



Outlook

7.21.26 Public Hearing Comments County Leg - Druke

From Lisa Druke <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 7/21/2026 11:36 AM

To Office of the Onondaga County Legislature <legislature@onondaga.gov>

 2 attachments (1 MB)

County Leg EPC Public Hearing Letter_Druke 7.21.2026.pdf; Druke Handout Slides - County Leg 7.21.2026.pdf;

NOTICE: This email originated from **outside** of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

Hello,

Please find attached my letter with attachment submitted for the public meeting this evening following the Environmental Protection Committee Meeting.

Thank you.

Regards,
Lisa Druke
Fayetteville, NY

Public Hearing 'Water, Waste Water and our Environment in Onondaga County' July 21, 2026

County Legislature - Environmental Protection Committee

Meeting Time: after 5:30 PM (follows EPC mtg)

Location:

Community Room of the Central Library

447 S. Salina St., Syracuse, NY 13202

To: Nicole Watts, Chairwoman of County Legislature, Greg Ericksen, County Legislature
Environmental Protection Committee Chair

Re: Public Hearing 'Water, Waste Water and our Environment in Onondaga County'

I am a resident of Onondaga County for the past 25 years and I want to share my comments on the Oak Orchard Industrial Waste Water Treatment Plant and the potential health and environmental impacts the discharges could have on the Onondaga County Watershed including our drinking water from Lake Ontario. Through the public comment period last year for the Oak Orchard project, I had the opportunity to review the documents shared by the county concerning the Oak Orchard Industrial Waste Water Treatment Plant including the SPDES permit, FEIS and Engineering reports. I am a retired process engineer with experience in water, drinking water, waste water and industrial water including PFAS removal projects. I have experienced first hand how PFAS contamination effects communities and human health. I will be sharing my comments and concerns on PFAS and other Contaminants of Concern on the waste discharges planned for the project at today's public hearing to be held at the Community Room of the Central Library in Syracuse. My presentation slides are separately attached.

Respectfully,



Lisa Druke

[Redacted address line]

Fayetteville, NY 13066

[Redacted address line]

Attachment: Druke Handout Slides – County Leg July 21 2026



Oak Orchard Industrial Waste Water Treatment Plant Process Review Concerning PFAS

Lisa Druke (Retired Process Engineer, B.S.ChemE, MBA)

County Legislature Environmental Protection Committee Public Hearing

July 21, 2026

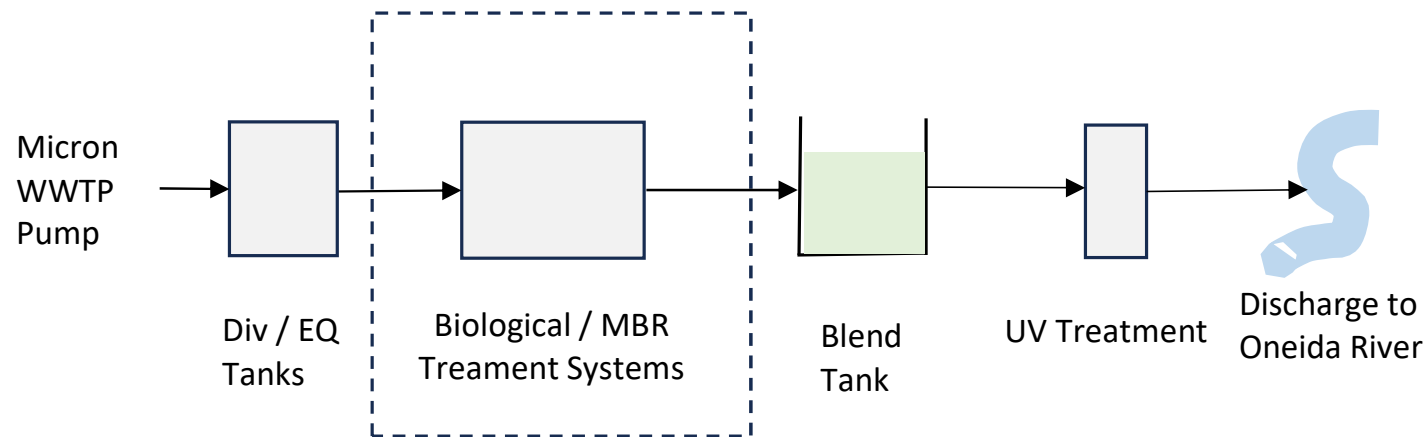
Introduction – IWWTP Concerning PFAS

Focus To Protect Human Health / Protect our Watershed in Onon County:

- Biological treatment does not significantly remove PFAS^[8]
- Effluent from biological treatment incl MBR discharges to Oneida River → Insufficient treatment to protect watershed
- Oneida River discharges to Lake Ontario near the intake for the Lake Ontario WTP, potential risk to human health
- Present observations and a potential solution for consideration

IWWTP Simplified Process Flow Diagram: FAB 1

References: Onondaga County Design Team, Conceptual Design Report, Alternative 10, FAB 1 [1, 2]



- Biological treatment removes organics; the MBR removes solids — **neither removes PFAS**
- PFAS precursors transformed into **short and ultra-short-chain** PFAS — harder to retain, **not destroyed**, and they pass through
- **Concern: Significant % of the PFAS and other Contaminants of Concern discharge to the Oneida River**

Onondaga County Legislature Public Hearing July 21, 2026

IWWTP FAB 2 Expansion

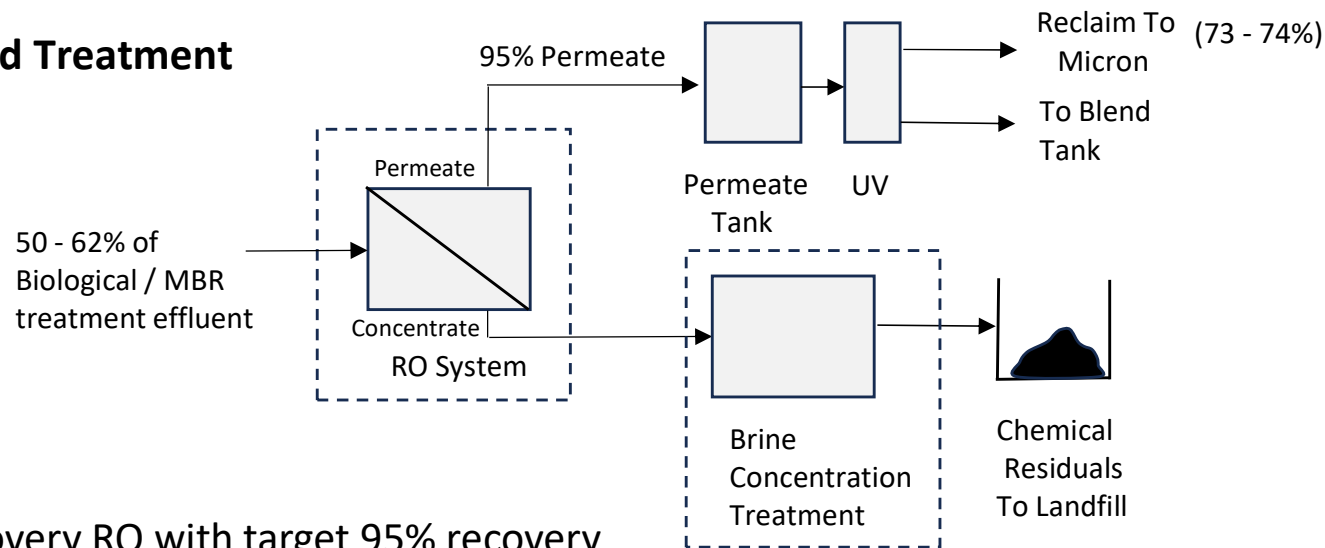
References: Onondaga County Design Team, Conceptual Design Report, Alternative 11, FAB 2/1 [1, 2]

- FAB2 biological treatment → same process as for FAB1
- Micron Reuse: Advanced treatment system(s) including high recovery RO, brine thermal treatment
- **Concern: Only 50 – 62% biological effluent is planned for advanced treatment**
- **Biological treated effluent continues to discharge direct to Oneida River**

IWWTP Simplified Process Flow Diagram FAB1 / FAB2

References: Onondaga County Engineering Design Team, Conceptual Design, Alternative 11, FAB 1/2 [1, 2]

