate change impacts of these actions.

The APA’s most recent NIPA stated:

The proposal appears to result in the conversion of approximately 36 acres of forest to a non-forested covertype during Phase I, and associated loss of forest carbon storage and forest carbon sequestration potential. Section 9.0 on page 56 of the narrative response document titled “Climate Change,” should be revised to account for this loss.

APA Third NIPA (Jan. 12, 2024) at 5.

Barton’s response to this comment is that “[t]he narrative has been updated to address Climate Change.” Letter from Bowman to DEC and APA (July 15, 2024) at 19. But the Climate Change narrative does not address the loss of carbon storage and forest carbon sequestration potential associated with the clearcutting of 36 acres of forest during Phase I of the project as requested by APA. On this ground alone the application cannot be deemed complete.

Moreover, the Climate Change narrative is woefully inadequate, consisting entirely of vague conclusory statements that are unsupported by any data or analysis. For example, Barton states that “[t]he Barton project as proposed will have a negligible impact on and will not impede New York State goals on . . . GHG emissions” but fails to provide any data concerning Barton’s current GHG emissions or how those emissions are projected to change as a result of the mine expansion. Barton Mine Permit Amendment and Modification (July 2024) at 67. Barton likewise fails to provide any data to support its claim that “[t]otal emissions from all sources for the life of the proposed project will remain essentially unchanged.” And Barton peppers its discussion with vague and qualified assertions such as that GHG emissions will be “essentially” unchanged, that the number, type and use of mobile equipment at the mine “should” remain the same, and that future (unspecified) technological advances “may” lead to a decrease in GHG emissions from mine operations. *Id.*

Section 7(2) of the CLCPA imposes a mandatory duty on all State agencies to consider the GHG emissions associated with the issuance of a permit or approval:

In considering and issuing permits, licenses, and other administrative approvals and decisions . . . all state agencies, offices, authorities and divisions shall consider whether such decisions are inconsistent with or will interfere with the attainment of

the statewide [GHG] emissions limits established in [ECL Article 75]. Where such decisions are deemed to be inconsistent with or will interfere with the attainment of the statewide [GHG] emissions limits, each agency, office, authority or division shall provide a detailed statement of justification as to why such limits/criteria may not be met, and identify alternatives or [GHG] mitigation measures to be required where such project is located.

Ch. 106, Laws of 2019, § 7(2).

PROTECT urges DEC and APA to require Barton to conduct the GHG analysis as mandated by the CLCPA and as requested by PROTECT in its previous comment letter dated September 13, 2023. APA and DEC must fulfill their obligation under the CLCPA either by requiring the applicant to provide an analysis of the Project's direct and upstream GHG emissions or by confirming that the agencies are conducting their own analysis of those emissions.

### **Additional Environmental Issues**

PROTECT's comments identifying significant deficiencies in Barton's application concerning management of stormwater and industrial process wastewater, dust control, the so-called residual materials waste dump, and environmental monitoring are set forth in the report from Sterling Environmental Engineering attached hereto as Exhibit A.

### **Barton's "Legal Analysis"**

Barton has submitted as Appendix Y to the application materials a document entitled, "Legal Analysis of Permitting Authority and Practices for NYSDEC and APA." PROTECT has already responded to this submission, previously obtained by PROTECT through a FOIL request, by letter dated June 24, 2024. For your convenience, a copy of PROTECT's response to Barton's legal analysis is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

### **Conclusion**

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Protect the Adirondacks, please let me express our gratitude for the opportunity to submit these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Amato", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christopher Amato  
Conservation Director and Counsel

# EXHIBIT A





August 12, 2024

Mr. John M. Burth  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, New York 12977

Ms. Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC – Region 5  
232 Golf Course Road  
Warrensburg, New York 12885

Subject: Barton Mines Company, LLC  
Ruby Mountain Garnet Mine  
Major Permit Modification  
NYSDEC Mine Permit #5-5230-00002/00002  
APA Permit #P79-140, P70-356, P87-39, P87-39A, P87-39B, P88-393, P88-393A  
STERLING File #2024-01

Dear Mr. Burth and Ms. Magee,

Sterling Environmental Engineering, P.C. (STERLING) has been retained by Protect the Adirondacks to evaluate potential environmental impacts associated with the Ruby Mountain Garnet Mine (the “mine”) and the mine’s application for a major permit modification. The enclosed comments focus on the July 2024 submission by Barton Mines Company, LLC (“Barton”) in response to the third Notice of Incomplete Permit Application (NIPA) and corresponding comments issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the Adirondack Park Agency (APA).

### **Drawing Consistency**

As further described in the following comments, the application drawings need to be reviewed and revised for consistency across the various reports. As an example, conflicting terminology is used related to ponds for the management of seepage water from the Residual Materials (RM) Pile Area. The Bowman cover letter refers to “Basin 2” and “Basin 3”, the Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) refers to a “Process Water Pond”, the Geotechnical Review refers to the “Lower Raft Pond”, and the overall Site Plan Map refers to the “SPDES Pond Complex”. As further described below, control and management of tailings water is essential for geotechnical stability of the RM Pile and for protection of the environment from reported uncontrolled overflows during storm events. Clear detail on the seepage collection and management system is essential for a comprehensive review of the current operation and the proposed modification. The application documents lack any detail regarding the finger drains and the “closed loop” system for managing process water.

*“Serving our clients and the environment since 1993”*

**Stormwater & Industrial Process Water**

The revised MSGP SWPPP is much more clearly organized, however, the following comments remain:

