

The Legislature of Rockland County



HARRIET D. CORNELL
Legislator – District 10
Chair, Environmental Committee

**AGENDA
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2014
7:00 PM**

ROLL CALL

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2/26/14 MEETING

1. REF. #4374 - REQUESTING THAT THE NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY PASS BILL - A.8744 THE MICROBEAD-FREE WATERS ACT, THAT THE NEW YORK STATE SENATE INTRODUCE AND PASS SIMILAR LEGISLATION, AND THAT THE GOVERNOR SIGN SUCH LEGISLATION **(HON. ALDEN WOLFE, LEGISLATURE)**
2. REF. #7565 - EXPRESSING THE ROCKLAND COUNTY LEGISLATURE'S OPPOSITION TO LG ELECTRONICS'S PLAN TO BUILD AN EIGHT-STORY BUILDING (143 FEET HIGH) LESS THAN 50 YARDS FROM THE PALISADES INTERSTATE PARK AND URGING THEM TO REDESIGN THE PROJECT AND IMPLEMENT THE ALTERNATIVE LOW-RISE DESIGN PROPOSED
(HONS. HARRIET D. CORNELL, JOHN A. MURPHY, LEGISLATURE)
3. REF. #4124 - DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION ITEM – HIGH-VOLUME HYDRAULIC FRACTURING IN NEW YORK STATE – EXTENSION OF MORATORIUM **(HONS. HARRIET D. CORNELL, CHRISTOPHER J. CAREY, ALDEN WOLFE, LEGISLATURE)**
4. REF. #4124 - DISCUSSION ITEM: TRANSPORT OF CRUDE OIL THROUGH ROCKLAND COUNTY **(HON. HARRIET D. CORNELL, LEGISLATURE)**
5. ROCKLAND COUNTY DEER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR TO GIVE INTERIM REPORT, DECEMBER, 2013

"The Rockland County Legislature is committed to full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. To that end, the Legislature is committed to creating an accessible environment for all. To request accommodations that you may require, please call Damaris Alvarez at 845-638-5248 (845-708-7899 for TTY/TDD). Please request these accommodations three (3) days in advance so that we can seek to meet your needs."

ENV 3.26.14.AGA/PS

DRAFT

Introduced by:
Hon. Alden H. Wolfe, Sponsor

Referral No.
, 2014

RESOLUTION NO. OF 2014
REQUESTING THAT THE NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY PASS BILL
A.8744 – THE MICROBEAD-FREE WATERS ACT, THAT THE NEW YORK
STATE SENATE INTRODUCE AND PASS SIMILAR LEGISLATION, AND
THAT THE GOVERNOR SIGN SUCH LEGISLATION

WHEREAS, New York State has made a tremendous effort to revitalize and develop its waterfronts; and

WHEREAS, microbeads, a plastic product often measured to be as small as a grain of sand, have recently been found in high concentrations in the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, the source of this pollution appears to be the sinks, bathtubs and showers in our own homes, because consumers using personal cosmetics and toiletries that contain microbeads are washing away what they believe to be a harmless consumer waste; and

WHEREAS, our wastewater treatment plants are unable, absent costly upgrades, to filter out these tiny plastic beads; and

WHEREAS, some major corporations have pledged to phase out the use of microbeads in their personal cosmetic products; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill A.8744 would ensure that all personal cosmetics companies follow suit by prohibiting the manufacture, distribution and sale of personal cosmetics products that contain microbeads; and

WHEREAS, the Committee has met, considered and by a vote, approved this resolution; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Legislature of Rockland County hereby requests that the York State Assembly pass bill A.8744 – the Microbead-Free Waters Act, that the New York State Senate introduce and pass similar legislation, and that the Governor of New York sign such legislation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk to the Legislature be and he is hereby authorized and directed to send a copy of this resolution to Hon. Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York; Hon. David Carlucci, Hon. William J. Larkin, Jr., New York State Senators, Hon. Kenneth P. Zebrowski, Jr., Hon. Ellen C. Jaffee, and Hon. James G. Skoufis, Members of the New York State Assembly; the President Pro Tem of the New York State Senate; the Speaker of the New York State Assembly; the Majority and Minority Leaders of the New York State Senate and Assembly; and to such other persons as the Clerk, in his discretion, may deem proper in order to effectuate the purpose of this resolution.