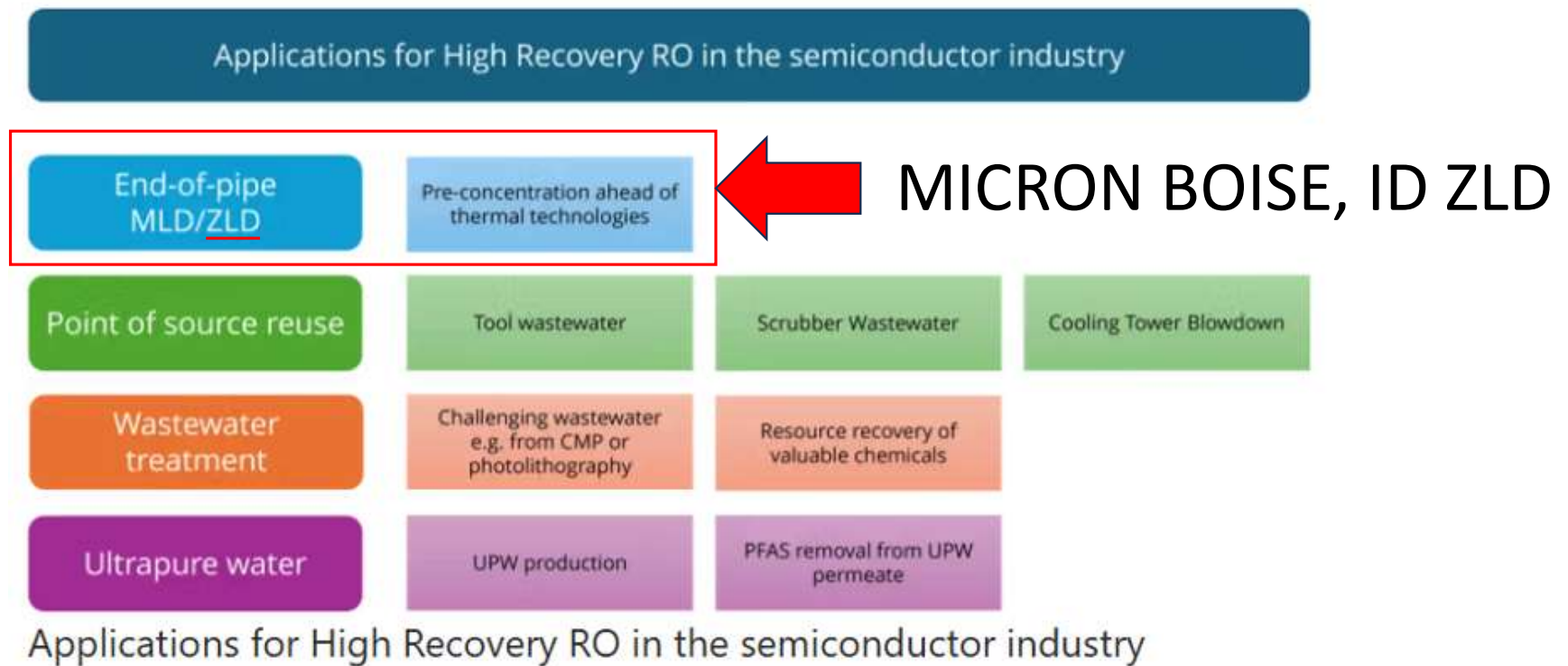
Advanced Treatment



- High Recovery RO with target 95% recovery
- RO brine stream is the rejects PFAS, metals and other Contaminants of Concern (CoC).
- Brine thermal treatment evaporates, crystallizes to solids → No liquid waste discharged
- Concern – not all biological/MBR effluent is treated with Advanced Treatment, why not?

Semiconductor Industry

Reference [3]



Semiconductor Industry

Semiconductor plants using / constructing full or near ZLD

- **Micron — Boise, Idaho (existing fab, expansion underway)** Micron is building "our own state-of-the-art water recycling and reuse infrastructure at our Boise campus, **including a zero liquid discharge facility**". June 2, 2026: "'Hard to make that decision': City of Boise pauses water recycling facility project".[4]
- **Samsung's Blue Sky Water Reclamation Facility**, Taylor, Texas: Kiewit Corporation Design-Build, Owned and Operated by EPCOR. Now in Start-up and Commissioning. **"the target is to reclaim or reuse 75% of the process water within the fabrication facility, with the balance purified and returned to the environment** to help sustain the natural water cycle and support the local ecosystem."[6]
- **TSMC — Phoenix, Arizona (Fab 21)**
TSMC broke ground on a 15-acre **Industrial Reclamation Water Plant (IRWP)** designed for **"Near Zero Liquid Discharge."** Required completion 2028.[7]

Conclusion

To Protect Human Health / Protect the Watershed:

- SEMICONDUCTOR manufacturers “End of Pipe” trend to ZLD/MLD includes MICRON (Boise, Idaho), why not Oak Orchard?
- Significant improvement ask → Expand the advanced treatment process (**ADD MORE UNITS**) to treat **ALL** of the biological effluent to protect human health
- 100% Advanced treatment will remove harmful PFAS and other CoC and protect the watershed → ★ Standard

References

1. Onondaga County Department of Water Environment Protection. (2025, November 10). *Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant (IWWTP) and Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) conceptual design report* (Owner's Advisor Team: Critical Path Engineering Solutions, Environmental Design & Research, and Brown and Caldwell). <https://onondaga.gov/wep/public-review-documents/>
2. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. (2026, April 10). *State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permit: Oak Orchard Wastewater Treatment Plant* (SPDES No. NY0030317; DEC Permit No. 7-3124-00018/00001). Onondaga County Department of Water Environment Protection. <https://onondaga.gov/wep/public-review-documents/>
3. UltraFacility. (n.d.). Tech talk: High recovery RO in the semiconductor industry. Insights. <https://www.ultrafacilityportal.io/insights/tech-talk-high-recovery-ro>.
4. Rodriguez, R., & Shumpert, A. (2026, June 2). *City of Boise pauses water recycling facility project*. [KTVB. https://www.ktvb.com/article/news/local/city-indefinitely-pauses-first-recycled-water-facility-southeast-boise/277-21c8fc02-f81e-41eb-a34a-dadffca7c97b](https://www.ktvb.com/article/news/local/city-indefinitely-pauses-first-recycled-water-facility-southeast-boise/277-21c8fc02-f81e-41eb-a34a-dadffca7c97b)
5. McCoy, O. (2026, May). *Tech talk: High recovery RO in the semiconductor industry*. UltraFacility. <https://www.ultrafacilityportal.io/insights/tech-talk-high-recovery-ro>
6. Arizona Technology Council. (2025, September 2). *TSMC breaks ground on 'near-zero' discharge water plant to back fabs*. <https://www.aztechcouncil.org/tsmc-breaks-ground-on-near-zero-discharge-water-plant-to-back-fabs/>
7. 3A Makina. (2023, September 21). *Project delivery: Texas, Samsung semiconductor fabrication facility WWTP*. <https://3amakina.com/project-delivery-texas-samsung-semiconductor-fabrication-facility-wwtp/> East Wilco Insider, "Looking for Enough Water" (75% reclamation figure) — <https://www.eastwilcoinsider.com/article/215,looking-for-enough-water>
8. Sandhu, S., Zumeit, A., Tian, Z., Vinciguerra, V., & Dahiya, R. (2025). Semiconductor manufacturing wastewater challenges and the potential solutions via printed electronics. *iScience*, 28(10), 113576. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.isci.2025.113576>



Outlook

Water, Wastewater, and the Environment Public Hearing Comments

From Amy Tao <[REDACTED]>**Date** Tue 7/21/2026 3:10 PM**To** Office of the Onondaga County Legislature <legislature@onondaga.gov>

NOTICE: This email originated from outside of Onondaga County's email system. Use caution with links and attachments.

Hello -

I have two questions for tonight's hearing I will be unable to attend. Please see below:

1. Will there be baseline water testing done of Oneida Lake, Oneida River, Seneca River, and other bodies of water where the treated wastewater will be flowing into and will this information be publicly available? The same goes for soil testing.

2. For the very small strip of properties in Onondaga County directly on Caughdenoy Road and on the roads off of Caughdenoy Road that have yet to be given access to public water, sewers and natural gas, might well water testing kits be provided to these properties for baseline testing? The concern being is that especially for waterfront homes, should the waterways become contaminated - depending on factors like the type of contamination, area geology, depth/type of well, connection between the surface water and groundwater supplying the well, etc., a well/the primary (or only) water source for these homes could become contaminated. Not having access to clean water would make a property uninhabitable or would cost tens of thousands in remediation. Having baseline testing would be beneficial for all parties involved.

Thank you,
Amy Tao Woodley
Town of Clay Resident



Outlook

Subject: Public Hearing Comments – Water, Wastewater & Environmental Infrastructure

From Dale Caswell <[REDACTED]>**Date** Tue 7/21/2026 5:02 PM**To** Office of the Onondaga County Legislature <Legislature@onondaga.gov>**Cc** Cody Kelly <ckell1251@gmail.com>; bpwsp@health.ny.gov <bpwsp@health.ny.gov>

NOTICE: This email originated from outside of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

To the Members of the Board,

Unfortunately, I am unable to attend this evening's public hearing, but I respectfully ask that this email be included as part of the public record.

My family lives just a few miles from the Micron site. While our community stands to experience many of the impacts associated with this unprecedented development, our neighborhood still does not have access to basic public utilities, including public water, public sewer, or natural gas.

For years, residents along our stretch of homes have raised concerns about the lack of these essential services. We continue to rely on private wells and septic systems despite the tremendous growth occurring around us. If our area is expected to support one of the largest economic development projects in New York State, then the surrounding residents should not be left behind.

Micron's project is expected to require significant water resources and will be subject to state environmental permits governing water use, wastewater, and air emissions. Those realities make it even more important that nearby residents have confidence that drinking water, groundwater, and air quality will be continuously monitored and protected. State regulators have concluded that the project can comply with permit requirements if permit conditions are met, but many residents understandably want assurance that monitoring, transparency, and enforcement will remain priorities throughout the life of the project.

I respectfully ask the Town and County to:

- Prioritize extending public water, sewer, and natural gas to existing neighborhoods near the Micron development.
- Ensure that long-term groundwater, drinking water, wastewater, and air-quality monitoring results are readily available to the public.
- Clearly communicate what contingency plans are in place should future environmental issues arise.
- **Recognize that existing residents deserve the same investment in infrastructure that is being made to support this historic development.**

Economic growth should improve the quality of life for the people who already live here—not leave them with the same infrastructure deficiencies they have faced for years.

Thank you for considering my comments and for your service to our community.

Dale Caswell

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Central Square, NY 13036

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Outlook

7.21.26 Public Hearing

From Leslie Lawrence <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 7/21/2026 5:17 PM

To Office of the Onondaga County Legislature <Legislature@onondaga.gov>

NOTICE: This email originated from outside of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

Micron will know what they put in the water and what needs to be removed. Why is the County taking responsibility for Micron's waste? If there is a problem in years to come of wastewater pollution in rivers, lakes, and drinking water who will be responsible for cleanup?