- Phased construction is indicated for improvements to existing stormwater management practices and installation of new practices. The drawings depict the “end of phase” conditions but there is no description of when or how during each phase the improvements will be constructed. For example, at the end of Phase 1, the SPDES Pond Complex is reconstructed into DA-2 Basin and a Process Water Pond; however, no details are provided for how the existing SPDES Pond Complex will be decommissioned, how the new basin/pond will be constructed, and how seepage water will be managed during the decommissioning/construction process.
- The proposed DA-2 Basin and Process Water Pond appears to require creation of a dam with a height of 30 feet and an impounding capacity greater than 1,000,000 gallons, which is subject to dam safety regulations and a Protection of Waters permit. Construction details of the proposed impoundment should be provided.
- *Section 5 – Spills and Releases* and the drawings must describe and depict the actual bulk petroleum storage areas that are potential sources of pollution to stormwater. The reportable spill language must be updated to indicate that any discharge to land is reportable. A spill is only not reportable if occurring on an impervious surface, cleaned within 2 hours, and confirmed less than 5 gallons.
- *Section 7 – Stormwater Controls* must further describe the roles and responsibilities for inspections. The mine includes erosion and sediment controls, which require inspection by a “Qualified Person” who has received four hours of NYSDEC endorsed training every three years. Further, the mine includes structural stormwater practices, which require inspection by a “Qualified Professional” such as a licensed Professional Engineer, Registered Landscape Architect, or other NYSDEC endorsed individual.
- *Section 7 – Stormwater Controls* must be revised to indicate corrective actions must be initiated within one day and completed within seven days.
- The description of finger drains and seep water management conflicts with Response #5 in the Bowman cover letter. The SWPPP states that finger drains discharge to process water ponds south of the mill. The cover letter states that the drains discharge to Basin 2 and Basin 3, which are located north and south of the mill. Details of the existing drainage system and proposed future drainage system need to be provided. This should include specific details related to engineering design, installation, monitoring, and maintenance.
- The Mine Permit Amendment & Modification refers to discharge of industrial process water from Outfalls 001 and 002 as “treated” discharge; however, there does not appear to be any water treatment. The Individual SPDES Permit requires development of a Best Management Practice (BMP) Plan that is reviewed and updated annually. The SWPPP only includes the Individual SPDES Permit as an appendix but contains no information about the collection and reuse of water for the “closed loop” system or the frequency and duration of uncontrolled overflow discharges from extreme precipitation events. This information needs to be provided.

**Dust**

The application documents remain deficient with respect to dust management. Our prior January 10, 2024 comment is reiterated below and remains relevant:

- The permit application documents includes a brief subjective narrative related to dust. The narrative states that dust can be generated during “unique conditions” including when wind exceeds 5 miles per hour. Supporting data should be included documenting the prevailing wind direction and speed probability (i.e., wind rose). 5 miles per hour is a low threshold to be considered a unique condition. Dust is stated to be mitigated through concurrent reclamation, hydroseeding, annual placement of biodegradable treatment, application of water, and installation of monitoring equipment. Most of these mitigation measures have long lead times to implement (e.g., reclamation). The mine includes acres of bare dust-generating material located on the elevated tailings pile. More detail is needed regarding the specific day-to-day material handling, monitoring, and mitigation measures. What parameters are actively being monitored and what are the action levels and responses? Offsite dust migration can be deposited in waterways and other sensitive areas. A fugitive dust control plan should be developed with clear criteria for determining when dust control measures must be employed.

**Residual Materials Management**

The July 2024 Geotechnical Review Report by Bowman includes a certification by a professional engineer licensed to practice in the State of New York; however, our prior January 10, 2024 technical comments remain unanswered and are reiterated below:

- Considering this is a feasibility level assessment and that construction is similar to a landfill, a minimum factor of safety of 1.5 should be required for both drained and undrained scenarios consistent with 6 NYCRR 363-4.3. Based on the construction assumptions, a sensitivity analysis should be required to assess if material properties have a significant impact on stability.
- The assessment states that the mine is in an area of low seismic activity; however, the mine is near the highest seismic hazard region in New York State as indicated on the USGS seismic hazard map. The assessment states that undrained behaviors (i.e., liquefaction) can be triggered by earthquake loading, even if only moderate in nature. Therefore, a seismic scenario should be required to demonstrate a minimum factor of safety of 1.0 consistent with 6 NYCRR 363-4.3.
- The Slope/W output shows deep seated failures that occur at the minimum safety factor and appear to be controlled by the assumed seepage conditions. Based on the size of the failures and the nature of the assumptions, a sensitivity analysis should be required to assess if different seepage conditions have a significant impact on stability.
- The Slope/W output shows only the single failure surface associated with the lowest safety factor. The output should be required to show the start and exit regions for the failure surfaces as well as the next 10 lowest safety factor failure surfaces. This will facilitate the review of the scenarios that show shallow veneer-like failures to determine if there are deeper seated failures with only slightly higher safety factors that need additional consideration.
- The assessment stresses the importance of the underdrain system for seepage control and long-term stability; however, no specific details are included related to engineering design, installation, monitoring, and maintenance. The application documents should include a design of the drainage and seepage control system.

In addition, the application documents do not provide adequate information to support Barton's claim that the proposed temporary and final revegetation is feasible for maintaining long-term stability. The documents state that hydroseeding will be performed to establish temporary vegetation on portions of the RM Pile that have not achieved final elevation. Supporting information should be provided that hydroseeding directly on the RM material with no organic substrate (e.g., topsoil) will establish vegetation. Further, the RM Pile has slopes steeper than 3:1, which requires special considerations for stabilization to ensure seed remains in place in accordance with the New York State Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control. No information has been provided regarding how this will be achieved.

The 2024 Revegetation Testing Program Monitoring Report is inconclusive and repeatedly states that the source testing program reports have not been located. Monitoring reports that were located are reported as "incomplete" or "did not supply sufficient information". A new revegetation testing program should be developed and implemented to verify the proposed intermediate and final revegetation methods (e.g., soil preparation, species selection, planting, and maintenance) will be successful.

### **Proposed Monitoring Plan**

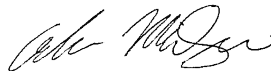
The application documents include a brief two-page qualitative monitoring plan. The plan does not describe any quantitative metrics or action levels that would trigger a re-evaluation of the geotechnical assessment or construction practices. For example, how much movement by an inclinometer is a concern? The monitoring plan should list specific assumptions that will be regularly monitored, the parameters that will be monitored to validate the assumptions, and the action levels that will require reporting to the agencies and additional review or a design change.

### **Environmental Monitor**

As previously indicated in our January 10, 2024 comments, STERLING recommends that the NYSDEC and APA require the mine to fund Environmental Monitors assigned specifically to the mine. The resubmitted application documents further detail the complexity of this project within the sensitive Adirondack Park. Real-time oversight is necessary to stay up to date on the current operations. Regulatory review for a project of this scale cannot be restricted to permit renewals on a five-year basis.

We appreciate your consideration of these comments.

Very truly yours,  
STERLING ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING, P.C.



