

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

RE: SAY NO to Crestwood Midstream's Proposed Gas Storage Facility in Watkins Glen, NY

Dear Governor Cuomo:

We, the Finger Lakes Wine Business Coalition ("FLXWBC"), are a newly formed group representing wineries, vineyards and wine-related businesses from the Finger Lakes region.

The mission of the FLXWBC is, "To lead Upstate economic development through wine-driven agritourism and sustainable business practices, unifying wineries, vineyards, local food producers, and creatives who are the stewards of Finger Lakes Wine Country." It is with this mission in mind, that we are writing to you TO SAY NO to the proposed gas storage facility ("Facility") in Watkins Glen, the heart of Finger Lakes Wine Country.

The undersigned wineries, grape growers and small business entrepreneurs from the Finger Lakes Region strongly oppose the establishment of a gas storage facility in the abandoned salt caverns on the southern end of Seneca Lake- a project proposed by Crestwood Midstream, a Houston, Texas company. We view this Facility as a direct threat not only to Seneca Lake, but to the strong and growing tourism industry in the Finger Lakes. Many of us have worked for generations to establish the Finger Lakes brand and we are grateful for your ardent support of our industry.

Over the past three decades, the State of New York has invested millions of dollars to help build the wine industry (along with craft beer, cider, and spirits), which now generates more than \$4.8 billion annually in economic benefits. With its 120 wineries, the Finger Lakes Region accounts for 75% of that sum. To jeopardize the region's tourism economy would directly jeopardize that investment and the wine industry's huge contribution to the State and regional economies. Wine Enthusiast magazine recently named New York the Wine Country of the Year, stating "New York State is fast-growing, fast-evolving and at top of mind for wine lovers."

We question the safety of the proposed Facility given the poor history of similar gas storage

Sincerely,

Anthony Road Wine Company
Argetsinger Vineyards
A Stone's Throw B & B
Atwater Estate Vineyards
Bagley's Poplar Ridge
Barnstormer Winery
Barry Family Cellars
Bellangelo
Billsboro Winery
Black Diamond Farm, LLC
Bloomer Creek Vineyard
Bostwick House B & B
Boundary Breaks Vineyard
Bully Hill Vineyards
Castel Grisch Winery
Catherine Cottages
Clean Team
Climbing Bines Craft Ale Co.
Compost International
Curry Creek Vineyards
Damiani Wine Cellars
Davis Vineyard

Dr. Frank's Vinifera Wine Cellars
Eli Thomas Art
Eminence Road Farm Winery
Eremita Winery
Experience! Finger Lakes
Eve's Cider
Finger Lakes Cider House
Finger Lakes Food Company, LLC
Finger Lakes Mill Creek Cabins
Finger Lakes Solar Co-op
First Flight
FLX Winery
Forge Cellars
Fox Run Vineyard
Frontenac Point Vineyard
Ginger Cat B & B
Ginny Lee Café
Good for Business
Wagner Valley Brewing Company
Wagner Vineyards
Goose Watch Winery
Hazlitt 1852 Vineyards, Inc.

Heart & Hands Wine Company
Penguin Bay Winery
Swedish Hill Winery
Hector Wine Company
Hermann J. Wiemer Vineyards
Heron Hill Winery
Hidden Marsh Distilling
Hunt Country Vineyards
Idol Ridge Winery
Montezuma Winery
Italy Hill Produce
Inspire Moore Winery
Interludes Spa
J. Crytzer Woodworking
J. R. Dill Winery
Keuka Spring Vineyards
King Ferry Winery/Treleaven
Lacey Magruder
Lamoreaux Landing
Lost Kingdom Brewery
Macro Mamas
Magnolia Place

McGregor Vineyard
Medleys Café
Nautical Nights B & B
Nedloh Brewing Company
New Vines B & B
Northside Wine & Spirits
Old Fashioned Flowers
O-Neh-Da Vineyard
Fernville Farm
Eagle Crest Vineyards
Pompous Ass Winery
Ports of New York
Rasta Ranch Vineyards
Ravines Wine Cellar
Redbyrd Orchard Cider
Red Newt Cellars, Inc.
Regional Access
Renovus Energy
Sawmill Creek Vineyards
SavorLife.com
Shalestone Vineyards, LLC
Shaw Vineyard

