



Town of Alabama

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To Whom It May Concern

February 28, 2025

At the request of the Genesee County Economic Development Center, the Town of Alabama is responding to a portion of the January 30, 2025 letter from the Tonawanda Seneca Nation, specifically Page 10, Item 7. The Nation's letter expresses concern that emergency services are unable to adequately service a data center project at STAMP.

Regarding Onsite Storage of Diesel Fuel for Backup Generators:

The storage and use of petroleum are strictly regulated and subject to federal Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) rules, as well as New York State's Petroleum Bulk Storage (PBS) Regulations. This site would be subject to a well-established registration, reporting, and inspection program. All applicants must submit a detailed Emergency Plan. In the event of a leak, spill, or other incident, the Alabama Fire Department, mutual aid, county, and regional resources will be deployed as needed to mitigate any emerging issues. Additionally, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) would be called upon to provide resources and oversee remediation if necessary.

Regarding Potential Risk of Fire and Explosion:

The Nation's letter quotes from an Earthjustice article addressing the dangers of locating crypto-mining equipment in unused warehouses or old industrial sites, as such sites lack sufficient infrastructure (including electrical infrastructure) to service such projects. These concerns are not applicable to the proposal currently being considered by GCEDC to construct entirely new facilities to house and support a data center. The design and operation of all facility systems at any project site must comply with all applicable Uniform Fire and Building Codes. Additionally, a site-specific Hazardous Material Management Plan must be prepared and submitted for approval to the Town of Alabama and the Alabama Fire Department before a Certificate of Occupancy is issued. In case of an emergency, the Alabama Fire Department would be dispatched. Depending on the nature of the emergency, mutual aid, county, and regional resources may be also called upon to assist as needed.

Regarding Concerns Over the Adequacy of Existing Emergency Services:

Large projects are required to submit an Emergency Plan, which will be evaluated by both the Alabama Fire Department and the Town as part of the site plan review process. Although no applications have been submitted for review at this time, it's important to note that the Alabama Fire Department maintains specialized firefighting equipment, including a foam suppression truck designed specifically for the associated risks of the bulk fuel storage and the tanker trucks that deliver fuel to the seven petroleum stations located within the Tonawanda Seneca Nation.

Currently, the only fire departments in this area with this specialized capability are those of Barre, Shelby, and Alabama. To ensure readiness for any potential incidents, a foam task force has been established, consisting of these three fire departments, along with the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, as well as Genesee and Orleans County Emergency Services. These agencies collaborate and train together to ensure effective response capabilities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Crossen", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Robert Crossen

Alabama Town Supervisor

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You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.