Leslie Lawrence



Outlook

7.21.26 Public Hearing

From Amy Loftus <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 7/21/2026 5:58 PM

To Office of the Onondaga County Legislature <legislature@onondaga.gov>

NOTICE: This email originated from **outside** of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

To the Onondaga County Legislature,

I'm a resident of Oswego, NY. My family and I, along with 500,000 people in Central New York, get our drinking water from Lake Ontario. Any chemicals and discharge dispersed into the Oneida River by Micron will flow into the Oswego River and then Lake Ontario and eventually the St. Lawrence River. We drink this water, we bathe in it and swim in it. It will impact the health of our families, pets and wildlife today and for generations to come. Before OCWRC signs a design-build contract with Kiewit, I'm asking you to require Micron to accept enforceable numeric PFAS discharge limits — verified by EPA Method 1633A and the TOP Assay — in the County's user agreement and Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit, with Micron holding liability and paying for any future PFAS-destruction upgrades.

Limits first. Design second. Contract third. The contract isn't signed yet. There's still time to get this right.

Thank you,

Amy Loftus
Oswego, NY



Outlook

Public Hearing: Our Water, Wastewater & Micron's PFAS

From Lisa Heitman <[REDACTED]>**Date** Tue 7/21/2026 6:00 PM**To** Office of the Onondaga County Legislature <legislature@onondaga.gov>

NOTICE: This email originated from **outside** of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

Dear Members of the Onondaga County Legislature

I am writing to urge you to put public health, transparency, and long-term accountability first before authorizing any bond for the Oak Orchard Industrial Treatment Plant. The county should not move forward until Micron's Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit includes enforceable numeric PFAS limits, full disclosure of what is being discharged, and advanced testing that can actually measure the chemicals of concern.

I'm a resident of Baldwinsville and a lifetime resident of Central NY. Before OCWRC signs a design-build contract with Kiewit, I'm asking to require Micron to accept enforceable numeric PFAS discharge limits — verified by EPA Method 1633A and the TOP Assay — in the County's user agreement and Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit, with Micron holding liability and paying for any future PFAS-destruction upgrades.

The concern is urgent because Micron's Clay facility is expected to discharge 30.8 million gallons of wastewater per day into the Oneida River watershed, while the site's current permit includes no enforceable PFAS limits. ForeverChemicals CNY states that the county is being asked to authorize a \$1.4 billion to \$2.6 billion industrial treatment plant while holding the liability for a discharge that could affect the drinking water of 500,000 Central New Yorkers.

I appreciate your attention to this crucial matter.

Regards,
Lisa Heitman



Hassina K. Adams
CLERK

Nicole Watts
CHAIRWOMAN

Speaker #

To be completed by
Legislature
STAFF ONLY

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Spencer Berg
DEPUTY CLERK

SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

For which **topic, resolution** or **local law**, being discussed at this meeting, are you submitting testimony?

How are you submitting your accompanying written statement? This is **required** to enter statements as part of the legislative record.

Souya
Sustain CN4
Micran

☐ In-Person ☐ By Email ☐ By Mail

Note: If you are an organization responding to an invitation to speak, you may also email this card to the Clerk of the Legislature at legislature@onondaga.gov.

Shortened FINAL remarks to Onondaga County Leg 7/21

Sonia Y Kragh, MD

Chair, Micron Monitoring Committee, Sustain CNY

I am a physician with degrees in biology, chemistry and medicine. I wear many sustainability hats in the community with Dewitt Advisory Conservation Commission co authoring Dewitt's Sustainability Policy, Syracuse Rose Society managing the sustainable rose garden and board member of Climate Change Awareness and Action. As a physician, I am used to considering decisions and actions using the principle of "do no harm".

I am speaking with you today as the chair of the Micron monitoring committee of Sustain CNY.

Micron comes to our region with the promise of numerous jobs and 5 county benefits. I have yet to find an environmental benefit to its plant or processes. The environmental impact statement and numerous permits reviewed potential impacts in a limited radius of the project and connected actions, but did not address impacts to most of Onondaga County. There is going to be a trickle down effect on the environment and human health of demolition, construction and operations.

Our committee is asking that Micron and Onondaga County go beyond requirements of federal and state regulations and look to protect our environment and human health. The track record of the semiconductor industry is poor in terms of environmental protection, with numerous hazardous clean up sites following litigation due to illness caused by pollution.

In order to do no harm, we ask that the County, with Micron as financier throughout the life of the project and for decades beyond, establish a publicly available database of baseline and ongoing monitoring to supplement the minimum required by federal and state regulations.

We ask that Micron establish hot lines in connection with all Onondaga County municipalities to quickly identify and address resident and business concerns.

We ask that the County expand the work done through its environmental office to include citizen and academic experts who live in our community and that concerns identified in the Environmental Impact Statement be addressed, with further study within Onondaga County if needed.

Repeating the EIS and permitting with a non biased lead agency would be advisable for a project this large with this many environmental concerns.

Here are a few examples of concerns that justify monitoring:

Let's start with the Town of Clay.

Micron has asked the Town for a noise variance to permit construction from 6 am to 10 pm. Continuous noise affects not only hearing, it affects sleep, concentration and learning. Noise is a sympathetic stress to the nervous system that can contribute to heart disease, anxiety and depression. We recommend reconsideration of this variance to shorten noise exposure to the community and ongoing continuous and intermittent noise monitoring.

How will this construction and wetlands destruction impact residents of Clay/Cicero who rely on wells and sump pumps? Our committee recommends baseline and ongoing monitoring of wells and sump pumps and a comprehensive and publicly available geological and groundwater review of any land affected by Micron connected actions. This is necessary in case of a catastrophic chemical event from Micron's plant and connecting pipelines, as well as to assess unexpected contamination related to construction.

Moving 19 miles from the Micron construction site, The Town of Dewitt has identified an increase in truck traffic at the active quarry at the I481-Jamesville Rd exit. I have observed Ten or more trucks leaving and entering the site at any given moment. Water trucks and street sweepers

are unable to keep up with the dust, with obliteration of road markings and visible dust in the air. Dewitt is working with the DEC to establish noise and air monitoring of the site.

This air and noise pollution has potential for environmental impact to a large bat hibernaculum, which includes endangered bats located at White Lake adjacent to the quarry. Identification banding of bats was not done in the fall BEFORE they left the Micron region for hibernation. Now their habitat has been demolished. We do not know where endangered and other bats hibernated, if they returned to the Micron site, found other sites to roost or perished. Bats eat thousands of insects a night and a change in their population may increase the likelihood of mosquito borne diseases, which cause illness and sometimes death to animals including humans.

The I-81/I-481 project presents a dual challenge to the county regarding noise and air quality. Current noise barriers may or may not be adequate. Air 'A' Cuse has some air monitors set up for the highway project, but these are not adequate for Micron's construction impact. Our committee recommends that the County solicit public feedback and establish ongoing noise and air monitoring of any air, ground or rail interchanges involving transport of materials needed for construction and operations of Micron's plants.

What about our air? Micron applied for and received Title V Air Quality permitting despite the findings of hazardous air pollution. Micron operations will emit tons of fluorinated air emissions, majority being PFAS forever chemicals, which will leave the facility stacks and exhaust vents. It will be a major source pollutant of carbon monoxide, greenhouse gases and particulate matter, as well as volatile organic compounds and nitrogen oxide. All of these air pollutants affect human health. In addition, the drift of these air pollutants will land on soil and surface waters, which in the case of forever chemicals like PFAS which bio accumulate, may pollute our food source from farms and animals. Currently the surrounding agricultural area baseline monitoring done by the DEC shows PFAS at or near zero. We'd like to ensure that it stays that way.

The tale about water is not so reassuring, with PFAS in Lake Ontario already at 2 ppt and Micron's wastewater discharge destined to further pollute that freshwater lake.

Page 35 of Micron's 2026 Sustainability Report

<https://www.micron.com/content/dam/micron/global/public/programs/sustainability/documents/micron-technology-2026-sustainability-report.pdf>

Identifies Actions for Air Emissions, Energy, Wastewater and Hazardous Waste. We recommend the County review Micron's Plan and then develop its own Sustainability action plan for Micron, outlining what needs to be in place for Micron to receive a green light to begin operations in Clay. In addition, Micron, not Onondaga County must own the liability for any environmental harm related to its plant construction and operations.

Together, we need to get this right and ensure that our air and drinking water remain pristine for all to enjoy in the decades to come. The NYS Environmental Amendment to the Constitution : Clean Air, Clean Water, and A Healthful Environment for All, demands nothing less.

Now you will hear from other members of the Sustain CNY Environmental Committee. I'd like to introduce Don Hughes.



