

Cristina Kiesel
311 Orchard Hill Road
Monroe, NY 10950

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Tim Miller Associates, Inc.
10 North Street
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To Whom It May Concern:

I have lived in Orange County since 1993. I purchased a home in Monroe in 1996, as I loved the beauty of nature, the wildlife, the community and the quality schools. I am raising children who are students in the Monroe-Woodbury district. When the Kiryas Joel pipeline was first proposed, I was concerned about the possibility of additional high density housing. I understood the dangers of out of control growth and what that could mean to our environment. Yet the pipeline construction continues to move forward, and an even larger one than what was initially proposed. It is becoming abundantly clear that the environment is not of much concern to the leadership of the community this pipeline will be benefitting.

Now we are facing a proposed 507 acre annexation. Rural residential zoning protects the community from over-development. The land in question is zoned for single-family homes, not high rise condominiums and apartments. It allows for growth and development at a reasonable rate. If this land were to be annexed out of the Town of Monroe and into the Village of Kiryas Joel, the zoning changes drastically and immediately. This creates a huge environmental impact on traffic, pollution, wildlife – not to mention an already overburdened sewer system. Removing trees and replacing them with asphalt damages the ecosystem. Effluent in the Ramapo River affects the quality of life for Orange County, Rockland County and beyond. We cannot even begin to imagine the enormous impact this proposed annexation would have on every facet of life in the Hudson Valley – destruction of nature, removal of wildlife habitat, changes in climate, pollution of drinking water and drain of resources.

Quite simply – annexation must only be approved if it benefits both communities – the one that the land is annexed from, and the one the land is annexed into. In this case there is zero benefit to the Town of Monroe.

Sincerely,



Cristina Kiesel