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September 28, 2020

To: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Re: Adopting a Moratorium OR Local Law on Waste Facilities in Schuyler County

Dear Committee Members of the Community Development and Natural Resources,

Seneca Lake Guardian, a Waterkeeper Affiliate, is an organization dedicated to preserving and protecting the health of the Finger Lakes, its residents and visitors, its rural community character, and its agricultural and tourist related businesses through public education, citizen participation, engagement with decision makers, and networking with like-minded organizations. We represent nearly 500 regional businesses and hundreds of thousands of Finger Lakes residents who strive to protect and preserve the Finger Lakes region's clean air, water, and soil for generations to come. Seneca Lake Guardian's Founders and Board Members are residents, property owners, and tax payers in Schuyler County.

In 1989, Schuyler County had a law prohibiting landfills and waste transfer stations.

<https://www.schuylercounty.us/DocumentCenter/View/84/1989-Local-law-1---Conditional-Moratorium-on-the-Dev-of-Solid-Waste-Mngt-Facilities-in-SC?bidId=>, where there was a moratorium on the development of waste related facilities in Schuyler County. It is unclear what happened to that law and whether or not it was adopted as permanent, particularly when the tenets of the County Wide Comprehensive Plan stress the importance of preserving agricultural land over other industrial use, reducing truck traffic in the county, and reducing the production and management of solid waste in the county.

We strongly urge you to do everything in your power to convey to the entire legislature the necessity of immediately revising and re-adopting that local law prohibiting the construction of any Material Recovery Facilities or other waste related handling or transferring industries in Schuyler County.

Sincerely,

Joseph Campbell, President Seneca Lake Guardian

Yvonne Taylor Vice President Seneca Lake Guardian