Hassina K. Adams
CLERK

Nicole Watts
CHAIRWOMAN

Spencer Berg
DEPUTY CLERK

Speaker #

To be completed by
Legislature
STAFF ONLY

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SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

Don Hughes

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Sutton NY

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

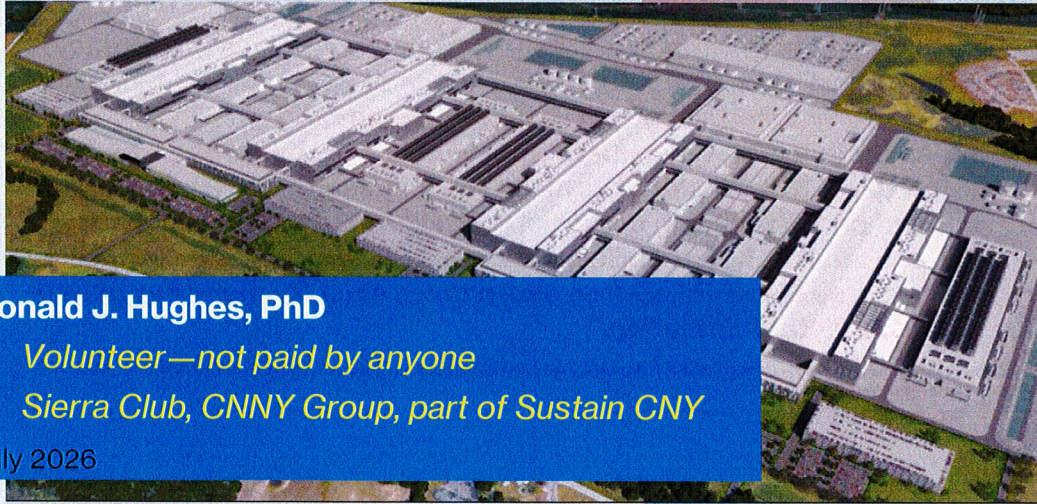
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☐ In-Person ☐ By Email ☐ By Mail

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Micron in Clay, NY



Donald J. Hughes, PhD

- *Volunteer—not paid by anyone*
- *Sierra Club, CNNY Group, part of Sustain CNY*

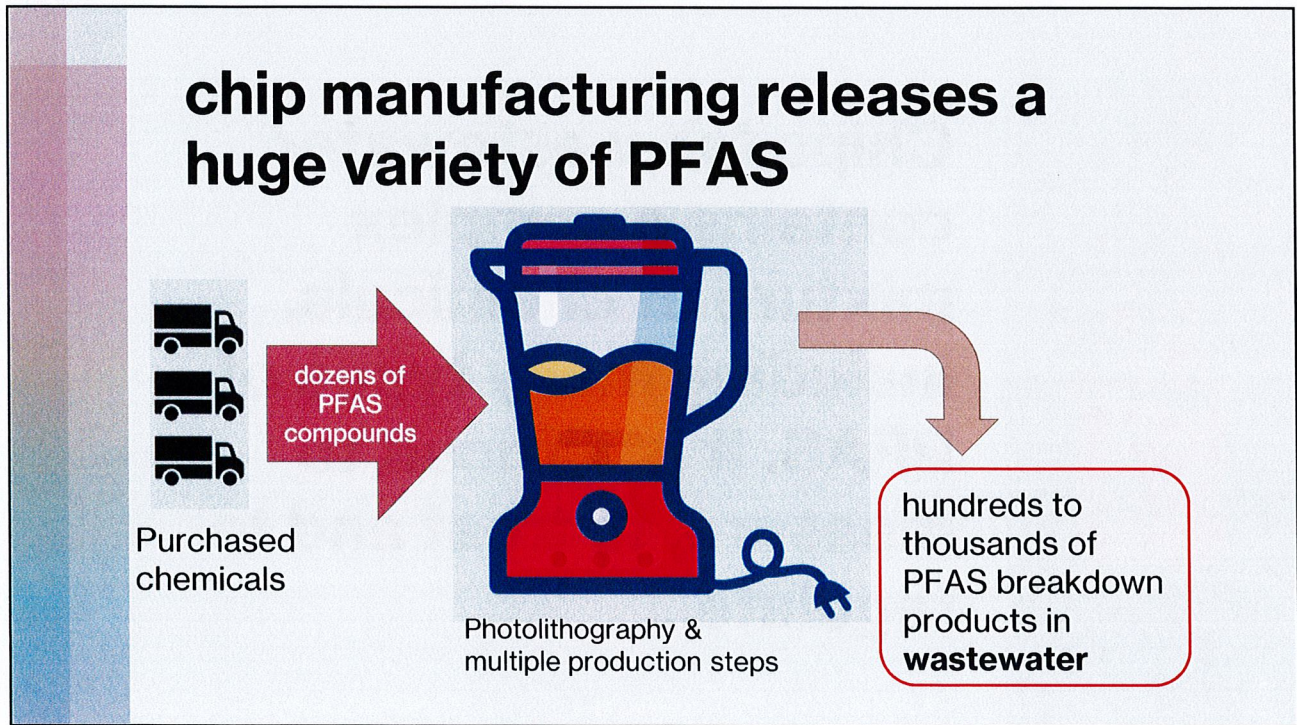
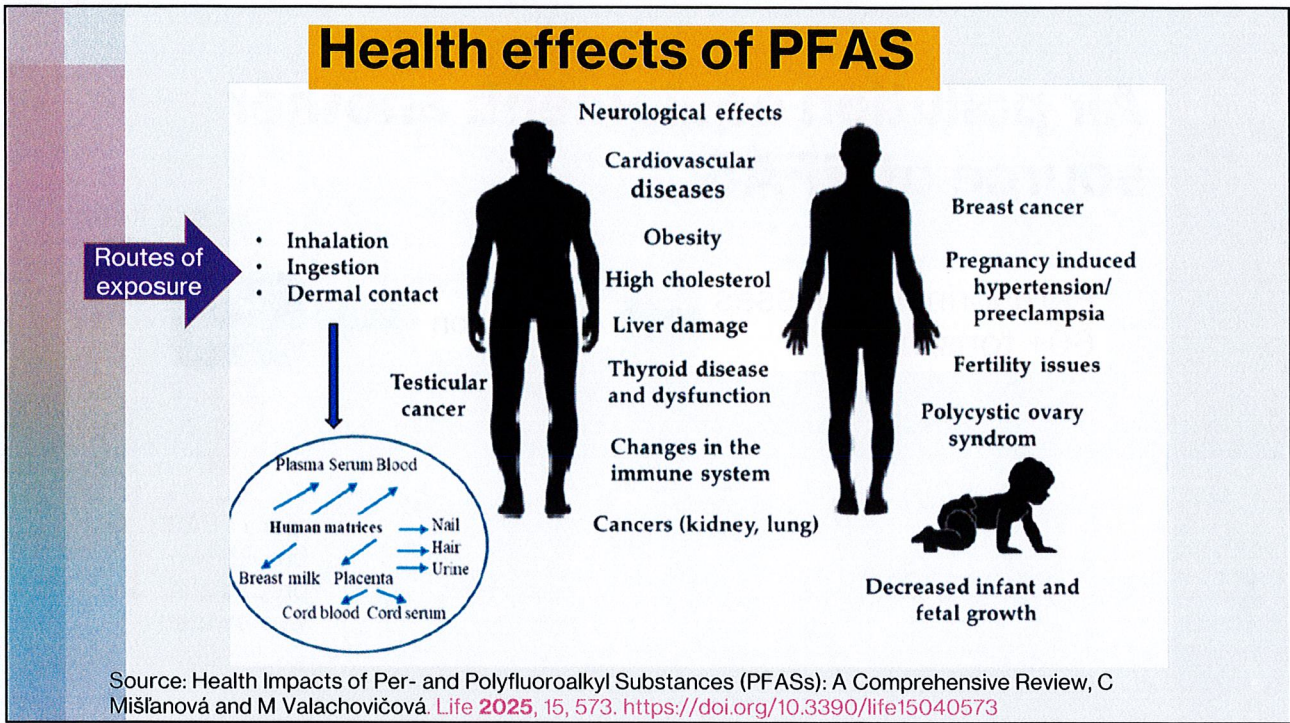
July 2026

Chemical inputs

100 – 200 tons chemicals/day, 365 day/year

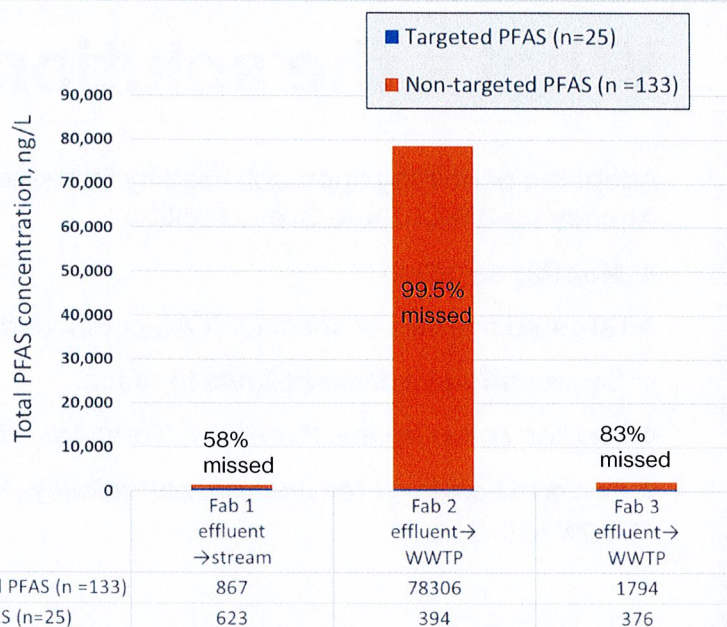
wide array of chemicals used:

- PFAS = perfluorinated alkyl substances (liquids)
- PFC = perfluorinated compounds (gases) e.g. NF_3 & CF_4
- triazoles
- compounds with heavy metals (copper, mercury, cobalt)
- solvents, adhesives, photoresist
- acids (H_2SO_4 & HCl liquid solutions)
- highly toxic gases: arsine, phosphine



Targeted v. non- targeted PFAS analysis of fab wastewater

Source: Paige Jacob, Krista A. Barzen-Hanson, and Damian E. Helbling (2021)



The SPDES permit for Oak Orchard is inadequate

- Uses EPA Method to test for 40 PFAS once every 3 months
- Sets “action levels” @10 ng/L for 2 PFAS (PFOA & PFOS)
- If an action level is exceeded...
 - additional monitoring
 - source must be tracked down
 - corrective action as needed
- No limits or action levels set for other 38 monitored PFAS
- Ignores hundreds of untested PFAS



