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FROM:

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COMMENT:

## Facsimile Transmition Cover Sheet

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Date: 7/30/14
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Letter to Tim Miller Associates regarding SEQRA review for Village of Kyras Joel

1.

September 29, 2014

Tim Miller Associates 10 North Street Cold Spring, New York 10516

Re: Annexation of 164 Acres into the Village of Kyras Joel.

Dear Tim Miller and Associates,

Thank you for the opportunity to send in requests regarding what should be made a part of the SEQRA review. It is my understanding having reviewed the DEC's webpage regarding annexations, that what MUST BE included in the review process is ALL SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL impacts an annexation will have on the affected surrounding communities.

To my knowledge, having attended the meeting the DEC conducted in March of this year, to gather information from the surrounding communities that will be affected by this pipeline and annexation, these communities included the Town of Monroe, the Village of Monroe, the Village of Harriman, the Town of Woodbury, the Town of Highland Mills, the Town of Central Valley, Town of South Blooming Grove, and the Town of Cornwall. These are the communities of which I am aware.

I am concerned with all of the social, economic and environmental impacts the annexation and expansion the Village of Kyras Joel will have on the Town of Monroe and the surrounding communities; however, my requests are more limited to some of the social and economic impacts, and I would respectfully request that a review be done for the following:

1. Will the 93 percent of Hasidic men and woman living in Kyras Joel be expecting cradle-to-grave welfare indefinitely, or do the father's of these children have any intention of seeking gainful employment? If not, what will be the tax burden to the taxpaying citizens of the Town of Monroe, the surrounding communities and the rest of Orange County when this 164 acres is populated? What are the projected future numbers?

How many people now living in Kyras Joel are on public welfare and are not disabled?

Will this be the case as well with the new populations of people on this 164 acres?

Will it be the case with the new populations of Hasidic people on the remaining 343 acres of this original 507 acre petition if that parcel is developed?

How does this affect the citizens of the Town of Monroe, the surrounding communities and the rest of Orange County now and with those future projections?

- 2. Which buildings both public and private are now on the tax rolls and which buildings both public and private are not? How many more buildings are expected to be erected and paid for by the taxpaying citizens of the Town of Monroe, Orange County or the State of New York through grants or through taxes? How does this affect the Town of Monroe and the surrounding communities and the rest of Orange County?
- 3. Will this Village be requiring more taxpayer money through grants for bigger yeshivas and temples and more buses and mikvahs and private police departments and fire departments and ambulances and birthing centers and every sundry item it takes to run a town, and equip these new populations with these services? Will the Village of Kyras Joel require more slaughterhouses and Matzos factories as well to accommodate these new citizens of Kyras Joel, and will this Village be asking the citizens of Monroe and Orange County or the State of New York to be paying for all of this? And if so, what will be the cost to the taxpaying citizens of Monroe and the rest of Orange County and to New York State for all of these things to accommodate all of the people who will now move into these homes on this 164 acres? How about the remaining 343 acres of the original 507 acre petition?
- 4. Does the Village of Kyras Joel plan to continue their Village policy of not allowing any other people other than Hasidic people to move into their Village and own land or a home or a condominium or rent any of the same, and how does this affect the citizens of the Town of Monroe, the surrounding communities and the rest of Orange County?
- 5. If other people, other than of the Hasidic denomination, are allowed to move into the Village of Kyras Joel, can they too move into these low-cost housing condominiums and get the same social services?
- 6. What will the environmental impacts be on the wastewater from Slaughterhouses and Matzos factories or any other industry in Kyras Joel on any of the waters in Orange County, including the Ramapo River which affects citizens out of State?

What will the environmental impact be on the well-water of these surrounding communities?

- 7. Will the Village of Kyras Joel be able to assure the citizens of the Town of Monroe and the rest of Orange County that should they again pollute the water from their slaughterhouse run-off that they will pay for their own cleanup and not expect the taxpayers of New York to have to foot the bill for their private industry through grants? If not, how will this affect the citizens of the Town of Monroe, the surrounding communities and the rest of Orange County?
- 8. Will the Village of Kyras Joel be conducting a study to determine what sort of impact the expansion of this unique religious community will have on property values in the Town of Monroe, the surrounding communities and the rest of Orange County?

