

## Health and Safety

### Concerns

It appears there has been a dangerous lapse of concern for the health and safety for the citizens of the neighboring Rockland County; municipalities of Sloatsburg, Hillburn and Suffern; too include the Bergen Municipality of Mahwah, New Jersey.

On any given Friday and or Sunday it takes approximately 45 minutes to travel less than (1) one mile on route 17 and rt. 287 north to exit 15A in Hillburn, this also included an approximate delay of (15) minutes when traveling north bound to exit 15A on rt. 87.

The additional time needed to reach exit 15A on any of these routes can be easily duplicated with someone having a flat tire, a police stop, mystery toll takers trying to add, flooding, a sale and or an actual accident.

The delay resulting from the south bound traffic on any given weekend coming from Woodbury commons speaks for itself.

Some of the municipalities have been given additional emergency support by N.Y. state due too the increased need for emergency services caused by bottle necking at 15A.

An increase of the magnitude anticipated in the DEIS would render the 15b exit completely useless. In any emergency servicing the local population. Any delay of a vital services could result in death from fire and other wise.

In addition what is to surely become a well-known bottleneck could ultimately become a homeland security issue.

Any choke point of this magnitude and consistency in the metro Politian area will surely find itself a potential target for the most inept of terrorist once realizing there are no manageable escape routes through Sterling

The Traffic to This man made wonder of pennies can easily be turned into a death Trap of revenge rivaling the road to Bagdad

However I do agree with the report on one point exit 15b will minimize traffic ...For after one good bomb the only traffic on it will be Hearst's...

*ON THE UPSIDE IT COULD TURN TEXACO INTO A CRISIS OF LAWSUITS FOR EVERYONE ELSE.*

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## Ed Lenik's Comments on Louis Berger CRM Reports

### Phase 1A report:

- ▲ Historical background & research are thin. There is too much emphasis on “boiler plate” prehistoric background.
- ▲ Local project area background is meager. There is no evidence that any of the local resources listed below were consulted in the Phase 1A, which is supposed to be a through investigation of the background of the site and area.
  1. Orange County Historical Society archives
  2. Local informants such as Doc Bayne of the Friends of Sterling Forest, Jeff Hutchinson at Sterling Forest State Park Visitors Center, Sue Scher, and the Ramapough Lenape Indian Nation.
  3. Books such as Jim Ransom's *Vanishing Ironworks in the Ramapos*, Ed Lenik's two books on the Ramapough Mountain Indians
  4. Palisades Interstate Park Commission's prehistoric site records
- ▲ There are some rather funny proof-reading errors – iron Forgeries, not forges were big business up here? Entertaining as this might be, it suggests a certain rushed sloppiness in the final report.
- ▲ More current scholarly sources are available and should have been consulted. Some of the background material is outdated, again suggesting this was a rushed report.

### Phase 1B and Phase II reports:

1. I cannot evaluate these without copies of the full reports. Apparently, these are not finished yet.
2. Very little information has been provided on the foundation that was located. It seems there is no data on who lived there or owned the property. That being the case, a Phase II research step would have been to do a deed search. Assuming this was done, the data or a comment on lack of data this work provided should have been in the summary.

In sum, I cannot be assured these Cultural Resources Management reports represent a thorough investigation of this property. The rushed nature of the Phase 1A gives me doubts. Louis Berger is a company with a good reputation, but until the three full reports are available, the questions of what cultural resources are here and how they should be managed cannot be answered.

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