Hassina K. Adams
CLERK

Nicole Watts
CHAIRWOMAN

Spencer Berg
DEPUTY CLERK

Speaker #

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SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

Lisa Duke

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

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Oak Orchard Industrial Waste Water Treatment Plant Process Review Concerning PFAS

Lisa Druke (Retired Process Engineer, B.S.ChemE, MBA)
County Legislature Environmental Protection Committee Public Hearing
July 21, 2026

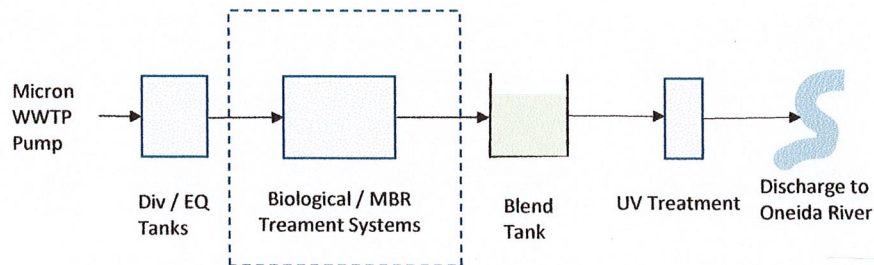
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- Present observations and a potential solution for consideration

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- Biological treatment removes organics; the MBR removes solids — **neither removes PFAS**
- PFAS precursors transformed into **short and ultra-short-chain PFAS** — harder to retain, **not destroyed**, and they pass through
- **Concern: Significant % of the PFAS and other Contaminants of Concern discharge to the Oneida River**

Onondaga County Legislature Public Hearing July 21, 2026

IWWTP FAB 2 Expansion

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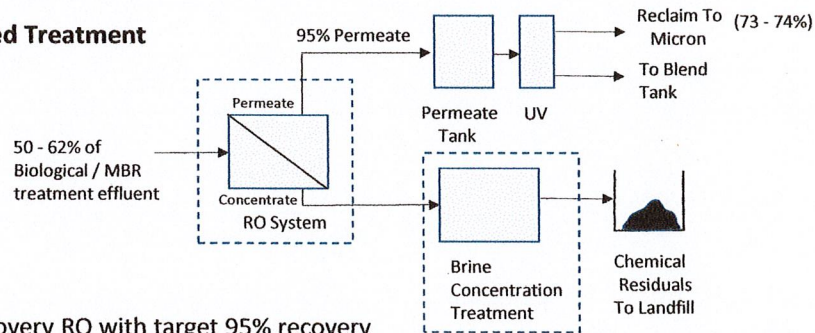
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- **Concern: Only 50 – 62% biological effluent is planned for advanced treatment**
- **Biological treated effluent continues to discharge direct to Oneida River**

Onondaga County Legislature Public Hearing July 21, 2026

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Advanced Treatment

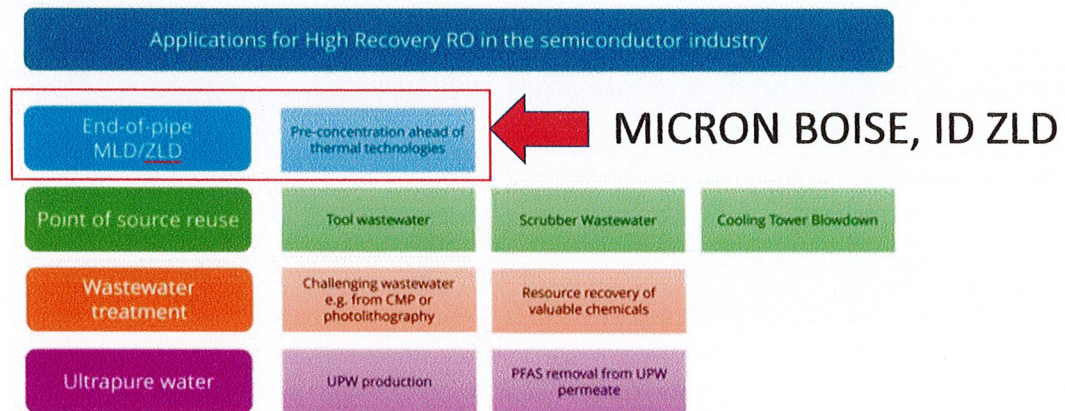


- High Recovery RO with target 95% recovery
- RO brine stream is the rejects PFAS, metals and other Contaminants of Concern (CoC).
- Brine thermal treatment evaporates, crystallizes to solids → No liquid waste discharged
- Concern – not all biological/MBR effluent is treated with Advanced Treatment, why not?

Onondaga County Legislature Public Hearing July 21, 2026

Semiconductor Industry

Reference [3]



Applications for High Recovery RO in the semiconductor industry

Onondaga County Legislature Public Hearing July 21, 2026

Semiconductor Industry

Semiconductor plants using / constructing full or near ZLD

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Onondaga County Legislature Public Hearing July 21, 2026

Conclusion

To Protect Human Health / Protect the Watershed:

- SEMICONDUCTOR manufacturers "End of Pipe" trend to ZLD/MLD includes MICRON (Boise, Idaho), why not Oak Orchard?
- Significant improvement ask → Expand the advanced treatment process (**ADD MORE UNITS**) to treat **ALL** of the biological effluent to protect human health
- 100% Advanced treatment will remove harmful PFAS and other CoC and protect the watershed → ★ Standard

Onondaga County Legislature Public Hearing July 21, 2026

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Hassina K. Adams
CLERK

Nicole Watts
CHAIRWOMAN

Speaker #

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Spencer Berg
DEPUTY CLERK

SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

John Przepiora

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

For which **topic**, **resolution** or **local law**, being discussed at this meeting, are you submitting testimony?

How are you submitting your accompanying written statement? This is **required** to enter statements as part of the legislative record.

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John Przepiora

July 21, 2026 Onondaga County Legislature Environmental Protection Committee Public Hearing

Statement of John Przepiora, PE, retired, President, GreeningUSA, Inc.

Page 1 of 2

John Przepiora is a Syracuse resident and a retired Professional Engineer. He currently serves as President of GreeningUSA a local not for profit that advocates for sustainable development. Previously Mr. Przepiora was Syracuse's Commissioner of Water and City Engineer.

There are a number of environmental risks associated with the industrialization of the northern part of Onondaga County related to Micron's development, including the treatment of wastewater as others have mentioned.

Other impacts, to name just two, include those relating to the 12,000 vehicles Micron plans to accommodate in its parking lot and the carbon footprint of induced population growth. 12,000 parking spaces will induce traffic and impact air quality, energy consumption, and require increased investment in infrastructure, and adversely impact livability.

The climate footprint of housing development to serve induced population growth must not be ignored. While Onondaga County's OnPlan promotes laudable smart growth solutions, household and related commercial development are not without environmental impact. Assuring this development is accomplished in a sustainable manner will be a challenge which must not be overlooked. OnPlan offers some solutions but will they be followed?

In addition, while OnPlan prioritizes smart growth, community mobility, preserving ag land and green and blueways, the polluting impacts of industrial development and greenhouse gas emissions are not given necessary attention. And though public engagement is given lip service in OnPlan, it has been lacking in Micron's development. The public must be kept informed and involved. Meetings such as this one are important in order for public officials to hear the public's concerns, but the challenge will be for officials, such as the county executive and deputy, the WEP commissioner, and OCIDA to transparently share information and seriously consider public input, for



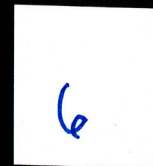
Hassina K. Adams
CLERK

Nicole Watts
CHAIRWOMAN

Spencer Berg
DEPUTY CLERK

Speaker

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SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

Paul Paul Doodly

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

For which **topic**, **resolution** or **local law**, being discussed at this meeting, are you submitting testimony?

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Paul Doody

Paul Doody Remarks

Onondaga County Legislature – Environmental Committee Meeting

July 21, 2026

Thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight, my name is Paul Doody – introduce myself.

I hope you'll indulge me as I wax philosophic for a moment

- Something I've learned over the past 18 months closely following the Micron development shows we are applying the bare minimum effort for environmental protection with this generationally transforming project.
- I want to thank Micron for their efforts with developing a pipeline of technical employees, they have done some great stuff with our local education system that goes above and beyond the bare minimum and looks to the future, so then why is the environment getting the short end of the stick? A couple examples
 - EIS public review process, DEC public review on permits had no engagement efforts and only allowed minimum review times for this massive project, AND
 - Both blew off many comments with rationale to the effect “we did everything according to law and regulations” – well duh that's the bare minimum

We can and should do better to protect our grandchildren and their grandchildren from potential liabilities and problems down the road from discharges of chemicals that today may not be fully regulated but ones that are likely to be or could be in the future.

Lisa and I have identified a number of risks associated with the Oak Orchard IWWTP and provided them to Cydney Johnson and the county's current engineering team. They are also included in the booklet Todd distributed, I hope you will review the details. The risks range from

- Risks Micron won't agree to pay for entire IWWTP costs, to
- Superfund liability down the road from discharges to the Oneida River and disposal of contaminated solid wastes, to
- Risks to water supply in Lake Ontario (approximate location of OCWA water intake is in your binder – note that OCWA has confirmed there is a connection), to
- Risks from leaking transmission pipelines carrying high volumes of industrial wastewater from Micron under pressure, as well as a number of other risks.

I would be remiss if I didn't offer few examples where we should go beyond the bare minimum on the environmental front which will also help reduce identified risks



Hassina K. Adams
CLERK

Nicole Watts
CHAIRWOMAN

Spencer Berg
DEPUTY CLERK

Speaker

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SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

Joe Heath

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Onondaga Nation

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

For which **topic, resolution** or **local law**, being discussed at this meeting, are you submitting testimony?