LG3317

ELY

3/7/14

3/10/14

A08744 Summary:

BILL NO A08744

SAME AS No same as

SPONSOR Sweeney (MS)

COSPNSR Schimel, Peoples-Stokes, Jaffee, Kavanagh, Otis, Englebright,
Zebrowski, Rosenthal, Fahy, Lifton, Kearns, Nojay, Weprin

MLTSPNSR Glick, Montesano, Stirpe

Add Art 37 SS37-0901 - 37-0909, amd S71-3703, En Con L

Enacts the "Microbead-free waters Act" to prohibit the manufacture, distribution and sale of personal cosmetic products containing microbeads.

A08744 Text:

S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

8744

I N A S S E M B L Y

February 11, 2014

Introduced by M. of A. SWEENEY, SCHIMEL, PEOPLES-STOKES, JAFFEE, KAVANAGH, OTIS -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. GLICK, ROSENTHAL, STIRPE -- (at request of the Department of Law) -- read once and referred to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to prohibiting the manufacture, distribution and sale of personal cosmetic products containing microbeads

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Legislative intent. The legislature hereby finds that
2 microbeads, a synthetic alternative ingredient to such natural materials
3 as ground almonds, oatmeal and pumice, found in over one hundred
4 personal cosmetic products, including facial cleansers, shampoos and
5 toothpastes, pose a serious threat to New York's environment.
6 Microbeads have been documented to collect harmful pollutants, already
7 present in the environment, and harm fish and other aquatic organisms
8 that form the base of the aquatic food chain. Recently, microbeads have
9 been recorded in New York's water bodies, and in particular, the waters
10 of Lake Erie. Research has suggested that the majority of these micro-
11 beads are entering water bodies through disposal down household drains
12 following the use of such personal cosmetic products.
13 Without significant and costly improvements to the majority of New
14 York's sewage treatment facilities, microbeads contained in personal
15 cosmetic products will continue to pollute New York's waters and hinder
16 the ongoing efforts to restore the state's lakes and rivers, recreation-
17 al and commercial fisheries as well as recent substantial economic

18 investments in redeveloping New York's waterfronts.
 19 S 2. Article 37 of the environmental conservation law is amended by
 20 adding a new title 9 to read as follows:
 21 TITLE 9
 22 MICROBEADS
 23 SECTION 37-0901. SHORT TITLE.
 24 37-0903. DEFINITIONS.
 25 37-0905. PERSONAL COSMETIC PRODUCTS CONTAINING MICROBEADS.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
 [] is old law to be omitted.