- 9. Will the Village of Kyras Joel be seceding from the Town of Monroe? If so what will be the pro's and con's of this secession to the citizens of the Town of Monroe, to the citizens of Kyras Joel and to the citizens of the surrounding communities and the rest of Orange County?
- 10. Now that the Village of Kyras Joel has piggybacked 164 acres onto this annexation of the original 507 acre petition, will they be conducting a separate SEQRA process for the remainder of the 343 acres of the original 507 acre petition, or are they planning to have this SEQRA process suffice for both?
- 11. Will the Village of Kyras Joel be expecting the people of the Town of Monroe to continue to pick up the taxes on their private and public buildings and their private homes? What is the cost of this to the citizens of the Town of Monroe, the surrounding communities and the rest of Orange County?
- 12. How many people living in private homes in the Village of Kyras Joel do not pay taxes on their homes? How does this affect the residents in the Town of Monroe and the surrounding communities and the rest of Orange County?
- 13. How many people coming onto these 164 acres will not be paying taxes on their homes or condominiums? How will this affect the residents of the Town of Monroe, the surrounding communities and the rest of Orange County?
- 14. Do the people of Kyras Joel have any intention of running for any position on the Monroe-Woodbury School District Board or will they give the citizens of the Town of Monroe and the other surrounding communities assurances that they will never run for any position having to do with the public schools or public school districts? Will they sign a legally binding contract to this effect? Should they run for a position on school board of the Monroe-Woodbury School District, how will this affect the citizens of these Towns who are in this district and the children who attend this public school district?
- 15. Will the Village of Kyras Joel give an itemized report on what the \$140,000 per child/per school year pays for? Does it cost \$140,000 to educate every child or just the one's with disabilities? How many children have disabilities and how many children do not have disabilities that receive \$140,000 per child/per school year and how does this affect the citizens of the Town of Monroe and the surrounding communities involved in this district?
- 16. What is the estimated current and projected number of children to be educated at \$140,000 per child/per school year who will be coming onto the 164 acres now? How about future estimates? How about for the remaining 343 acres of the original 507 acres?
- 17. If the Village of Kyras Joel reneges on any of their promises to the citizens of the Town of Monroe or the affected surrounding communities, what will be the consequence? Will the Village of Kyras Joel put all of their assurances to the citizens of the Town of Monroe and surrounding communities into a legally binding contract?

- 18. What good will, if any, will the Village of Kyras Joel show to the people of the Town of Monroe and these surrounding communities that will be directly affected by this annexation and by this pipeline?
- 19. Will there be any monies put into escrow to insure the citizens of the Town of Cornwall, should their wells run dry, that the Village of Kyras Joel will compensate them or pay for the restoration of their lost water supply? Will the Village of Kyras Joel do the same for any other residents in the Town of Monroe on well-water or any resident in these surrounding municipalities should their wells be directly affected?
- 20. Will the Village of Kyras Joel continue to use a 24 inch pipeline to complete the pipeline or will they now revert back to the permitted 18 inch pipeline? Who has the authority to hold them to what was permitted? Will that person or agency be required to hold them to what was originally permitted?
- 21. Do the citizens of the Town of Monroe and any surrounding community have any assurances that the Village of Kyras Joel or ANY land developer with an interest in these properties will not be putting up high density housing on this 164 acres or the remaining 343 acres of the original 507 acres now or at any time in the future? If it is promised that they will not, would the Village of Kyras Joel consent to a legally binding contract to insure its promises to the citizens of the Town of Monroe and Orange County?

What is the intention regarding zoning on this 164 acre parcel and remaining 343 acre parcel now and for the future? If any assurances are made regarding the zoning of these parcels of land, can those assurances be made part of a legally binding contract?