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Joe Heath

JOE'S COMMENTS--ONONDAGA COUNTY

HEARING FROM
THE PEOPLE

1) I WANT TO BEGIN BY THANKING THE CHAIR & THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THIS PUBLIC HEARING—

a) IT IS REFRESHING AFTER SO MANY YEARS,

b) IT IS SO IMPORTANT THAT THE PUBLIC CAN BE HEARD ON THIS HUGE DECISION

i) THE MOST IMPORTANT DECISION WE HAVE FACED AS A COMMUNITY IN DECADES

c) THIS IS CERTAINLY A MUCH BETTER TIME & LOCATION THAN OTHER RECENT, SO-CALLED PUBLIC HEARINGS—ON THE 14TH FLOOR, IN THE MIDDLE OF A WORK DAY,

PAUSE

2) THANK DON HUGHES & SCIENTISTS FOR BREAKING DOWN THE REALITY OF THE 500 FOREVER CHEMICALS WHICH WILL BE USED IN THIS PLANT,

a) WHEN THEY ARE USED IN THE PLANT,

b) THEY WILL COME OUT OF THE PLANT—

c) MOSTLY IN THE MILLIONS OF GALLONS OF WASTE WATER EVERY DAY,

PAUSE

3) WE HAVE JUST BEEN REMINDED THAT THESE 100s OF PFAS WILL BE DUMPED INTO THE ONEIDA RIVER.

4) THIS WILL POLLUTE THE WATERS OF ANOTHER AREA SACRED TO THE ONONDAGA NATION & THE HAUDENOSAUNEE—THREE RIVERS—

a) THIS IS LOCATED WITHIN THE ONONDAGA HOMELANDS & NATION LEADERS HAVE A STEWARDSHIP OBLIGATION—READ ¶ 1--

- b) THREE RIVERS IS WHERE THE GRAND COUNCIL OFTEN MET BEFORE THE ARRIVAL OF THE COLONISTS—
 - i) ONEIDAS—FROM THE EAST,
 - ii) SENECA & CAYUGA FROM THE WEST,
 - iii) MOHAWKS FROM THE NORTH,
- c) TOWN OF CLAY'S WEBSITE REFLECTS THIS HISTORY, **ALSO**
- d) THE EASTERN SHORE OF LAKE ONTARIO WAS RECENTLY ACKNOWLEDGED BY N.O.A.A. AS HISTORIC ONONDAGA TERRITORY,
- e) THIS IS IN THE ONONDAGA'S HOMELANDS,
- f) SO, WHAT HAPPENS HERE IS DEEPLY CONCERNING TO THE NATION,

PAUSE

- 5) IT IS A MYSTERY WHY \$1 BILLION WILL BE POURED INTO OAK ORCHARD, WHEN PFAS WILL NOT BE REMOVED?
 - a) BIOLOGICAL TREATMENT & ULTRA VIOLET DISINFECTION—
 - i) WILL NOT REMOVE PFAS
 - b) THERE ARE STATE REGULATIONS ON ONLY 2 OF THE 100s OF PFAS,
 - c) 100s WILL BE SECRET, DUE TO SUBCONTRACTORS'S CLAIMS OF PROPRIETARY INFORMATION,
 - d) IMPOSSIBLE TO TEST FOR IN THE WASTE STREAM,

PAUSE

- 6) THE FISH DOWN STREAM WILL ALSO BE POLLUTED—
 - a) PFAS BIOACCUMULATE IN THE FISH &
 - b) MORE & MORE PEOPLE WILL BE POISONED,

FALSE

7) IF A ZERO-LIQUID-DISCHARGE TREATMENT PLANT IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR THE MICRON PLANT IN IDAHO,

a) WHY SHOULD WE NOT INSIST ON THE SAME PROTECTION HERE?

PAUSE

8) WE NEED TO EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION FOR THE STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE—THEY JUST SUED DuPONT & 3 M & OTHER PFAS MANUFACTURER—MORE BOLD LEADERSHIP FROM TISH JAMES,

a) BUT THE STATE IS ALSO HELPING DEFEND THE RECENTLY FILED CITIZENS' SUIT FOR BETTER ENVIRONMENTAL DECISIONS AROUND MICRON

b) WE NEED TO FACE THIS PFAS PROBLEM SQUARELY

9) KICKING 500 DANGEROUS CHEMICALS [SOME CARCINOGENIC] DOWN THE ROAD IS NOT GOOD LEADERSHIP.

a) IT IS NOT RESPONSIBLE,

b) IT JEOPARDIZES PUBLIC HEALTH,

PAUSE

10) WE HAVE NOT LEARNED FROM RECENT HISTORY—

a) ONE SACRED SITE WAS TURNED INTO THE MOST POLLUTED LAKE IN THE COUNTRY,

b) A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO, STATE HEALTH DEPT RELEASED A STUDY—

i) DOCUMENTING THAT REFUGEES THAT EAT FISH FROM ONONDAGA LAKE HAVE

ii) DANGEROUSLY HIGH LEVELS OF PFAS IN THEIR BLOOD,

PAUSE

11) WE SHOULD NOT REPEAT THE SAME MISTAKE,

a) WE SHOULD NOT BE BLINDED BY THE PROMISE OF THE JOBS,

- b) THE SPEAKERS THIS EVENING DON'T WANT TO STOP THE PLANT,
 - i) WE JUST WANT TO ENSURE THAT IT WILL NOT POISION PEOPLE,
(1) OR THE WATERS & AIR
- c) LET'S FOLLOW THE DIRECTION OF THE HAUDENOSAUNEE GREAT LAW OF PEACE—
 - i) LET US PUT OUR MINDS TOGETHER &
 - ii) DEVELOP SOLLUTIONS THAT WILL BENEFIT EVERYONE &
 - iii) PROTECT THE WATERS & NATURAL WORLD FOR 7 GENERATIONS YET TO COME.

The Onondaga People wish to bring about a healing between themselves and all others who live in this region that has been the homeland of the Onondaga Nation since the dawn of time.

The Nation and its people have a unique spiritual, cultural, and historic relationship with the land, which is embodied in the *Gayanashagowa*, the Great Law of Peace.

This relationship goes far beyond federal or state legal concepts of ownership, possession, or other legal rights.

The people are one with the land and consider themselves stewards of it.

It is the duty of the Nation's leaders to work for a healing of the land, to protect it, and to pass it on to future generations.

The Onondaga Nation brings this action on behalf of its people in the hope that it will hasten the process of reconciliation and bring lasting justice, peace, and respect among all who inhabit this area.



Hassina K. Adams
CLERK

Nicole Watts
CHAIRWOMAN

Speaker #

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Spencer Berg
DEPUTY CLERK

SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

Andrew Bowes

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Van Buren

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

Clean Water

For which **topic, resolution** or **local law**, being discussed at this meeting, are you submitting testimony?

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Hassina K. Adams
CLERK

Nicole Watts
CHAIRWOMAN

Spencer Berg
DEPUTY CLERK

Speaker #

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SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

Ray D'haolandr

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

Manlius

For which **topic, resolution** or **local law**, being discussed at this meeting, are you submitting testimony?

Wash water Micron

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11

SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

Todd Fitzsimmons

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Forever Chemicals

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

Cicero

For which **topic**, **resolution** or **local law**, being discussed at this meeting, are you submitting testimony?

Pfas waste water

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TODD FITZSIMMONS

Public comment · Onondaga County Legislature, Environmental Protection Committee · July 21, 2026 · ~5-6 minutes · closes by introducing his daughters

PFAS is so toxic to human health that the EPA determined there is no safe level for PFAS. The federal maximum contaminant level for drinking water was set at 4 parts per trillion — not because it is safe, but because that is a level that can be measured and enforced. One part per trillion is one second in 32,000 years. Or a single drop of water in four Olympic-size swimming pools.

And PFAS is like glitter. It never goes away. It just accumulates — day after day, year after year. In fact, it's accumulating in our blood. Every person in this room likely has PFAS in their blood right now. PFAS has been linked to cancer, high blood pressure, thyroid disease, kidney cancer, and childhood development.

And it has also been found to be a real pain in the ass — if you're in the semiconductor manufacturing business. Or maybe if you're the one responsible for protecting human health, and your boss is in the economic development business.

The semiconductor industry depends on PFAS in its manufacturing processes, and has for decades — millions of tons of them. It can't exist without them. You can't make missiles, or cell phones, or computers, without semiconductor chips.

Back when the EPA was doing its job, and noticed a lot of people downstream from DuPont and 3M were dying, they started regulating them.

The market found a way around those regulations, and those fine folks at DuPont introduced a new PFAS called GenX — unregulated, and, according to them, also safe. About the time the bell in the cash register quit ringing, GenX was discovered to be just as toxic, and so the EPA regulated it too. Thank god we had the EPA protecting us.

The semiconductor industry didn't pack up shop and go home. They just started using other kinds of PFAS that weren't regulated. And this cycle has been repeating ever since. Right now there are forty types of PFAS that are regulated — and the semiconductor industry is using hundreds of others that aren't. All of them are toxic. Their business model is to stay one molecule ahead of the regulations. It's not their responsibility to protect human health -- only to follow the law, and the lawmakers.

In fact, Micron has promised to limit its discharge to the limits in the SPDES permit. That sounds great — until you realize there are no limits for PFAS in that permit.

The semiconductor industry spent 19 million dollars on lobbying during the last presidential race. Last year, the EPA was in the process of introducing new regulations that would finally address industrial discharge — when the new administration, on day one, cancelled them. The CHIPS Act had included millions of dollars for a program called PFAS Reduction and Innovation in Semiconductor Manufacturing — to find a way to balance the needs of the chip fabs against human health. That funding was eliminated by Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick, who was quoted as saying, at the groundbreaking just up the road: "This groundbreaking only got scheduled at the end of

December — because the Trump administration cleared out all of the environmental and other things that tend to get in the way."