LBD13258-11-4

A. 8744

2

1 37-0907. PREEMPTION.
 2 37-0909. RULES AND REGULATIONS.
 3 S 37-0901. SHORT TITLE.
 4 THIS TITLE SHALL BE KNOWN AND MAY BE CITED AS THE "MICROBEAD-FREE
 5 WATERS ACT."
 6 S 37-0903. DEFINITIONS.
 7 1. THE TERM "MICROBEAD" SHALL MEAN ANY PLASTIC COMPONENT OF A PERSONAL
 8 COSMETIC PRODUCT MEASURED TO BE FIVE MILLIMETERS OR LESS IN SIZE.
 9 2. THE TERM "PERSONAL COSMETIC PRODUCT" SHALL MEAN ANY (A) ARTICLE
 10 INTENDED TO BE RUBBED, Poured, SPRINKLED, OR SPRAYED ON, INTRODUCED
 11 INTO, OR OTHERWISE APPLIED TO THE HUMAN BODY OR ANY PART THEREOF FOR
 12 CLEANSING, BEAUTIFYING, PROMOTING ATTRACTIVENESS, OR ALTERING THE
 13 APPEARANCE, AND (B) ARTICLE INTENDED FOR USE AS A COMPONENT OF ANY SUCH
 14 ARTICLE. THE TERM "PERSONAL COSMETIC PRODUCT" SHALL NOT INCLUDE ANY
 15 PRODUCT FOR WHICH A PRESCRIPTION IS REQUIRED FOR DISTRIBUTION OR DISPEN-
 16 SATION AS PROVIDED IN SECTION TWO HUNDRED EIGHTY-ONE OF THE PUBLIC
 17 HEALTH LAW OR SECTION SIX THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED TEN OF THE EDUCATION
 18 LAW.
 19 S 37-0905. PERSONAL COSMETIC PRODUCTS CONTAINING MICROBEADS.
 20 NO PERSON SHALL PRODUCE, MANUFACTURE, SELL OR OFFER FOR SALE ANY
 21 PERSONAL COSMETIC PRODUCT WHICH CONTAINS INTENTIONALLY-ADDED MICROBEADS.
 22 S 37-0907. PREEMPTION.
 23 JURISDICTION IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO MICROBEADS WHICH ARE REGU-
 24 LATED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS TITLE SHALL BE VESTED EXCLU-
 25 SIVELY IN THE STATE.
 26 S 37-0909. RULES AND REGULATIONS.
 27 THE DEPARTMENT IS AUTHORIZED TO PROMULGATE SUCH RULES AND REGULATIONS
 28 AS IT SHALL DEEM NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS TITLE.
 29 S 3. Section 71-3703 of the environmental conservation law is amended
 30 by adding a new subdivision 4 to read as follows:
 31 4. ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES ANY OF THE PROVISIONS OF, OR WHO FAILS TO
 32 PERFORM ANY DUTY IMPOSED BY SECTION 37-0905 OF THIS CHAPTER OR ANY RULE
 33 OR REGULATION PROMULGATED PURSUANT THERETO, SHALL BE LIABLE FOR A CIVIL
 34 PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR EACH DAY
 35 DURING WHICH SUCH VIOLATION CONTINUES, AND IN ADDITION THERETO, SUCH
 36 PERSON MAY BE ENJOINED FROM CONTINUING SUCH VIOLATION. SUCH PERSON SHALL
 37 FOR A SECOND VIOLATION BE LIABLE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE FOR A CIVIL
 38 PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR EACH DAY DURING WHICH
 39 SUCH VIOLATION CONTINUES AND SUCH PERSON MAY BE ENJOINED FROM CONTINUING
 40 SUCH VIOLATION.
 41 S 4. This act shall take effect December 31, 2015.

A08744 Summary:

BILL NO A08744

SAME AS No same as

SPONSOR Sweeney (MS)

COSPNSR Schimel, Peoples-Stokes, Jaffee, Kavanagh, Otis, Englebright, Zebrowski, Rosenthal, Fahy, Lifton, Kearns, Nojay, Weprin

MLTSPNSR Glick, Montesano, Stirpe

Add Art 37 SS37-0901 - 37-0909, amd S71-3703, En Con L

Enacts the "Microbead-free waters Act" to prohibit the manufacture, distribution and sale of personal cosmetic products containing microbeads.

A08744 Memo:

BILL NUMBER:A8744

TITLE OF BILL: An act to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to prohibiting the manufacture, distribution and sale of personal cosmetic products containing microbeads

PURPOSE:

The bill would prohibit the manufacture, distribution and sale of personal cosmetic products which contain microbeads.

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:

Section one of the bill provides the legislative intent of title 9 of article 37 of the environmental conservation law.

Section two amends article 37 of the environmental conservation law by adding a new title 9 which:

1. establishes the title of the Act as the "Microbead-free Waters Act";
2. defines the terms "microbead" and "personal cosmetic product";
3. prohibits the manufacture, distribution and sale of personal cosmetic products which contain microbeads;
4. vests all matters pertaining to microbeads in personal cosmetic products with the State; and
5. authorizes the Department of Environmental Conservation to promulgate rules and regulations to implement Title 9.

Section three amends section 71-3703 of the environmental conservation law to establish penalties for violations.

Section four is the effective date.

JUSTIFICATION:

New York State has spent a tremendous amount of money to revitalize and redevelop its waterfronts. Recently, microbeads, a plastic product often measured to be as small as a grain of sand, have been found in high concentrations in the Great Lakes. The source of this pollution appears to be the sinks, bathtubs and showers in our own homes. Consumers using personal cosmetics that contain microbeads, like shampoos, soaps and toothpastes, are washing away what most believe are harmless consumer waste. Unfortunately, our wastewater treatment plants are unable, absent costly upgrades, to filter out these tiny plastics.

