



July 15, 2020

Colleen Darcy  
Bureau of Pest Management  
NYSDEC Region 3  
21 South Putt Comers Road,  
New Paltz, NY 12561-1696

Dear Ms. Darcy:

Over the issue of pesticide use in New York state lakes, I have been dismayed at NYSDEC's disregard for the rights of New Yorkers and their environments to be protected from unnecessary and dangerous exposure to these poisons.

We are concerned that comments and concerns of lake property owners, recreational users of the lake and downstream waters, and potentially impacted residents who cannot demonstrate land ownership will not be considered in the upcoming permit decision regarding pesticide application in Mohican Lake (Sullivan County) and that pesticide application will occur without resolving substantive environmental issues. The Delaware Riverkeeper Network is concerned that:

- Mohican Lake property owners did not consent to their best usages being curtailed;
- Wetlands adjacent to and below the lake will be exposed to damaging pesticide concentrations;
- Native aquatic plants will be significantly impacted by the pesticide applications;
- People recreating at Mohican Lake will be exposed to dangerous chemicals without their consent;
- The applicant failed to properly evaluate impacts to Threatened & Endangered species and;
- A host of reasonable non-toxic alternatives have not been pursued prior to chemical treatment.

We call on NYSDEC to deny the permit issuance of this ill-informed pesticide application. We urge the NYSDEC leadership to fully consider applicable New York state law, alternatives to chemical treatment, and important potential impacts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maya K. van Rossum".

Maya K. van Rossum  
the Delaware Riverkeeper

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Cc: Mark Klotz (NYSDEC), Kelly Turturro (NYSDEC Region 3), Catherine Ahlers (NYSDEC Region 3)