

To: Larry Echohawk, BIA
Re: Sullivan County Casinos

As a citizen and homeowner at the edge of Sullivan County in New York, I am writing to urge you and Secretary Salizar to continue the policy of former Secretary Kempthorne of **not** approving off-reservation casinos in New York State. The area in question is environmentally sensitive and the potential increase in traffic on roads not adequate to handle the load, not to mention the negative social impact of casinos, will have an adverse effect on this area.

In particular the effect on the Shawangunk Ridge, which some have called the last great wilderness area in the East Coast, will also be adversely impacted. Its unique and sensitive ecosystem is of prime concern to many people, and we do not wish to see invasive species like gamblers driving through it.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this matter.

Richard Geldard
Kerhonkson, New York