Sheldrake Point Winery
Silver Springs Winery, LLC
Silver Thread Vineyard
South Hill Cider
Stone Pillow Pottery
Stone Boat Computing
Stone Cat Café
Strategic Coaching
Sun Dance Creations
Sunrise Landing
Sustainable Viticulture
Suzanne Fine Regional Cuisine
Themis and Thread
The OCD Art Gallery
The Pearl of Seneca Lake, Inc.
Three Brothers Wineries
The Rose Petal Inn
Two Goats Brewing
Ventosa Vineyards
Vineyard View Winery
Wide Awake Baker

facilities in salt caverns nationwide. According to an industry insider report, salt cavern storage was responsible for 100% of all catastrophic failures between 1972 and 2004.

We do not want the Finger Lakes Region to have the next catastrophe!

From 1964 to 1984 propane was stored in just two of the salt caverns. The salinity of Seneca Lake shot upward for the entire 20 year period and only leveled off when the pressurized gas was removed. Crestwood plans to store many times more gas utilizing numerous salt caverns. What effect will this have on the environment of Seneca Lake and the potability of the water supply?

According to the DSEIS prepared by Crestwood, a truck and rail depot capable of operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week, year round, will be constructed. It can load and unload 24 rail cars in 12 hours. That's almost 900,000 gallons of propane or butane on hand above ground at any one time. The railroad tankers, each carrying excessive quantities of potentially explosive gas, will travel on an 80-year-old trestle over the Gorge on the west side of Watkins Glen State Park, which, with over 625,000 visitors last year, was the second most visited State Park in New York. **PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN!**

Should an accident occur stemming from the storage Facility or associated activities, uncertainties exist regarding Crestwood's capability to assume liability and indemnify for accidents as well as latent risks. The inability to assume persisting liability will result in longstanding unmitigated damages and gradual degradation to the vineyards, wineries and wine-related businesses that have relied upon the natural resources of the Finger Lakes Region for their livelihood.

Aside from the inherent risks that accompany a facility of this nature, the escalation of industrial activity would adversely affect the thriving tourism to the region which

is our lifeblood. Additional above-ground infrastructure that would have negative visual and noise impacts include two open air brine ponds lined with black plastic, four huge, loud compressors, five 30,000 gallon bullet tanks, and a 60 foot widely visible flare stack. The introduction of highly visible industrial gas operations will have a direct negative impact on the desirability of the region for tourists.

Our businesses have spent decades to make our region the major tourist attraction New York State takes such pride in!

The latest disclosures by the Applicant indicate that the region will not benefit from the propane and butane which eventually will be exported out of New York State. In a Christmas Day New York Times article, Bill Gautreaux, president of Crestwood's liquids and crude business unit, stated that if the company was starting from scratch it "probably wouldn't put it [the Facility] right there over Seneca Lake, near the wine country."

Under your guidance, Governor, your administration has promoted renewable energy, including upgrading the power grid to become a smart grid in order to harness the power and resilience of renewable energy. As a wine business coalition, we encourage you to continue to embrace a healthy, clean future and turn away from supporting environmentally damaging gas expansion in the Finger Lakes Region, including the high-risk storage next to Seneca Lake.

We are extremely concerned that the proposed Facility will erode the image that we have worked so hard to project to our valued tourists and customers. Our businesses are a large part of our regional economy, and like any tourism and visitor-based industry, they are vulnerable to negative public perception.

Please DO NOT allow this Facility to be approved. It does not belong in the heart of Finger Lakes Wine Country!

WE ASK THE READERS OF THE ROCHESTER BUSINESS JOURNAL TO CALL ONE OR ALL OF THE LEADERS OF OUR STATE BELOW, Governor Cuomo (518)474-8390 | Senator Giliibrand (202)224-4451 | Senator Schumer (202)224-6542 | Representative Reed (202)225-3161 TELL THEM NO LPG AND METHANE STORAGE ON SENECA LAKE!