In response to this new source of pollution, some major corporations have pledged to phase out the use of microbeads in their personal cosmetic products. To this end, the Microbead-free Waters Act seeks to ensure all other personal cosmetic companies follow suit by prohibiting the manufacture, distribution, and sale of personal cosmetic products that contain microbeads.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

This is new legislation.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

This act shall take effect December 31, 2015.

DRAFT

Introduced by:

Hon. Harriet D. Cornell, Sponsor
Hon. John A. Murphy, Sponsor

Referral No.
, 2014

RESOLUTION NO. OF 2014
EXPRESSING THE ROCKLAND COUNTY LEGISLATURE'S OPPOSITION TO
LG ELECTRONICS'S PLAN TO BUILD AN EIGHT-STORY BUILDING (143
FEET HIGH) LESS THAN 50 YARDS FROM THE PALISADES INTERSTATE
PARK AND URGING THEM TO REDESIGN THE PROJECT AND IMPLEMENT
THE ALTERNATIVE LOW-RISE DESIGN PROPOSED

WHEREAS, the Palisades Interstate Park has the rare dual distinction of being designated both a National Natural Landmark and a National Historic Landmark; and

WHEREAS, the Palisades Interstate Park is a pristine area of land along the west bank of the Hudson River running through northeastern New Jersey and southern New York. It includes parkland, natural steep rock cliffs, and the Palisades Interstate Parkway. In contrast to the heavy, high-rise development south of the George Washington Bridge, the cliffs and ridge tops of the Palisades to the north are unbroken for 13 miles upstream; and

WHEREAS, in the latest stage of a six-year old Englewood Cliffs, NJ building project, LG Electronics has received a variance to build an eight-story building less than 50 yards from the Palisades Interstate Park; and

WHEREAS, this variance will allow the building to soar to 143 feet – four times taller than the 35-foot zoning height limit respected by all other companies next to the Park – and tower over the Park, scarring the landscape and setting a precedent for future similar development; and

WHEREAS, as the Director of the U.S. National Parks Service stated, "The current development proposal... threatens the nationally significant, historic scenic integrity of the Palisades in a major way... If built, this tower will introduce a massive incompatible feature that will be visible for miles along the river..."; and

WHEREAS, the LG development project as currently planned is opposed by the U.S. National Park Service, environmental advocacy groups such as the National Resources Defense Council, the New Jersey Conservation Foundation and Scenic Hudson, and a number of past and present elected officials from NY and NJ; and

WHEREAS, residents of Englewood Cliffs as well as the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs and Scenic Hudson have filed a lawsuit challenging the zoning variance that permits the 143-foot tower; and the National Resources Defense Council and the New Jersey Conservation Foundation are seeking to intervene in that lawsuit; and

WHEREAS, critics of LG's plan have proposed an alternative plan, pointing out that the 27-acre site is large enough for a low-rise design that protects the integrity of the Palisades and still provides LG with the same amount of office space and jobs; and

WHEREAS, the alternative low-rise design has been endorsed by four former NJ governors, nearby communities, editorial boards in NJ and NY, many civic and environmental organizations, and a growing number of individuals in the region and across the county; and

WHEREAS, the _____ Committee has met, considered and by a vote approved this resolution; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Rockland County Legislature hereby expresses its opposition to the development plan of LG Electronics that would build an 8-story tower (143 feet high) less than 50 yards from the Palisades Interstate Park and urges LG Electronics to redesign the project and implement the alternative low-rise design proposed; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk to the Legislature be and is hereby authorized and directed to send a certified copy of this resolution to LG Electronics U.S.A. Inc in Englewood Cliffs, NJ; the Planning Board of the Borough of Englewood Cliffs, NJ; the Palisades Interstate Park Commission; and such persons as the Clerk, in his discretion, may deem proper in order to effectuate the purpose of this resolution.