Now the EPA is trying to roll back the PFAS regulations we already have for drinking water. Protecting human health is not as important as economic development.

Thank god, then, that we live in a state that spends 3.6 billion dollars a year on a Department of Environmental Conservation that protects us from would-be polluters. Right? After forty years of watching this agency in action, I can tell you, from my own personal experience, that is not even close to what they do. I would need hours to tell you my stories about an agency that is extremely good at appearing to protect human health — while it is actually protecting the interests of politicians and donors.

I've watched them direct polluters to put their pollution into the air instead of the water — because you can't measure it. I watched a local man get promoted after I showed his boss proof that he'd had a free hunting camp built by the very contractors he was favoring on cleanup projects. He was put in charge of Major Oil Storage Facilities. His name was Joe McDonald.

That is why I got involved in this project. The other reason is that last year I watched my mother die a very painful, slow death from cancer — a beautiful, strong woman who spent the last month of her life begging people to get her a gun so she could end it.

My daughters have her brains, and her beautiful eyes. And since I only have five minutes — I'd like you to meet them.



Hassina K. Adams
CLERK

Nicole Watts
CHAIRWOMAN

Spencer Berg
DEPUTY CLERK

Speaker

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12

SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

Kristina Fitzsimmons

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Forever Chemicals

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

Cicero

For which **topic**, **resolution** or **local law**, being discussed at this meeting, are you submitting testimony?

PFAS

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KRISTINA FITZSIMMONS

Public comment · Onondaga County Legislature, Environmental Protection Committee · July 21, 2026 · ~5½ minutes

[Opening — read exactly as written:]

Good evening, members of the ~~Onondaga County Legislature~~ *Env. Protection Committee*. My name is Kristina Fitzsimmons. I'm a recruiter in engineering and power generation, and a resident of the Syracuse area. I'm here to speak about the serious PFAS concerns with the Micron semiconductor project in Clay and the risks its wastewater poses to our local waterways and drinking water supply.

I want to talk about the plant being built at Oak Orchard to treat Micron's wastewater — and where that water goes.

At full buildout, it will discharge up to 33 and a half million gallons a day — 12 billion gallons a year — of PFAS-laden water into the Oneida River. That flows to Lake Ontario, right past the drinking water intake for 500,000 of us, and on down the St. Lawrence, where 3 million more people drink — through the Thousand Islands, where my family has lived for 200 years, and which native people revered as the Garden of the Great Spirit for a thousand years before that.

My great-grandfather, Lowell Fitzsimmons — who I named my son after — chaired the Hudson and Black River Regulating Boards. He spent his life balancing human health against economic development. It is hard, honest work — exactly the work the DEC is supposed to do.

Under its charter, and on a budget of 3.6 billion dollars a year, the DEC is required — I am quoting the law — "to conserve, improve and protect its

natural resources and environment, and to prevent, abate and control water, land and air pollution, in order to enhance the health, safety and welfare of the people of the state." But the DEC is run by political appointees, under real pressure to expedite permits so development can move — and this is the largest economic development project in the country's history.

Here is what that pressure produced. Last month, in your own meeting, Regional Director Dereth Glance was asked directly: does Micron's permit contain enforceable PFAS limits? She said yes. But Director Glance is not a chemist or an environmental scientist — her degree is in political theory — and she was wrong. In a follow-up letter in your handout, she admitted it does not. What the permit has is something they call an "enforceable action level."

That is smoke and mirrors. An action level is not a limit. (Pause...) This one covers just two of the hundreds of PFAS compounds Micron uses, and sets enforceable limits for none of them. Exceed it, and all it triggers is more testing and a minimization program — and once that starts, even the testing can go away. The only testing actually required is four samples a year. Four jars — on a pipe carrying 12 billion gallons, with a method that misses over 90% of what is actually in the water.

Look at Seneca Meadows, the largest landfill in the state. It had leachate near 13,000 parts per trillion of PFAS — over 3,000 times the drinking water limit. It had an action level, and no enforceable limit. So today they truck 40 million gallons of it a year to a Buffalo sewage plant, Bird Island, never designed to remove PFAS — and it discharges straight into the Niagara River

and Lake Ontario. The discharge never stopped. It just moved. Action levels do not stop toxic discharges. Enforceable limits do — and this same permit proves the DEC knows how: for mercury, they wrote a hard, enforceable limit. For PFAS, they chose not to. I won't guess why. And I won't guess why they also refused to require the testing methods that would actually show what is being discharged.

The DEC says it is not required to write enforceable PFAS limits, (and for a Class B waterway like ours, that is technically true) — the only standard on the books was written to keep fish alive, not to protect the people who drink the water. But "not required" is not "not allowed." Their own charter requires them to use every ^{does not mean} reasonable means to keep pollution out of our water. They could set a real limit tomorrow. They are choosing an action level instead.

That is why we — and more than 2,000 petition signers — are asking this Legislature to require enforceable PFAS limits in this permit, before the plant is built. The draft resolution is in your evidence package, with the names of every signer asking you to do the same.

[Closing — read exactly as written.]

I urge you to take strong action to protect our community's water resources and public health. Thank you for your time.



Hassina K. Adams
CLERK

Nicole Watts
CHAIRWOMAN

Spencer Berg
DEPUTY CLERK

Speaker #

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13

SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

For which **topic, resolution** or **local law**, being discussed at this meeting, are you submitting testimony?

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Riley Fitzsimmons
Forever Chemicals
Cicero

RILEY FITZSIMMONS

Public comment · Onondaga County Legislature, Environmental Protection Committee · July 21, 2026 · ~4½ minutes

Good evening. My name is Riley Fitzsimmons. I'm a student in Manlius, and I've spent more than 2,000 hours doing community service here in this ~~Area~~ county. I'm here for a simple reason. I don't want another kid to have to watch their grandmother die the way I watched mine — a slow, painful death from cancer.

[pause]

My sister showed you what this permit does. I want to show you that it does not have to be this way — because other places, facing this same company and these same chemicals, made a different choice.

Start with Boise. Micron has run its plant there for decades. PFAS has turned up in the Boise River downstream — but because nobody ever set a limit, and nobody ever took a baseline sample first, the source is "disputed," and so nobody is responsible for anything. That is not a mystery. That is simply what happens when all you do is monitor. And it is the exact future this permit is building for us.

Now look at Virginia. Last year after discovering contamination of their drinking water they passed House Bill 2050 — the Occoquan Reservoir PFAS Reduction Program. A Democrat wrote it. A Republican governor signed it. It requires the semiconductor plants discharging into that reservoir — and Micron's own Manassas fab is one of them — to bring their PFAS down to the federal drinking water limit. And it has teeth: if they go over, the state

has to tighten the permit. Same company. Same forever chemicals. Two million Virginians got an enforceable limit — because their leaders, in both parties, required it. The difference between Virginia and us is not the science. It is leadership.

And the technology to do even better already exists. It is called zero liquid discharge. Instead of treating wastewater and releasing it into a river, a chip fab plant recovers and reuses almost all of its water, and sends virtually nothing out. Semiconductor makers elsewhere are already moving toward it. Yes, it costs more. But it means the PFAS never reaches the Oneida River, never reaches Lake Ontario, never reaches the Thousand Islands and never reaches our tap. That is what real protection looks like — not four jars a year.

I want to say something directly to this committee, because I think what has been put on you is not fair.

Protecting our drinking water from these chemicals was supposed to be the job of the EPA and the DEC. That is what they are funded to do. But the first federal rule ever written to control PFAS from plants like this was withdrawn by the current administration. The EPA has also pushed its own deadlines out and moved to repeal others. And our own DEC just wrote "monitor," and walked away. When every agency above you steps back, the responsibility does not disappear. It lands right here, on this committee. That is not fair to you. But it is real. Tonight, you are the only ones standing between that pipe and the people downstream.

And here is the part that should give you hope: you still can stand there. The contract is not signed. The design is barely a third finished. The bond is not authorized. Everything my sister asked for can still go into this plant if you act before that window closes.

I am 16 years old. The people who will be drinking this water long after everyone in this room is gone are my generation, and one day our children. You have a chance tonight that Boise never got — to draw the line before the pipe is even built. It is my generation's future you are deciding here today.

I started by telling you about my grandmother. Let me end there too. I don't want my children, my grandchildren, or the millions of people downstream to ever have to do what I did — sit beside someone they love, and watch her die a slow, painful death from cancer. Tonight, you can help make sure they never have to.

Thank you.



Hassina K. Adams
CLERK

Nicole Watts
CHAIRWOMAN

Speaker #

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14

Spencer Berg
DEPUTY CLERK

SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

For which **topic, resolution** or **local law**, being discussed at this meeting, are you submitting testimony?

How are you submitting your accompanying written statement? This is **required** to enter statements as part of the legislative record.

☐ In-Person ☐ By Email ☐ By Mail

Note: If you are an organization responding to an invitation to speak, you may also email this card to the **Clerk of the Legislature** at legislature@onondaga.gov.

Sue Hammond
North Syracuse
Micro, treatment



Hassina K. Adams
CLERK

Nicole Watts
CHAIRWOMAN

Spencer Berg
DEPUTY CLERK

Speaker #

To be completed by
Legislature
STAFF ONLY

15

SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

Liza Bernard

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

Syracuse

For which **topic**, **resolution** or **local law**, being discussed at this meeting, are you submitting testimony?

Waste water

How are you submitting your accompanying written statement? This is **required** to enter statements as part of the legislative record.

