



FAX TRANSMITTAL

P.O. Box D~2 ~ 103 Hand Avenue, Suite #3  
Elizabethtown, NY 12932

TO: Colleen Parker, APA

FROM: Allison Buckley, Adirondack Council

RE: Comments on Project # 2012-59

DATE: May 24, 2012

Number of Pages including Cover Page: \_

F.Y.I. \_\_\_\_\_

Please Reply \_\_\_\_\_

For Review X

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*The mission of the ADIRONDACK COUNCIL is to ensure the ecological integrity and wild character of the ADIRONDACK PARK for current and future generations.*

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May 24, 2012

Colleen Parker  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99, Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

**Re: APA Project # 2012-59 Peter & Denise Ward**

Dear Ms. Parker,

The Adirondack Council, a member-based non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the ecological integrity and wild character of the Adirondack Park, would like to thank the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) for the opportunity to submit comments on project number 2012-59, to construct and operate a small-scale meat processing facility in the Town of Ticonderoga. The Council supports the establishment of a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) certified meat processing facility as it will provide economic benefit, support the agricultural movement in the Champlain Valley and help protect threatened agricultural lands.

According to the applicant, the facility will provide a direct economic benefit for the region, employing twelve full-time and two part-time workers, keeping food sources and expertise within the Adirondack Park. The facility will also help to lift the financial burden of local livestock farmers who must travel in excess of three hours for slaughtering services.

The project will enhance the Adirondack Council's vision of a sustainable, rural way of life by easing the environmental consequences generated from importing agricultural products. In regard to regional initiatives for locally grown and value-added foods, the Ticonderoga-based facility mirrors the longstanding commitment of Community Supported Agriculture farm providers (CSAs) and small family farms that are dedicated to keeping local food affordable and available. Bringing farming closer to home will also incentivize other farmers to raise livestock in the North Country for regional and downstate markets. In addition, projects that help create a viable farming system in the region will help keep farmlands productive and attract new farmers to the region, preventing subdivision of the Park's remaining agricultural lands.



DEFENDING THE EAST'S GREATEST WILDERNESS

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SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE

The Council believes that this facility promotes sustainable farming in the Adirondacks and caters to a growing demand for local food sources of higher standards given its state-of-the-art equipment, responsible level of output and constant presence of a USDA inspector on the premises.

Thank you for accepting and reviewing our comments. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Allison Buckley  
Conservation Director