ELY
LG3324
3/19/14
3/20/14



Protect the Palisades

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 13, 2014

Contact: Mark Izeman

212-727-4453

U.S. National Parks Service Director Criticizes LG's Planned Office Tower Atop The Palisades

Letter to Englewood Cliffs Planning Board Chairman Says Height of Proposed LG Tower Threatens National Natural and Historic Landmark "in a Major Way"

The Director of the U.S. National Park Service, Jonathan B. Jarvis, told the Englewood Cliffs Planning Board that its approval of the 143-foot LG tower would "introduce a massive incompatible feature" that would endanger the Palisades, a U.S. Natural and Historic Landmark extending for miles north of the George Washington Bridge.

In a letter to Edwin Fehre, Planning Board chairman for the Borough of Englewood Cliffs, Director Jarvis states, "The current development proposal...threatens the nationally significant, historic scenic integrity of the Palisades in a major way."

He adds, "If built, this tower will introduce a massive incompatible feature that will be visible for miles along the river...."

LG Electronics, a multi-national electronics company, has received approval from the planning board to build its office tower less than 50 yards from the Palisades Interstate Park in New Jersey. The planning board meets today, when it will schedule a public hearing, the first step in an after-the-fact attempt to revise its master plan to support its previously approved high-rise zone, which is twice the length of the LG tract.

Director Jarvis notes that that the Palisades Interstate Park is designated as a National Natural Landmark (NNL) and a National Historic Landmark (NHL), which he said "is a rare dual distinction."

The National Park Service is the administrator of the NNL and NHL programs and advocates for protection and supports efforts to protect these nationally significant sites. It does not have formal review authority over the LG project, however. To date, LG and the Borough of Englewood Cliffs have not sought advice or technical guidance from the National Park Service regarding the development plan.

LG received a variance from the Englewood Cliffs to build the 143-foot tower—four times taller than the 35-foot zoning height limit respected for decades by all other companies next to the Park. Critics of LG's plan point out the 27-acre site is large enough for a low-rise design that protects the integrity of the Palisades and still provides LG with the same amount of office space and jobs. This *win-win* solution

(Continues)

has been endorsed by four former governors of New Jersey, nearby communities, editorial boards in New Jersey and New York, many civic and environmental organizations and a growing number of individuals in the region and across the country.

Mr. Jarvis highlights the history of the Palisades: "The cliffs have been protected through the precedent-setting conservation efforts of many individuals in the states of New Jersey and New York. This record of respect and coexistence demonstrates that the growth of communities can be achieved while at the same time respecting the natural environment and the public amenities that have been established at considerable effort and expense for the use and enjoyment of all people."

Jonathan B. Jarvis is the 18th Director of the United States National Park Service, confirmed by the United States Senate on September 25, 2009. A career ranger of the National Park Service, Jarvis leads an agency that preserves and manages some of the most treasured landscapes and valued cultural icons in this nation.



A copy of the letter with the full text from National Parks Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis is attached.

The National Park Service (NPS) is an agency of the United States Department of the Interior that manages all U.S. national parks, many American national monuments, and other conservation and historical properties.

LG Electronics is a multinational corporation based in South Korea that manufactures consumer electronics and appliances.

Protect the Palisades is a coalition of individuals and organizations in New Jersey, New York and across America dedicated to preserving the Hudson River Palisades. More information about Protect the Palisades can be found at <http://www.protectthepalisades.org>.

Attachments: NPS Director Palisades Letter.pdf
J_Jarvis_COLOR.jpg



News from

Senate Co-Leader

Jeffrey D. Klein

Serving Bronx/ Westchester

For Immediate Release: August 15, 2013

Contact: Anna Durrett 415.203.1455 (Klein)

Joseph O'Brien 917.880.0392 (Engel)

Jonathan Davis 917.544.2213. (Espaillat)

Bryant Daniels, 718.796.5345. (Dinowitz)

Standing Together for the Palisades: U.S. Congressman Eliot Engel, Senators Klein, Espaillat and Assemblyman Dinowitz Join NY and NJ Environmental Groups in Call for LG Electronics to Lower Planned Height of Building Headquarters in Englewood Cliffs, NJ

RIVERDALE, NY – Following the recent decision by Bergen County Superior Court to uphold LG Electronics' plan to construct a 143 foot building headquarters by the Palisades in Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, State Senator Jeff Klein, U.S. Congressman Eliot Engel, State Senator Adriano Espaillat and Assemblyman Jeff Dinowitz joined representatives from the coalition group, Protect the Palisades, in calling for LG Electronics to lower the height of their planned construction.