Andrew M. Millspaugh, P.E.  
Vice President

[Andrew.Millspaugh@sterlingenvironmental.com](mailto:Andrew.Millspaugh@sterlingenvironmental.com)

## EXHIBIT B

**Board of Directors**

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*Chair*

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Philip Terrie  
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Peter Bauer  
*Executive Director*

Claudia K. Braymer, Esq.  
*Deputy Director*

Christopher Amato, Esq.  
*Conservation Director  
and Counsel*



**Via Email**

June 21, 2024

John M. Burth  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

**RE: Comments on Barton “White Paper” Barton  
Mines Expansion  
Town of Johnsburg, Warren County**

Dear Mr. Burth:

Protect the Adirondacks (“PROTECT”) submits these additional comments concerning the application by Barton Mines Corporation, LLC (“Barton”) for expansion of the Ruby Mountain Mine in the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County.

Specifically, this letter responds to legal arguments made in a submission from Barton, characterized by Barton as a “white paper” and apparently received by the Adirondack Park Agency (“APA”) on May 24, 2024, claiming that the APA lacks authority to issue a five-year permit for the proposed mine expansion. As discussed below, Barton’s letter mischaracterizes the applicable law and seeks to undermine and nullify the APA’s environmental review obligations under the Adirondack Park Agency Act (“APA Act”), Executive Law article 27. Contrary to Barton’s claim, APA has authority to issue a five-year permit, and a permit term limited to five years is particularly warranted in light of Barton’s failure to provide critical engineering information regarding the massive on-site waste disposal facility it proposes to significantly expand.

**The “White Paper” is Unsigned and Therefore Inadmissible**

Barton’s submission, entitled, “The Life of Mine Standard for Permitting Mining Projects in New York State,” is undated and unattributed. Despite being a legal memorandum that cites statutes and case law, asserts legal interpretations and makes legal arguments, the submission bears no attorney or law firm signature and provides no information concerning its authorship. On this ground alone, the anonymous submission is inadmissible and should be rejected.

While this matter is not before a court, the Rules of the Chief Administrator of the Courts are instructive and provide:

Signature. Every pleading, written motion, and other paper, served on another party or filed or submitted to the court shall be signed by an attorney . . . with the name of the attorney . . . clearly printed or typed directly below the signature. Absent good cause shown, the court shall strike any unsigned paper if the omission of the signature is not corrected promptly after being called to the attention of the attorney . . . .

22 NYCRR § 130-1.1(a). The Rules make clear that the signature requirement is crucial to prevent fraudulent, frivolous or inaccurate filings:

Certification. By signing a paper, an attorney . . . certifies that, to the best of that person's knowledge, information and belief, formed after an inquiry reasonable under the circumstances, (1) the presentation of the paper or the contentions therein are not frivolous . . . and (2) where the paper is an initiating pleading, (i) the matter was not obtained through illegal conduct . . . and (ii) the matter was not obtained in violation of {the rule prohibiting unsolicited communications with a potential client).

*Id.* § 130-1.1(b).

Although these rules apply to judicial proceedings, it is standard practice for submissions—legal or otherwise—to an administrative agency to comply with the signature requirement for the same reason: to ensure the legitimacy of the submission. This requirement has been adopted by APA and applies to all submissions for major project permit applications, including Barton’s mine expansion application. *See*, APA Application for Major Projects General Information Request at 9 (requiring person signing a major project application to affirm that “I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this application, including all attachments. I believe this information to be true, accurate and complete. in addition, in the case of any project sponsor corporation, limited liability corporation, partnership or other legal entity, I also affirm that I am authorized to submit this application on behalf of that entity”). Because Barton’s “White Paper” submission is unsigned and thus fails to comply with both standard practice for legal submissions and with APA application signing requirements, APA should reject the submission and disregard it.

Even if APA chooses to consider Barton’s submission, it is legally flawed and APA should not alter its position regarding the five-year permit term.

### **DEC’s Mining Permit Jurisdiction Does Not Eliminate or Truncate APA Review**

Barton’s submission objects to APA “approving at this time only the early phase of the project, with subsequent phases subject to new permit application requirements and *de novo* review.” White Paper at 1. Barton argues that APA’s approach is “legally impermissible under the Mined Land Reclamation [Law]. . . [and is] at odds with the Department of Environmental Conservation’s (“DEC’s”) longstanding Life of Mine Review Policy (“LOM Policy”).” *Id.* Barton goes on to claim that Environmental Conservation Law § 23-2703(2) vests “exclusive jurisdiction in the DEC to regulate mining operations and reclamation activities” and that “APA is without authority to substantively regulate mining activities or reclamation.” *Id.* Barton’s argument is contradicted by

the plain language of the APA Act, inconsistent with prior mining permits issued by APA, and not supported by the case law interpreting the Mined Land Reclamation Law (“MLRL”).

Barton’s planned major expansion of its Ruby Mountain Mine, located on lands classified Rural Use, Resource Management and Industrial Use by the Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan Map, is a Class A regional project as defined by the APA Act and therefore requires an APA permit. Executive Law §§ 810(e)(1)(d), 810(e)(12), 810(e)(17); 810(f)(1), 810(f)(8). APA cannot lawfully issue the permit unless it makes a finding that “[t]he project would not have an undue adverse impact upon the natural, scenic, aesthetic, ecological, wildlife, historic, recreational or open space resources of the park or upon the ability of the public to provide supporting facilities and services made necessary by the project, taking into account the commercial, industrial, residential, recreational or other benefits that might be derived from the project.” *Id.* § 809(10)(e); *Matter of Jorling v. Adirondack Park Agency*, 214 AD3d 98, 105 (3d Dept. 2023 (in reviewing proposed marina expansion, “APA was required to . . . determine” whether findings required by APA Act § 809(10)(e) could be made before issuing permit). Barton does not—and cannot—square its claim that APA’s review “is preempted by the MLRL” with APA’s statutory duty to make the findings required as a prerequisite to issuing a Class A regional project permit for the proposed mine expansion. White Paper at 1.

