

## RESOLUTION #31 – 2014

### CITY OF GENEVA OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED “SENECA LAKE GAS STORAGE PROJECT” LOCATED AT THE SENECA LAKE WATERSHED

**WHEREAS**, The Town and City of Geneva contain more than nine miles of the total shoreline of Seneca Lake; and

**WHEREAS**, The City of Geneva recognizes the importance of Seneca Lake to the County, State and to the local community as a drinking water source, for recreation, as a natural habitat, and in supporting the thriving tourism economy of the Finger Lakes Region; and

**WHEREAS**, Inergy Corporation, Crestwood Midstream Partners LP, Arlington Gas Storage, LLC, Finger Lakes LPG Storage, LLC. (and all other associated affiliates) have proposed a large scale liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and compressed natural gas storage facility adjacent to and beneath Seneca Lake (at the US Salt, LLC facility) known as the Seneca Lake Gas Storage Project (SLGSP); and

**WHEREAS**, Said project would involve compression and storage of LPG in caverns created by the solution mining of salt deposits below and adjacent to Seneca Lake, and movement and surface storage of salt water displaced from said caverns as LPG is pumped into and out of said caverns; and

**WHEREAS**, This Council is deeply concerned with the potential for dramatic and catastrophic environmental impacts from this project due to:

1. The uncertain geologic stability of SLGSP's subterranean caverns, and the risk that said caverns could be compromised by even low level earthquakes that are common in this region of New York State.
2. The threat of discharge of large amounts of salt water from SLGSP's surface storage facilities into Seneca Lake or its tributaries.
3. The threat of discharge of large amounts of salt water as they are moved between subterranean caverns and surface storage facilities during the course of operations.
4. The threat of LPG seepage from said subterranean caverns; and

**WHEREAS**, The City of Geneva processes approximately 700 million gallons of water for municipal water services per year of which approximately 35 million gallons/year (~5%) is for human consumption.

**WHEREAS**, the real risk of another catastrophic ceiling collapse in the US Salt facility (being used as a propane storage facility) could lead to significant contamination of Seneca Lake by raising the salinity of the lake water above a level at which it could be cost effectively treated by current water treatment facilities requiring replacement water supplies, and

**WHEREAS**, at approximately \$1.25/gallon for bottled water, the annual replacement cost of Geneva's potable water could be over \$43 Millions/year, now and therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, The City Council of the City of Geneva opposes the SLGSP and respectfully requests that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation withhold approval of any plan for mass storage and compression of natural gas near, adjacent to or under Seneca Lake and further

**RESOLVED**, That certified copies of this resolution be sent to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of New York State, NYS State Capitol Building, Albany, NY 12224; Senator Michael Nozzolio, Assembly Minority Leader Brian Kolb, the Commissioner of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Joseph Martens, Director, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-1011; the Permit Administrator for Region 8 of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, 6274 East Avon-Lima Road, Avon, NY 14414; Seneca County Board of Supervisors, Seneca County Office Building, 1 DiPronio Drive, Waterloo, NY 13165; Schuyler County Legislature, 105 Ninth Street, Unit 6, Watkins Glen, NY 14891; and Yates County Legislature, 417 Liberty Street, Penn Yan, NY 14527; Ontario County Board of Supervisors, Ontario County, 20 Ontario Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424, Mayor and Village Trustees, c/o Mayor R. Mark Swinneton Jr., Village of Watkins Glen, 303 N. Franklin Street, Watkins Glen, NY 14891; and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

**RESOLVED** this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2014

STATE OF NEW YORK )  
COUNTY OF ONTARIO ) ss:

I, Doris Myers, City Clerk of the City of Geneva, New York, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and complete copy of an original resolution on file in the City Clerk's Office, which said original was adopted at a Regular Meeting of the Geneva City Council held on May 7, 2014.

Dated: May 8, 2014

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City Clerk