A variance in the zoning law along the Palisades authorized LG Electronics to build above the 35 foot maximum height restriction. If constructed, the LG Electronics headquarters would pierce above the Palisades' treeline, scarring an iconic landscape and setting a precedent for similar development.

Standing with the Palisades as a backdrop, the elected officials, community leaders and environmental leaders from both sides of the river underlined the importance of preserving the Palisades, urging LG Electronics to reconsider their design.

State Senator Jeff Klein (D-Bronx/Westchester) said, "More than a hundred years ago New Yorkers and New Jerseyans came together to protect this land and now, here we are yet again, fighting to preserve this national treasure. This is not just about one company, or one building. Erecting a building that will tower above the treetops will set an irreversible course for the permanent destruction of the Palisades. If we allow one – many will follow. Today we stood together in defense of what is, in many ways, defenseless – the Palisades."

Congressman Eliot Engel (D-NY-16) said, "The Palisades are a timeless treasure that exists nowhere else in the world. It is unheard of for a large city like New York to have such a dramatic and beautiful view of nature. LG has to be a better corporate citizen and not desecrate this site with this building. There isn't anything that can improve this view, and certainly not an office tower."

"Before most New Yorkers even learn about LG's plans for the Palisades, a beautiful natural amenity for Upper Manhattan and the Bronx, and a critical source of tourism could be lost forever," said **Senator Adriano Espaillat (D-Washington Heights)**. "Local residents on both sides of Hudson are outraged by this proposal for the damage it will inflict, and the dangerous precedent it will set. When the Rockefeller family donated this land in 1933, this is the last thing they would have sanctioned. There's too much at stake for New Yorkers to sit by while one of their last remaining natural views is permanently scarred."

Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz (D-Riverdale) said, "The unique view of the Palisades from the Bronx and Manhattan is an amazing natural wonder that must be protected. Its pristine beauty and picturesque scenery has been enjoyed by both New Yorkers and New Jerseyans for generations, but this new proposed LG development would change all of that."

"Just because this latest judge's ruling sided with LG doesn't mean building a 143-foot monstrosity on the Palisades is a good idea. Not only will it taint the majesty of this relatively untouched landscape, it will set a terrible precedent moving forward regarding development in the area. Make no mistake, if LG is allowed to thumb its nose at the height restrictions in place, as well as the will of the people, many other businesses will soon be looking for similar variances to build huge developments there. And if that were to happen we would lose something very special.

"Careless development that intrudes on the natural beauty of our area is unnecessary and unwelcome by both New York and New Jersey residents alike. LG needs to listen to the response their current plan is getting and reconsider their proposal."

Hayley Carlock, Environmental Advocacy Attorney at Scenic Hudson, said, "Judge Carver's decision is a setback not only for the citizens of New Jersey and New York, but for all Americans. Because of their unique geology and extraordinary natural beauty in an otherwise urban setting, the Palisades are both a National Historic Site and a National Natural Landmark. If this decision were to stand, it - and the bad precedent it would set - would lead to the destruction of this heritage by incompatible development. We resolve to continue our efforts to convince LG to redesign its building so it does not rise above the tree line. LG's 27-acre site provides ample space for a lower-profile building that would supply the same jobs and tax benefits as the current design while respecting the integrity of the majestic Palisades."

"Bronx Community Board 8 is proud to stand up for scenic beauty of the Palisades alongside congressmen Engel, State Senator Klein, Assemblyman Dinowitz, Manhattan Community Board 12 and countless others in New York and New Jersey who believe in the wisdom of intelligent development alongside this precious natural resource," **Community Board 8 Chairman Robert Fanuzzi** said. "The construction of this corporate building at its present height will permanently scar a view enjoyed by millions and defy a precedent of respect for the environment established at the Palisades and upheld by every private developer in that area--until now."