Barton’s reliance on *Hunt Bros., Inc. v. Glennon*, 81 NY2d 906 (1993) is misplaced because that decision refutes, rather than supports, Barton’s preemption argument. Indeed, in *Hunt Bros.* the Court of Appeals specifically rejected the mining company’s argument that APA’s regulation of mining activities is preempted by the MLRL:

The statute creating and empowering the APA is aimed at establishing a superagency to regulate development in the Adirondack Park region, which the Legislature has singled out for special protection because of its unique environmental significance . . . *Inasmuch as the APA's mission concerns the broad area of land use planning within the Adirondack Park district, its enabling statute is not a law "relating to the extractive mining industry." Consequently, ECL 232703 . . . does not deprive the agency of all jurisdiction to regulate petitioner's activities.*

81 NY2d at 909; (emphasis added). Moreover, as noted by the Court, there is concurrent “no ‘bureaucratic competition’ or ‘confusion’ over the respective roles of the APA and the DEC regarding the regulation of mining operations . . . within the Adirondack Park” because “the DEC and the APA, as well as the State Department of Health, have been party to a Memorandum of Understanding under which the agencies have agreed to coordinate their respective regulatory responsibilities with regard to projects in the Park.” 81 NY2d at 909-910.

Barton’s preemption argument is also contradicted by previous permits issued by APA for mining operations. To cite just one recent example, the Red Rock Quarry permit issued by APA in January 2022, included permit conditions regarding lighting; signs; vegetative cutting; location and depth of mining operations; days and hours when drilling, blasting and crushing are permitted; the hours when truck traffic is permitted; the number of truck trips allowed per day; and reclamation of the site. In fact, Barton’s prior APA permits included conditions governing maximum final grades for



all earth slopes; riser details for settling basin outlets; stormwater runoff interceptors; restrictions on the waste pile height and size; revegetation requirements for the waste pile; blasting restrictions; restrictions on water withdrawals; erosion and sedimentation control; dust control; wetland protection and mitigation; removal of trees and vegetation; control of noise impacts; and truck traffic. *See, e.g.*, APA Permit Nos. 79-140, 79-356, 81-20, 87-39.

Barton's additional argument that APA's approach violates DEC's purported Life of Mine Policy is wrong on several counts. First, Barton provides no citation to the alleged policy and it apparently does not exist; there is no "Life of Mine" policy included on DEC's website, either as a DEC policy or Division of Mineral Resources technical guidance. In fact, the only reference to the purported policy is in a 36 year-old court decision, which referred to DEC's "so-called 'Life of Mine Review Policy'" as being "described in a DEC internal memorandum." *Guptill Holding Corp. v. Williams*, 140 AD2d 12, 15-17 (3d Dept. 1988). Thus, it is doubtful that the policy cited by Barton exists.

Second, even if a Life of Mine policy exists, it is a DEC internal policy, not an APA policy, and thus is not binding on APA. Nor is the policy binding even on DEC. *See Matter of Adirondack Wild: Friends of the Forest Preserve v New York State Adirondack Park Agency*, 161 AD3d 169 at 177-178 (3d Dept. 2018) ("An administrative agency's internal guidelines are not binding rules or regulations because they do not impose fixed, general principle(s) to be applied by an administrative agency without regard to other facts and circumstances relevant to the regulatory scheme of the statute it administers").

### **APA's Phased Approval Approach is Consistent With its Regulations and With APA's Prior Permitting of Barton's Operations**

In any event, APA's approach is consistent with its own regulations for phased projects and is warranted considering Barton's failure to provide basic information about the long-term impacts of its proposed mine expansion. The APA regulations provide that "[p]ermits may be granted for the development of large scale projects or other projects to be undertaken in sections, subject to conditions relating to improvements and services for and completion of the total project that the agency deems reasonable and necessary." 9 NYCRR § 572.6(a). The regulations specifically provide for APA's phase-by-phase approval of large scale projects: "An agency decision *relating to a section of a project* shall contain findings and conclusions with respect to the likely impact of the entire project and its compliance with section 809(9) or 809(10) of the Adirondack Park Agency Act." *Id.* § 572.6(d); (emphasis added). Indeed, APA's prior Class A regional project permits issued to Barton adopted the same phased approval approach. *See* APA Permit No. 79140 at 1 (providing conceptual review approval of mining plan "subject to re-examination based on final design"); APA Permit No. 79-356 at 6 ("The project sponsors are proposing the initial phase of a mineral extraction use on a 580 acre parcel of land on the slopes of Ruby Mountain and Big Thirteenth Lake Mountain . . . The project sponsor[s] will be submitting at least one additional Application for Project Permit for the mineral extraction use . . ."); APA Permit No. 81-20 at 9

(“This permit authorizes the final phase as described in the project sponsor’s Application for Project Permit received October 22, 1979”).<sup>1</sup>

APA’s phased approval approach is necessary because of Barton’s failure to provide crucial information concerning, among other things, its massive on-site solid waste disposal facility. As stated in the expert report submitted as part of PROTECT’s January 10, 2024 comments:

The permit application document refers to the October 30, 2023 geotechnical assessment letter by Knight Piesold as a “certification”. The geotechnical letter is clearly titled as an “assessment” and explicitly states in the conclusions that the assessment should not be taken as an engineering approval. The Knight Piesold assessment indicates that the tailings storage facility is likely to be geotechnically feasible, but is contingent on several key assumptions. Several assumptions are related to means and methods of site preparation and material placement with quality control testing. The authors rightly state that a qualified geotechnical engineer needs to be closely engaged with ongoing investigations, monitoring, and redesign, if necessary. *The application documents provide insufficient detail about the ongoing investigation and monitoring program and do not clearly designate who will be managing, overseeing, and certifying the program. A design of the expansion needs to be included in the application documents that is stamped by a qualified geotechnical engineer licensed in the State of New York.*

Report of Sterling Environmental Engineering, P.C. (Jan. 10, 2024) at 4; (emphasis added).

Rather than complying with APA’s reasonable request that Barton have its waste pile submission signed by a New York-licensed professional engineer, Barton protested that “[w]e are not aware of any past mining application/permit in the Adirondack Park that had a similar requirement” and demanded that APA “advise us of the reasoning for this requirement.” Email from Bernard Melewski, Esq. to Corrie Magee (APA) re: Follow Up to Your Call (Jan. 19, 2024). Barton had the same response to APA’s request that its noise analysis be signed by a New York-licensed engineer. *Id.*

### **APA’s Approach is Not Inconsistent With SEQRA**

Lastly, Barton’s claim that APA’s phased approval approach “is fundamentally inconsistent with the policies and substantive requirements of SEQRA,” White Paper at 5, is meritless and utterly at odds with its argument that APA lacks any substantive environmental review authority over the Barton mine expansion. Barton’s white paper correctly notes that projects subject to APA permit requirements are exempt from SEQRA because “the APA’s mandates under Executive Law

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<sup>1</sup> APA has taken a phased approach to the ongoing review of other mineral extraction/industrial use project applications, such as the Peckham Materials Corporation project in the Town of Chester mentioned by Barton. APA issued a permit to Peckham on April 4, 2023 (APA Permit 2023-0016) that authorizes mineral extraction, and other activities, and expires in November 2028, unless an application for a new permit term is received prior to that time. See <https://apa.ny.gov/Projects/PermitsIssued/P2023-0016-Permit-Final.pdf>.

