



Torne Valley Preservation Association

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Jeremy Rosenthal
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Permits
625 Broadway 4th Floor
Albany, New York 122233-1750

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Dear Mr. Rosenthal,

In addition to the issues I raised in person at the scoping hearing on May 7, I request that the environmental review for the proposed United Water desalination plant for Rockland County include a cost/benefit analysis of

- differential pricing

What relief for water demand in hot dry periods can be developed through the use of differential pricing to encourage water conservation in a wet region such as Rockland County and thus remove the need for the desalination plant?

- public versus private ownership

Assuming that the environmental impacts would be the same under either public or private ownership ignores the fundamental motive and fiduciary responsibility underlying private ownership: private profit. United Waters's foremost goals are to return profit to their investors and protect investor interests, whereas the purpose of a public desalination plant would be to provide a sustainable, environmentally sound water supply with direct accountability to the public. Given that water is a public trust resource, what are the environmental impacts of public ownership of a desalination plant as opposed to the commercialization of this vital resource?

Sincerely,

Patsy Wooters, Chair TVPA
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