- 22. Will the Village of Kyras Joel make known to the citizens of the Town of Monroe and Orange County what parcels of land they own throughout Orange County and if this Village or ANYONE associated with this Village plans on developing these parcels for Satmar only Hasdic people? If so, how will this affect the citizens of the Town of Monroe, the surrounding communities and the rest of Orange County? If not, will they give legally binding assurances that they will not now or in the future develop these parcels for Hasidic only people. If they do, what will be the social, economic and environmental cost to the citizens of the Town of Monroe, the surrounding communities and the rest of Orange County?
- 23. With Orange County already facing a \$60 million dollar deficit, what will be the burden to Orange County with an exploding population coming on to this 164 acre parcel? How about the additional 343 acres of this original 507 acre petition?
- 24. How does the reasoning for the petition of this scaled-down 164 acre parcel to be annexed into the Village of Kyras Joel for these 100 petitioners out-weigh the cost to the hundreds of thousands of citizens living in Orange County? How is this justifiable?

- 25. What will be the cost to the citizens of the Town of Monroe, the surrounding communities and all of Orange County for a sewer expansion?
- 26. Are the 100 petitioners paying for this SEQRA review?
- 27. Who is paying for this SEQRA review and the studies that must be conducted?
- 28. Are the 100 petitioners paying for the attorneys associated with the annexation?
- 29. Who is paying for the attorneys associated with this annexation?
- 30. What interest, if any, does the Village of Kyras Joel have in this annexation filed by the 100 petitioners?
- Eight municipalities that I know of, and possibly more, which comprise hundreds 31. of thousands of people, are being asked to make significant changes to the character and environment of the lower Hudson Valley, to their resources and lifestyles as well, and are being forced to bear the tax burden so that 100 Hasidic residents living in the Town of Monroe should have their parcels annexed into the Village of Kyras Joel so that they can "interact" with other residents of the Village of Kyras Joel and so that they can be hooked up to their sewer lines, the sum and substance of their petition for annexation. Couldn't they simply drive over? Is the sewer district itself of such importance, as long as these residents are getting proper services? I think an answer to this question is IMPERATIVE as part of this review process. How is this justifiable? Do the benefits outweigh the burdens to the entire surrounding communities or vice versa. We are speaking of here, not just these 100 Hasidic EVERYONE'S CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS petitioners. I would like to know how the lack of this annexation of these parcels interferes with these 100 resident's constitutional rights.
- 32. I would also like to see an answer to the question, What sound reasoning does the Monroe Town Board give to the people of the Town of Monroe and these surrounding communities who are being affected by this annexation as the reason they unilaterally and without public referendum gave up lead agency to the Village of Kyras Joel against the wishes of the majority of people living in the Town of Monroe and these surrounding communities. I also feel an answer to this question is IMPERATIVE as part of this review process.

Thank you for your consideration in answering these questions. I feel it is imperative that the people of the Town of Monroe and the surrounding communities as well as all the people in Orange County should be fully aware and thoroughly informed of what is happening in their community regarding the social, economic and environmental impacts this expanding village will have. I also feel that the Village of Kyras Joel should undertake whatever steps they need to in showing consideration for all of the concerns the citizens of the Town of Monroe and all of these surrounding communities voiced during the DEC hearing held back in March of this year, and I hope Tim Miller Associates will refer to the minutes of that DEC hearing held in March at the Cornwall

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High School to familiarize themselves with all of the concerns the citizens of the Town of Monroe and these surrounding communities voiced at that time by professional and lay-people alike, as it was a very informative hearing and I am hoping these concerns are fully addressed. I am hoping we can get very real numbers as to all of these projected costs so my family and other families can know if we will be able to continue to afford to live in our homes, a very real concern for many of us, as we need to know the very real tax burden this expanding Village will have on the Town of Monroe and the rest of Orange County.

Very respectfully, lacking any real answers to these concerns, in my opinion, should render this review process incomplete.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Janet Madow, P.O. Box 1129 Monroe, New York 10950

cc: Department of Environmental Conservation.
Emily Convers, United Monroe.
County Executive Steven M. Neuhaus
Monroe Town Board