[section] 809 are more protective of the environment than is SEQRA. *Id.* at 5-6, citing *Association for Protection of the Adirondacks v. Town Bd. of Town of Tupper Lake*, 64 AD3d 825, 826-27 (3d Dept. 2009). Yet Barton simultaneously claims that “[t]he MLRL expressly limits the scope of the APA’s jurisdiction over mining projects, vesting exclusive jurisdiction in the DEC to regulate mining operations and reclamation activities.” *Id.* at 2. Thus, Barton is seeking, in essence, a complete exemption from SEQRA-type review of its major expansion by claiming that APA has no authority to conduct an environmental review of its project (and to impose appropriate permit conditions to mitigate or avoid adverse environmental impacts) but at the same time claiming exemption from SEQRA due to APA’s permit jurisdiction (that requires a greater-than-SEQRA review of environmental impacts). APA should reject Barton’s legally flawed, self-serving and circular claims. APA should reject Barton’s legally flawed, self-serving and circular claims.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Protect the Adirondacks, please accept our gratitude for the opportunity to share our comments on the Barton Mines application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Amato", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christopher Amato  
Conservation Director and Counsel

Cc: Beth Magee  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 5  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

**From:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**To:** [Petith, Stephanie L \(APA\)](#); [Lynch, Ariel D \(APA\)](#); [Stankus, Elizabeth \(APA\)](#); [Burth, John M \(APA\)](#); [Plante, David \(APA\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Barton Mines Permit Application  
**Date:** Thursday, July 18, 2024 2:19:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [Mining Permit Letter - APA - July 18, 2024.pdf](#)

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**From:** Randy Rapple <rrrapple@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 18, 2024 2:18:13 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** APA Regulatory Programs Comments <RPCComments@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** Barton Mines Permit Application

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Good Afternoon Mr. Plante –

My letter in support of Barton’s permit application is attached. A hard copy will be mailed tomorrow.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Randy

RR Rapple  
2346 Black Point Road  
Ticonderoga, NY 12883

[rrrapple@gmail.com](mailto:rrrapple@gmail.com)

518.542.4017

Mr. David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Subject: Barton Mines Permit Application

Dear Mr. Plante,

Please accept this letter as an endorsement of Barton's application for a renewed mining permit.

I am an active employee with Barton. I started my service with the company in 1983 in the laboratory and have worked in a variety of sales and leadership positions for the past 41 years. I have close ties to North River as we were permanent residents in the hamlet for 11 years. We continue to be proud year-round residents of the Adirondack Park with our home now in Ticonderoga.

While I obviously have a long tenure, I am not unusual within the company. We take great pride in celebrating lengthy terms of service for employees every year. This would not happen without a strong culture that values people as our most important asset. We operate our business with integrity and treat all of stakeholders – family, employees, customers and neighbors – with respect and civility.

The company is an important part of the fabric of the Adirondack Park. We have been an active business since the inception of the park and have operated every year without fail. We employ over 100 people in New York State, 65 of which report to work in the North River area every day. We provide highly competitive wages and excellent benefits to our employees and their families. We are a strong supporter of our communities and respect the rights of all our fellow citizens. Between wages, benefits, products and services, the company contributes over \$20 million to the local economy every year.

The company has developed a comprehensive, robust plan for the continued operation of the Ruby Mountain Project. Key staff members have worked closely with the DEC and APA staff to improve and optimize the plan. I respectfully request that the APA approve Barton's application for a new Mining Permit.

Best regards,

RR Rapple  
2346 Black Point Road  
Ticonderoga, NY 12883

Mr. David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUL 22 2024

Subject: Barton Mines Permit Application

Dear Mr. Plante,

Please accept this letter as an endorsement of Barton's application for a renewed mining permit.

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Best regards,

  
RR Rapple  
2346 Black Point Road  
Ticonderoga, NY 12883

7/10/24

**From:** [Linda B. Nicholson](#)  
**To:** [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification Request  
**Date:** Monday, July 3, 2023 2:01:03 PM

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David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpcomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpcomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Mr. Plante,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Linda B. Nicholson  
Former Director and Family Trustee  
Barton Mines

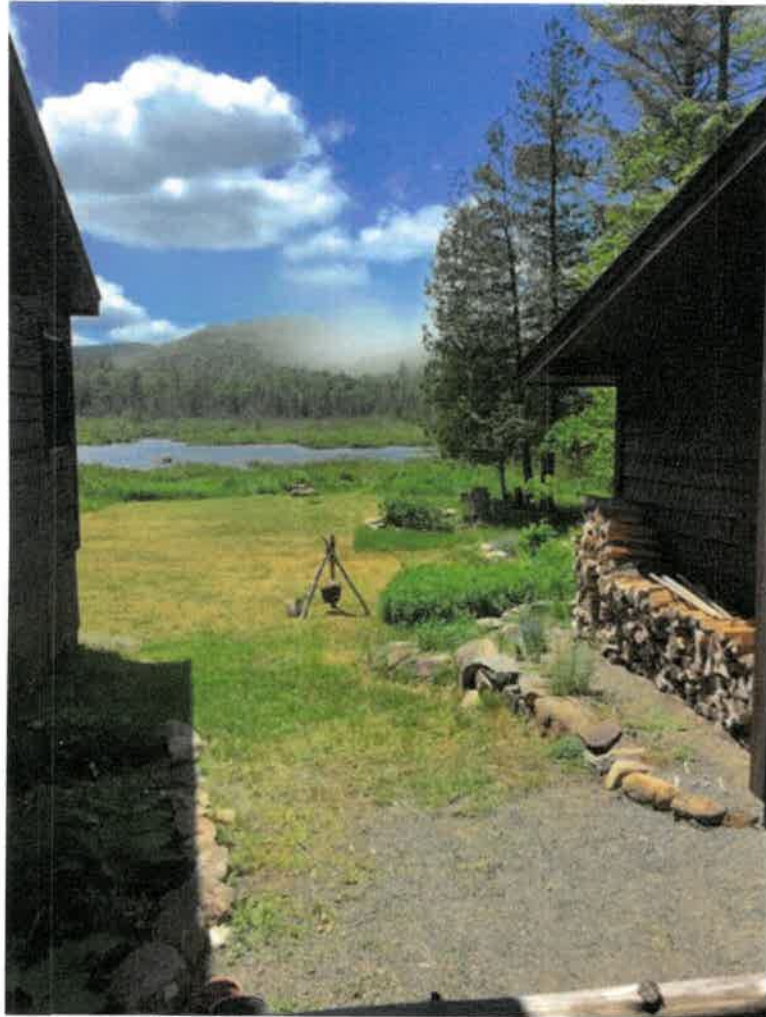
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Linda B. Nicholson  
2350 Fairway Rd.  
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006  
215-659-4007 (H)  
215-287-2127 (M)

