

## GEORGE M. BALD Commissioner

## STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT of RESOURCES and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## OFFICE of the COMMISSIONER

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January 25, 2010

Timothy Mueller, President Mount Sunapee Resort PO Box 2021 Newbury, NH 03255

RE: Mount Sunapee Ski Area MDP and EMP 2009-2014

Dear Mr. Mueller,

Following my review, I am providing you with limited approval of your Master Development Plan (MDP) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) 2009-2014, dated June 1, 2009.

<u>Projects previously approved, not yet implemented.</u> I make the following clarifications:

- 1) Item 12, Relocate NEHSA building. The concept of relocating the NEHSA building was accepted by DRED in 2000. As NEHSA's project plans became more defined, I provided "conditional" approval with the requirement that NEHSA obtain all permitting and local site review. The permitting and site review effort is ongoing, and DRED has not yet provided final site plan approval.
- 2) Item 19, Install tubing runs. Tubing runs for the Province/South Peak area were accepted by DRED in 2000. DRED requests site-specific review and approval if a new location is identified.
- 3) Item 21, Install an alpine slide. This proposal was denied by me for the 2000-2004 MDP, and I uphold that decision. Although my predecessor Commissioner O'Kane concurred with the 2005 MDP improvements within the current lease boundary, the alpine slide was listed as "not approved" within that document (see MDP 2005-2009, pg. 11). I believe Commissioner O'Kane intended to approve the listed items as written, thereby upholding my 2000 decision to deny this particular project.
- 4) Item 22, Install a water slide. This proposal was also denied by me in 2000, and is upheld under the same circumstance described above.

<u>Previously proposed</u>; not yet approved. The West Bowl Expansion proposal is duly noted: approval is withheld. There have been no substantive or compelling changes to this proposal to reverse the State's previous position.

Newly proposed in the 2009-2014. Projects listed as newly proposed in the 2009-2014 MDP are generally accepted, with conditional approval of the zip-line proposal. It is understood that each

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item will require additional information that will be vetted through the Annual Operating Plan process, as well as through State and local approvals. As the proposal to add snowmaking to the winter work road from the Sun Bowl is in relatively close proximity to polygon 23, it is worth mentioning our mutual agreement to leave the remainder of polygon 23 in its current state for the duration of the lease agreement (see Statement by George M. Bald, dated September 19, 2000).

While I understand and appreciate the desire to add to the summer-time recreational offerings on the property, I request additional information regarding the zip-line proposal that will define the impacts of such an activity, its market analysis, and expected life-cycle.

I thank you for the long-standing commitment and top quality effort you and your staff continue to provide at Mount Sunapee ski area. I look forward to our on-going collaboration on behalf of the citizens and visitors of Mount Sunapee State Park.

Sincerell

George M. Bald

Commissioner

·cc;

Stephen K. Rice, Vice President, CNL Lifestyle Company, LLC

Ted Austin, Director, Division of Parks and Recreation

Mount Sunapee Advisory Committee

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