



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-3220

October 2, 2007

Dear Mr. Jeffway,

Thank you for contacting my office regarding Red Wing Gravel's permit application for a mine in Milan. I was particularly concerned that this grant application is being reviewed by the Department of Environmental Conservation despite the ban on future mines that the Town of Milan has emplaced.

I have written Governor Spitzer to express my concern about this situation, and asked that he pursue a course of action that holds the local government as the agency of primacy in this and similar cases.

As you know, the New York State constitution holds that the local municipality should be the primary source of authority as much as practicable. I believe that not only is this more effective, but it also makes for the best decisions and an opportunity for our citizens to partake in their government and let their voices be heard. I am a steadfast advocate for public participation in government, which makes this issue particularly important to me.

It is also why I want to thank you very much for bringing the issue of the Red Wing Gravel mine's application to my attention. It touches not just on the specific local concern, but it also raises the bigger question of good government, something that I believe we all can agree on.

Thank you once again for contacting me on this issue. If you should have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to do so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kirsten E. Gillibrand".

Kirsten E. Gillibrand