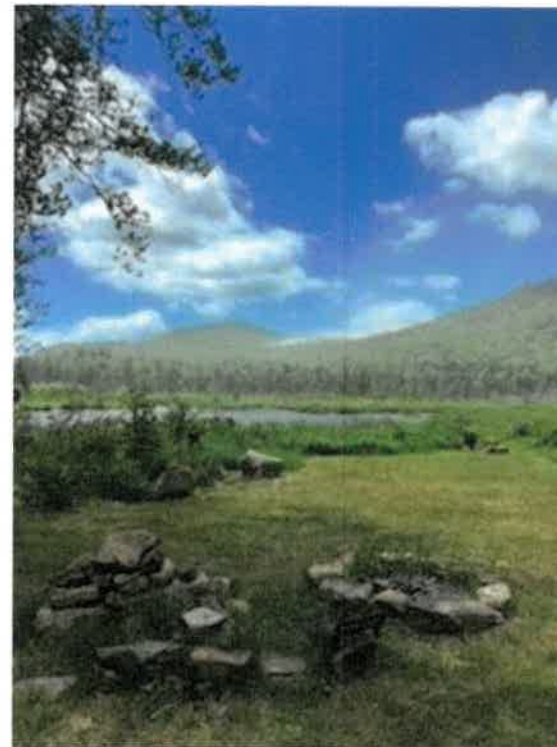
Dust from Barton Mine blowing on to 13<sup>th</sup> Lake Road







Dust clouds from Barton  
Mine carrying dust to a local  
resident's property



RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

AUG 23 2023

Barbara Rice, Executive Director  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
Barbara.rice@apa.ny.gov

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.org

Dear Ms. Rice and Ms. Magee,

We are Thom Schuchaskie and Ellie Krieger, property owners in North River, NY who value the "forever wild" Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area, especially Thirteenth Lake. We are concerned about the current operations at the Barton Mine on Ruby Mountain in Johnsburg, NY as well as their application for expansion submitted to the Adirondack Park Agency.

We are concerned about the noise, dust and road traffic that will be generated by the mine expansion, disturbing the quiet and natural beauty of the area, which is invaluable to all who come to enjoy it. We are also concerned about the removal of tree cover and being able to see the mine operations from 13<sup>th</sup> lake with the expansion.

Please consider these concerns. This is not a simple issue with an easy answer. The APA needs to protect the "forever wild" nature of the Adirondacks from overzealous industrial growth. Barton Mines permit should not be granted without thorough consideration of their impact on both the Wilderness Area, visitors and local residents.

Thank you in advance for thoroughly evaluating all aspects of Barton's application and its impact on all stakeholders. We look forward to your continued advocacy on behalf of the Adirondack Park.

Sincerely,



8/15/23

Thom Schuchaskie and Ellie Krieger  
Ruby Mountain Road  
North River, NY



RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
AUG 19 2024

15 August 2024

Mr. David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE: Barton Mines APA Permit Modification Application

Dear Mr. Plante:

I would like to take another opportunity to express the Economic Development Corporation Warren County's full support of the current iteration of Barton Mines' pending APA mine permit modification. Under current permits, Barton will run out of space to store their residual minerals in approximately five years. Without an increase in permitted storage capacity, they will be forced to shut down current operations. To address this challenge, they have proposed a solution that will increase their onsite storage and gradually extend the footprint and depth of the quarry in such a way that the life of the operations, including approximately 100 jobs, will be extended for several decades.

The proposed modifications will take place entirely on Barton property and leave more than 600 acres as undeveloped, forested land. This is a well-thought-out plan, and they have addressed many concerns.

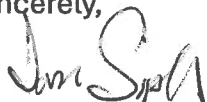
As we have shared before, Barton has been a long standing and foundational business and community contributor to the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County and the entire Adirondack region for over a century. They not only employ and support scores of area residents and their families, but they also act as an invaluable community asset for an area that has few entities of sources, leadership and support like them.

Adirondack communities need committed businesses to underpin the local economy and community so that resources that support the Park and its teachers, healthcare and emergency workers, smaller businesses and tourism entities can all continue to thrive.

Imagine this area without that type of committed and visible leadership and the many voids it would create --- thankfully that isn't our shared future with Barton's continued presence to operate in the industry leading a sustainably aligned method that they have already fully embraced.

I hope that the APA will agree that Barton's proposal is in the best interests of not only Barton, but also our community. If I can assist in providing further detail on the dramatic economic, social, community and environmental benefits that this approval will provide, I am happy to meet with you.

Sincerely,



Jim Siplon  
President

Copy to:

Kevin M. Bean  
Town of Johnsbury Supervisor  
219 Main Street  
North Creek, NY 12853

Matt Simpson  
NYS Assemblyman  
4 South Western Ave, Suite 3  
Queensbury, NY 12804

Daniel Stec  
NYS Senator  
5 Warren Street, Suite 3  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
INTERNET AND TECHNOLOGY

COMMITTEES  
EDUCATION  
HEALTH  
RULES  
VETERANS, HOMELAND SECURITY  
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
NATIVE AMERICAN RELATIONS

EMAIL:  
STEC@NYSenate.GOV

## THE SENATE STATE OF NEW YORK



**DANIEL G. STEC**  
SENATOR, 45TH DISTRICT

ALBANY OFFICE:  
408 LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BLDG.  
ALBANY, NY 12247  
(T) (518) 455-2811  
(F) (518) 426-6873  
  
DISTRICT OFFICE:  
5 WARREN STREET, STE. 3  
GLENS FALLS, NY 12801  
(T) (518) 743-0968  
(F) (518) 743-0336  
  
SATELLITE OFFICE:  
48 COURT STREET, STE. B46  
CANTON, NY 13617  
(T) (315) 229-3195

August 7, 2024

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Deputy Director Plante,

Please accept this letter as my support for Barton Mine's application to the NYSDEC for modifications to their mining permit.

