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February 4, 2019

**To: The Town of Rockland Planning Board
HAND DELIVERED**

**Proposed Firelight Camps Catskills Glamping Project: Hydrologic and Land Use Based
Justification for Issuance of a Positive SEQRA Declaration** by Paul A. Rubin

Introduction

HydroQuest, an environmental consulting firm, has been retained by neighboring property owners to review and evaluate the environmental impacts of certain aspects of a proposed upscale “glamping project” on Little Ireland Road in the Town of Rockland, NY.

HydroQuest is a sole proprietorship company, of which I serve as principal. I have over 37 years of professional hydrologic, geologic and hydrogeologic experience. This work includes providing expert advice relative to environmental risks to aquifers, surface water resources, ecosystems, individuals, and communities. My expert reports, affidavits, papers, presentations, and testimony have been provided in projects throughout NY, PA, NJ, MD, FL, AL, GA, TX, SC, VA and WV. They have been presented in court, at press conferences, as a panel member, and before the Legislature, Governor’s executive staff, and the NYS Assembly, as well as before a delegation from the People’s Republic of China. A copy of my curriculum vitae is annexed hereto as Addendum A.

As an independent geologic and hydrologic consultant, HydroQuest provides hydrologic, geologic and hydrogeologic consulting services to environmental groups, Towns, business associations, law firms, and individuals. HydroQuest assists groups in identifying issues and developing strategies designed to protect groundwater and surface water resources, community safety, and wildlife habitat. This work includes assessments of land use and community character (Addendum A). One recent example of a land use related work project was commissioned by the Town of Mamakating: *Hydrogeologic Study of the Town of Mamakating, Sullivan County, New York* (Rubin and Beinkafner, 2017).¹ The study served as the foundation for development of the Town’s Comprehensive Plan.

¹ Rubin, P.A. and Beinkafner, K.J., 2017, *Hydrogeologic Study of the Town of Mamakating, Sullivan County, New York*. Report documents groundwater and surface water resources throughout the town. Analysis included extensive field work, watershed and sub-basin delineation using high resolution imagery and digital elevation data, and GIS-based map production. The report includes numerous land use recommendations and formed the backbone of the Town’s development of a Comprehensive Plan. Commissioned by the Town of Mamakating; 36 pages plus 32 detailed GIS maps and figures.