

10 Knowles Terrace
Albany, N.Y. 12203

8 June 1980

Mr George B. Elliott, Regional Permit Administrator, Region IV
State Department of Environmental Conservation
Stamford, New York 122167

Dear Mr Elliott:

As a citizen of the McKownville portion of the Town of
Guilderland, I oppose the application that has been made to
make the Westmere Water District the permanent and sole source
of water for McKownville.

It is unwise for residents of McKownville to cast out their
options in the matter of water, especially since this would
place us at the mercy of a Westmere fiat in regard to quality,
quantity and pricing of that resource. The main things wrong
with the water in McKownville Reservoir right along have been a
lack of expertise among officials appointed to Town of Guilderland
water management and a combination of subservience and lackadaisical
behavior on the part of members of the McKownville Water Advisory
Board.

Among several questionably wise aspects of this move for
consolidation, one of the most deplorable is its timing: it
guarantees greater leverage to the proponents of the Pyramid-
Crossgates Mall project. The Mall developers would like nothing
better than to see McKownville Reservoir gutted of its significance
as a potential water resource. With McKownville giving up its
rights to supply itself with water from its own reservoir,
permanently and without possibility of reviewing alternatives,
the Crossgates Mall people will be handed the reservoir on a
platter. Minimally, they will be given the advantage of not having
to moderate their pollution of that drainage area. A favorable
decision on consolidation at this time might very well turn current
hearings for permission to build the Mall in the direction of the
developers, something that the Republican oligarchy of the Town
has been engineering for some time.

Yours ever, with best wishes,

Daniel McKinley