Barton International is a 146-year-old company that is facing a major challenge at their mine in Johnsbury, New York. Under current permits, they will run out of space to store residual minerals in approximately five years. Without an increase in permitted storage capacity, operations will be forced to shut down. To address this challenge, the proposed solutions will increase onsite storage and gradually extend the footprint and depth of the quarry so that the life span of operations, including approximately one hundred jobs, will be extended for the next six decades. All proposed modifications will take place entirely on Barton property and leave more than six hundred of approximately eight hundred and fifty acres as undeveloped, forested land. As has been the case for generations, Barton has developed a long-term plan that is good for business, compatible with surrounding communities, and protective of the Adirondack Park.

I fully support this application and strongly recommend it for approval. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "DGStec".

Daniel G. Stec  
Senator, 45<sup>th</sup> District

**From:** [ableproperties@comcast.net](mailto:ableproperties@comcast.net)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\); APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Support For Barton Mines Permit Application  
**Date:** Monday, August 12, 2024 11:15:33 AM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Mines Support.docx](#)

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Hi Beth/David,

Attached please find a letter of support for the permit application for the Barton Mines Corporation. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to talk.

Thank you,

Drew Lewis  
Cell-484-645-6023  
Fax-610-792-9179  
[ableproperties@comcast.net](mailto:ableproperties@comcast.net)

August 12, 2024

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885 Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977 rpcomments@apa.ny.gov  
RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing this letter to support the requested mining application for the Barton Mines Corporation. Since I was a child, my family has been part of the Barton Mines organization, working with the corporation to help it realize its potential in the local community as an employer, a steward of the community and a business that feeds the families of its local employees. Approving this application will help the Company to continue to sustain the local economy and the people that depend on it.

Please take this into consideration as you review the application which has been submitted.

Thank you,

Andrew B. Lewis

484-645-6023

ableproperties@comcast.net

**From:** [Morris, Joe](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\)](#); [APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Barton Permit Modification  
**Date:** Friday, June 30, 2023 7:46:27 AM  
**Attachments:** [Letter of Support.pdf](#)

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from jmorris@barton.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.**

Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante,

I'm resending this letter of support, I'd sent it earlier in the week from my personal email account but it looks like the PDF was damaged somehow. Thank you again for your consideration.

Regards,  
Joe

**Joseph Morris**  
**Vice President, Sales & Marketing**

Barton International  
P 518.321.9374  
F 866.919.6292  
[jmorris@barton.com](mailto:jmorris@barton.com)  
[www.barton.com](http://www.barton.com)

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Joseph Morris  
11 Arbor Drive  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

*June 27, 2023*

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

I've been employed at Barton since September of 2006 (and hope to retire from Barton when the time comes). I am also an avid hiker and nature lover, and take every opportunity to enjoy the wilderness of the Adirondack Park – including the Siamese Ponds Wilderness area. Having grown up in Warren County, I've always been aware of the delicate balance of maintaining the natural character of the region while still offering economic opportunities for the residents. I'm close to both sides of this, and feel strongly that Barton is the kind of company all parties should *want* operating in the Adirondacks. The company cares about the community because we're part of the community.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

Joe Morris

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Morris', with a stylized, cursive script.

**From:** [Anna Bowers](#)  
**To:** [Magee, Beth A \(DEC\): APA Regulatory Programs Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Support Letter for Barton Mines  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 4, 2023 2:11:18 PM  
**Attachments:** [Barton Support Letter.pdf](#)

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from anna.bowers1979@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Good Afternoon,

On behalf of the North Creek Business Alliance, I am submitting a letter of support for Barton Mines. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Warmly,

Anna Bowers

--

**Anna Bowers (she/her)**  
**[President, North Creek Business Alliance](#)**  
**[\(518\) 538-2725](#)**

North Creek Business Alliance  
P.O. Box 280, North Creek, NY 12853

4 July 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov  
RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante,

As members of the North Creek Business Alliance board, we are reaching out to express our support for Barton Mines as a pivotal family-owned business that benefits our local economy.

One of the core values of the North Creek Business Alliance is to foster the growth and prosperity of local businesses. We firmly believe that a thriving economy leads to year-round livability and enhances the overall well-being of our community. In this regard, we cannot overstate the significance of Barton Mines and its contribution to our region.

Barton Mines plays a crucial role in our community by providing 75 jobs locally and 125 from Glens Fall to Indian Lake. Moreover, Barton Mines is one of the few local businesses that offers year-round employment along with valuable benefits for its employees.

As an essential taxpayer and a valued customer to numerous area businesses, Barton Mines' economic health is intricately connected to the prosperity of our entire

community. Their continued success is vital not only for their own business but also for our region's collective well-being and growth.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

The North Creek Business Alliance Board

*Anna Bowers, Peter Burns, Kristen Cartwright, Robert Harte, Peter Horvath, Molly McCarthy, Christine Powers, Justin Prybyla and Martina Svrcek*

Nancy Swanson  
9018 NYS Route 30  
PO Box 226  
Blue Mt. Lake, NY 12812

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUL 21 2023

July 16, 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RE Barton Mines DEC Mine Permit Modification

Dear Mr. Plante,

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which needs to be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations. It is sad and unfortunate that young folks often do not have the opportunity to stay in the communities they were raised in due to the lack of job opportunities. As it is many families are cobbling together multiple jobs to live in a place they love. There needs to be a balance between environmental concerns and economic viability for those who live in the Adirondacks.

Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimized community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,



Nancy Swanson

Frances B. Tate  
9693 Desert Paint Brush Court  
Parker, Colorado 80134

June 29, 2023

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, New York 12977  
rpcomments@apa.ny.gov

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUL 05 2023

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Application**

Dear Mr. Plante,

It has come to my attention that Barton Mines is applying to your agency to extend the life of the Ruby Mountain mining operations. I support the approval of their application.