-###-



Palisades commission asks LG to lower height of planned Englewood Cliffs headquarters

Loading Photo Gallery

Myles Ma/NJ.com By **Myles Ma/NJ.com**

Email the author | **Follow on Twitter**

on February 25, 2014 at 8:00 AM, updated February 25, 2014 at 8:20 AM

FORT LEE — The Palisades Interstate Park Commission voted Monday in favor of a resolution calling on LG Electronics to reduce the height of its planned Englewood Cliffs headquarters, **the Record reported**.

The resolution says the commission "finds that the height of the proposed LG USA headquarters building above the tree line is not in accordance with our stewardship mission and the public trust to preserve the scenic beauty of the Palisades and would create a precedent inconsistent with our mission."

The commission manages the Palisades Interstate Park in New Jersey and the state parks and historical sites in the Palisades region of New York. The two states formed the commission in 1900.

The governors of each state appoint five members of the commission to five-year terms.

While the Palisades Interstate Park Commission can't compel LG to change the building height, executive director James Hall said commissioners wanted to make their position clear. The vote disproves LG's contention that only New Yorkers are opposed to the headquarters, Ed Goodell, executive director of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, told the Record.

The mayors of six Bergen County towns have also asked LG to **lower the height of the headquarters**.

"We are sure that on the 27-acre site there is room for a beautiful and distinctive LG corporate headquarters," the mayors of Alpine, Closter, Demarest, Harrington Park, Rockleigh and Tenafly said in a letter to the company.

LG started demolition work on the site last year. The company has said it wouldn't be possible to redesign the building after years of public meetings and court hearings over its plans.

Related Coverage:

- **LG Electronics asked by Palisades Interstate Park Commission to reduce height of Englewood Cliffs HQ | The Record**
- **Six mayors call on LG to lower height of planned Englewood Cliffs office**
- **Opponents protest as LG celebrates start of work on Englewood Cliffs headquarters**

More Bergen County news: NJ.com/bergen | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#)

PALISADES INTERSTATE PARK COMMISSION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Palisades Interstate Park Commission was created to maintain and operate park land "for the use of the public and for the purpose of preserving the scenic beauty of the Palisades and other lands therein"; and

WHEREAS, under the Palisades Interstate Park Commission's Congressionally approved 1937 Interstate Compact, it was agreed to and pledged the "faithful co-operation in the future planning, improvement, development, maintenance, government and management of the park, holding in high trust for the benefit of the public the special blessings and natural advantages thereof"; and

WHEREAS, with a fourfold increase upon existing zoning, the 143-foot height of the proposed development of the LG USA Headquarters in Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, poses a new threat and precedent to the scenic beauty of the Palisades north of the George Washington Bridge; and

WHEREAS, the development needs of an LG USA headquarters on this 27-acre site can be achieved at a lower building height that would not pose such a threat and precedent to the scenic beauty of the Palisades; and

WHEREAS, the Commission, through the Executive Director, provided correspondence and testimony to the Englewood Cliffs Zoning Board expressing concerns about the adverse visual impact on the Park and its historic and scenic integrity as a national landmark by the proposed height of the building and sent a letter dated November 14, 2012 to Seog-Won Park, Chief Executive Officer of LG Electronics USA, Inc., expressing similar concerns; and

WHEREAS, letters from the National Park Service dated December 23, 2013 from William Bolger, National Historic Landmark Manager and January 7, 2014 from Kristina Heister, Chief of Natural Resources for the Northeast Region both detail the significance of the area and how the construction of a 143-foot building would threaten the integrity of this nationally designated area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Interstate Park Commission finds that the height of the proposed LG USA Headquarters building above the tree line is not in accordance with our stewardship mission and the public trust to preserve the scenic beauty of the Palisades and would create a precedent inconsistent with our mission and again urge the management of LG USA, Inc. to lower the proposed height of the building to below the tree line in order to preserve the scenic beauty of the Palisades; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Interstate Park Commission requests LG USA, Inc. to refrain from implying, in correspondence or its website, that the Palisades Interstate Park Commission does not have concerns with the proposed 143-foot building height; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Interstate Park Commission indicates its continued interest and willingness to work with LG USA, Inc. in finding a suitable solution to the building height at this location.