My great, great grandfather, Henry Hudson Barton founded the Barton Mines in North Creek, New York in the 1860s. Mining in that region has been in operation for 145 years and has been a mainstay for employment for many families in the Adirondack region, and many Barton family members. Many of those employees have been with Barton Mines for decades, and some for many generations. Obviously, the company has been an excellent employer **and keeps** the local economy thriving. Loss of this industry would be a loss for the people of **North Creek** and the surrounding communities, not to mention those world-wide who depend on Barton **garnet** for their industrial use.

I urge you to approve the Barton Mines permit application. I am confident that Barton's commitment to minimizing the impact of their mining operations is above and beyond most mining companies. Their attention to safety at the mines is extraordinary. They are reliable taxpayers and community supporters. Hopefully, you have an opportunity to visit Barton Mines and see their positive impact for yourself.

Thank you,



Frances B. Tate  
coyotefran@hotmail.com

June 30, 2023

Mr. David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

JUL 05 2023

Dear Mr. Plante:

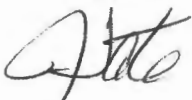
I am writing to convey my support for Barton Mine's permit modification application regarding their operation of the Ruby Mountain mining operation. The approval of said permit is necessary for Barton's continued operations and important for the local community, local tax base, as well as the many supporting and affiliated area businesses plus Barton's customers worldwide.

Regionally, Barton provides more than 100 jobs that translate to a \$15 million payroll (wages and benefits) for their employees. Employee retention, internal advancement and local recruitment are actively pursued by management. There are many long term (15 plus years) employees in Barton's operation. Their safety is job one and they participate in a comprehensive Health and Safety Program where each has personalized safety goals. The mine has an excellent safety record, having been accident free for three years up to year end 2022. This is remarkable in the world of mining and exceeds industry standards.

Environmental responsibility and stewardship of natural resources is a high priority for Barton. This is evident at the mine from constant initiatives to conserve water and fuel while reducing air emissions and recycling / repurposing of spent materials to keep them out of landfills. A more visible environmental statement is their preserved and refurbished Civil-War era Glens Falls office building which was remodeled to Platinum-certified LEED standards. Additionally, Barton leases a portion of their original mining property to a solar farm that produces enough green energy to power nearly 300 homes.

Taken together it's hard to imagine a better family owned company neighbor for a community, particularly in the mining industry. Given Barton's 145 year local legacy, responsible use of natural resources, economic benefit, and community support, I urge you to approve the company's permit application.

Thank you,



John W. Tate



RECEIVED  
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

OCT 20 2023

Thomas Urtz  
6387 NYS Rt. 30  
Indian Lake, NY, 12842

July 11, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
New York State Department of  
Environmental Conservation  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY, 12885

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO BOX 99  
Ray Brook, NY, 12977

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante,

I have been a member of the Barton team for approximately 7 years, which is substantially shorter than the time my grandfather was a team member, approximately 42 years. I am striving to achieve that level on longevity similar to my grandfather. As a resident of Indian Lake, a neighboring community, I have found no negative impacts and a substantial number of positive impacts on our community (employment, outreach, donations, environmental stewardship).

With a rich heritage of mining and logging, my family continues to work in these industries locally. One grandfather work at Barton for 42 years, my other grandfather logged in the Adirondacks his entire career until he retired. My grandmother was born and grew up, along with their family, in Tahawus Mining Community working there until the ultimate closure of the mine and town. My father works in the heavy construction and logging in upstate New York. This level of hard work and heritage is only available when the people are allowed to work in these industries. I plan on continuing my legacy in the Adirondacks, getting married this fall, as long as businesses are profitable and operational. If Barton wasn't approved this expansion, my family would be forced to leave the Adirondack Park and New York State.

Although the agencies are poised with conserving the environment, the stewards of the environment make the best decisions possible. Barton is one of those stewards, Barton doesn't make decisions because they have to, but because they want to.

I support Barton's Mine Permit Modification application unconditionally, I urge you to do the same for the betterment of the local economy, culture, environment.

Thank you for your consideration,



Thomas Urtz  
Barton Mines  
Health, Safety, Environmental Engineer

George W. Yankoupe  
Captain US Navy Ret  
17705 30<sup>th</sup> Place North  
Plymouth, MN

August 6, 2023

Beth Magee  
Deputy Regional Permit Administrator  
NYSDEC  
232 Golf Course Rd.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885  
[Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Beth.magee@dec.ny.gov)

David Plante  
Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs  
Adirondack Park Agency  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
[rpccomments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:rpccomments@apa.ny.gov)

**RE: Barton Mines APA/DEC Mine Permit Modification**

Dear Ms. Magee and Mr. Plante:

I was raised in Johnsburg- Garnet Lake Road and still own a significant amount of land on Armstrong Road in Johnsburg. I was the first graduate of North Creek who went to the Naval Academy; am a professional engineer and I could not be more in favor of the project. Barton Mines is the foundation of all that has been developed in and around North River, North Creek, the entire area. The following is a prepared letter, but most definitely applies.

I am writing in support of Barton Mines' mine permit modification application, which must be approved to extend the life of the company's Adirondack operations – providing critically important jobs and economic benefits for future generations.

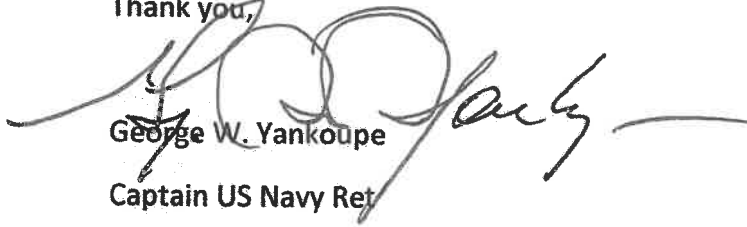
Barton has managed its Ruby Mountain operations in a safe and responsible manner since opening in 1983, and I have confidence that Barton's plan is designed to minimize community impacts.

Barton is a major employer, providing approximately 125 good jobs. Barton is also an important taxpayer, and a customer to many other area businesses.

The Adirondack Park needs responsible natural resource managers like Barton who keep local people employed and our local community thriving. I urge you to approve the company's

permit application and enable Barton to provide these types of community benefits far into the future.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. W. Yankoupe', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

George W. Yankoupe

Captain US Navy Ret