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Hassina K. Adams
CLERK

Nicole Watts
CHAIRWOMAN

Spencer Berg
DEPUTY CLERK

Speaker #

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STAFF ONLY

16

SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

Lisa Warnaka

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

Syracuse

For which **topic, resolution** or **local law**, being discussed at this meeting, are you submitting testimony?

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Hassina K. Adams
CLERK

Nicole Watts
CHAIRWOMAN

Spencer Berg
DEPUTY CLERK

Speaker

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SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

Pete Wirth

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Climate Ccraa

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

Fayetteville

For which **topic, resolution** or **local law**, being discussed at this meeting, are you submitting testimony?

GH6, Renewal

How are you submitting your accompanying written statement? This is **required** to enter statements as part of the legislative record.

☐ In-Person ☐ By Email ☐ By Mail

Note: If you are an organization responding to an invitation to speak, you may also email this card to the **Clerk of the Legislature** at legislature@onondaga.gov.

My name is Peter Wirth. I'm Vice President of Climate Change Awareness & Action.

A LOCAL ORGANIZATION REPRESENTING
1,400 MEMBERS

I came to CNY in 1967 as a Freshhman at the College of Forestry and stayed. I love CNY

I don't want to keep it as it is because we all need to change and adapt and that is hard.

Saying that we need to be intentional in how we change. We need to weigh the pluses and minuses.

A few years ago Micron organized two face to face meetings in Onondaga County with environmental organizations for our input. I had the opportunity to meet Micron's Vice President of their Sustainability division. Initially we were told that, like their manufacturing plant in Singapore where there are 36,000 solar panels installed across the rooftops of their manufacturing plant and airport rooftop solar would be installed at their Clay plant.

This was the first of a number of promises that disappeared as time went on. Today we can't even get our e-mails responded to. THERE WILL BE NO ROOFTOP SOLAR ON THE CLAY PLANT.

At the same time we were told by our County Exec and the President of Micron that the massive electrical needs of Micron - two states worth and growing would be met by 100% renewable energy. I'll repeat that 100% renewable energy. And this was than repeated by every politician on the state and federal level and every economic development committee. FOR ELECTRICAL

NY STATE LEGISLATION

Renewable energy as defined by the CLCPA is wind, solar, and hydro.

After about two years that promise disappeared also as there was a shift to the term "Clean energy" which includes nuclear. ALSO

Nuclear is carbon free which is a positive in regard to climate change. It is also the REDUCING GREEN HOUSE GAS EMISSIONS



Hassina K. Adams
CLERK

Nicole Watts
CHAIRWOMAN

Speaker #

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18

Spencer Berg
DEPUTY CLERK

SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

For which **topic, resolution** or **local law**, being discussed at this meeting, are you submitting testimony?

How are you submitting your accompanying written statement? This is **required** to enter statements as part of the legislative record.

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Katie Mulligan
Jobs to more America
Minoa



Hassina K. Adams
CLERK

Nicole Watts
CHAIRWOMAN

Spencer Berg
DEPUTY CLERK

Testimony

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STAFF ONLY

19

SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

Dina Pollitts McCarthy

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

Clay

For which topic, resolution or local law are you submitting testimony?

Conveyance

Are you offering your testimony in-person or will you be submitting it via mail or email?

☐ In-Person ☐ By Email ☐ By Mail

Are there any sensitive or graphic details in your testimony that may warrant a disclaimer?

☐ No ☐ Yes

Note: If you are an organization responding to an invitation to speak, you may also email this card to the Clerk of the Legislature at legislature@onondaga.gov.



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CLERK

Nicole Watts
CHAIRWOMAN

Spencer Berg
DEPUTY CLERK

Testimony

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Legislature
STAFF ONLY

20

SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

Agay Lane
~~Pearl Dooty~~

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

Baldwinsville Syracuse

For which topic, resolution or local law are you submitting testimony?

~~Micro~~ waste water

Are you offering your testimony in-person or will you be submitting it via mail or email?

☐ In-Person ☐ By Email ☐ By Mail

Are there any sensitive or graphic details in your testimony that may warrant a disclaimer?

☐ No ☐ Yes

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Hassina K. Adams
CLERK

Nicole Watts
CHAIRWOMAN

Spencer Berg
DEPUTY CLERK

Testimony

To be completed by
Legislature
STAFF ONLY

21

SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

Peter King

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

Syracuse

For which topic, resolution or local law are you submitting testimony?

System

Are you offering your testimony in-person or will you be submitting it via mail or email?

☐ In-Person ☐ By Email ☐ By Mail

Are there any sensitive or graphic details in your testimony that may warrant a disclaimer?

☐ No ☐ Yes

Note: If you are an organization responding to an invitation to speak, you may also email this card to the Clerk of the Legislature at legislature@onondaga.gov.

7/21/26, 11:14 AM

Micron's wastewater poses a real risk to our environment

COMMENTARY

Micron's wastewater poses a real risk to our environment

Group warns that plan may not prevent toxic PFAS from contaminating Lake Ontario.

As reported in The Post-Standard ("County picks national contractor for building \$1B Micron wastewater plant," June 21), Onondaga County plans to build a \$1.4 billion to \$2.6 billion industrial treatment plant at its Oak Orchard site to treat 14 million to 17 million gallons per day of wastewater from Micron's chip factories in Clay. The county is using a design-build-operate bid process that limits county Legislature oversight and hides decision-making.

As residents, we are concerned about both the cost and the environmental stakes: Will Micron, the plant's sole user, cover the full cost, or will some fall on taxpayers? Will the county, and ultimately the taxpayers, be liable for contaminants which pass through the treatment plant and ultimately end up in Lake Ontario? And will the plant be redesigned so it does not release hazardous chemicals — including PFAS, the so-called forever chemicals — into our waterways?

The community can voice concerns Tuesday. From 6 to 7:30 p.m., the county Legislature's Environmental Protection Committee will hold a public meeting at Central Library, 447 S. Salina St., Syracuse.

Micron has disclosed that it will use a wide variety of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). These compounds are toxic at very low concentrations in drinking water, persist for hundreds to thousands of years, resist biological treatment and accumulate in fish and wildlife. A 2025 medical review article links long-chain PFAS to

7/21/26, 11:14 AM

Micron's wastewater poses a real risk to our environment

lipid and thyroid disorders, kidney and liver damage, immune and reproductive harm, and cancer, including renal cell carcinoma.

Industry claims that short-chain PFAS are safer, but that is disputed — they are more mobile in water and also toxic and bioaccumulative. For PFOA and PFOS, the two most-studied PFAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's health-based goal is zero: The agency has identified no level in drinking water free of health risk.

The county's consultant, Brown and Caldwell, completed a conceptual design report in 2025 recommending biological treatment and ultraviolet disinfection — technologies that do not remove PFAS. As planned, the first chip factory's wastewater will receive only this level of treatment. Several years later, when the second factory comes online, half to two-thirds of the biological effluent will undergo the advanced treatment — ion exchange plus reverse osmosis — capable of capturing PFAS.

This matters because biological treatment does not destroy PFAS; it merely redistributes them into discharged water, sludge and the air. PFAS not captured by advanced treatment will reach the Oneida River.

Given the high toxicity of PFAS, one would expect the New York state Department of Environmental Conservation to set strict limits on the discharge. It has not. The discharge permit into the Oneida River contains no enforceable numeric limit for any PFAS compound. It sets an "action level" of 10 nanograms per liter for just two — PFOA and PFOS — but exceeding that only triggers agency review; it binds no one. The county's existing Oak Orchard plant already discharges PFOS at 16 nanograms per liter — 60% above that action level, before Micron adds a drop — and still faces no enforceable limit.

Yet on that very same outfall, the state DEC set enforceable numeric limits on other pollutants — mercury, for example, at 1.4 nanograms per liter. The DEC can and does write binding numeric limits when it chooses to. For PFAS, it simply declined.



Hassina K. Adams
CLERK

Nicole Watts
CHAIRWOMAN

Testimony #

To be completed by
Legislature
STAFF ONLY

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Spencer Berg
DEPUTY CLERK

SPEAKER INFORMATION

First and Last Name of Speaker:

Organization/Affiliation (If Applicable)

Town, Village, or City of Residence:

For which topic, resolution or local law are you submitting testimony?

Are you offering your testimony in-person or will you be submitting it via mail or email?

Are there any sensitive or graphic details in your testimony that may warrant a disclaimer?

☐ In-Person ☐ By Email ☐ By Mail

☐ No ☐ Yes

Note: If you are an organization responding to an invitation to speak, you may also email this card to the Clerk of the Legislature at legislature@onondaga.gov.

Michelle manos
The Mgt March
Onondaga
Environment



Outlook

Environmental Protection Special Hearing 7/21/26

From Raymond D'Hollander <[REDACTED]>**Date** Tue 7/21/2026 10:36 PM**To** Office of the Onondaga County Legislature <OnondagaCountyLegislature@onondaga.gov>

NOTICE: This email originated from **outside** of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

Thank you for holding today's Environmental Committee Hearing.

I am a retired professional civil engineer with over 30 years of experience in remediating hazardous waste sites across North America. I have a B.Sc. and M.Eng. in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Cornell University.

Onondaga County is a premier national technical hub for environmental remediation and industrial environmental engineering with over a thousand environmental engineering and science professionals that can provide technical assistance regarding Micron and other issues. Onondaga County-based environmental professionals work on these challenges all across North America.

I support developing the Oak Orchard wastewater treatment plant focusing on industrial wastewater. Most publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) are not designed to handle high industrial wastewater loads, so providing this as a hub for the final polishing of industrial wastewater in northern Onondaga County should provide a higher degree of environmental protection as more industry develops if it is designed and operated properly.

The Oak Orchard plants effluent will need to be compliant with the NYSDEC-issued "State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System" (SPDES) permit. That permit will need to be compliant with state and federal laws and regulations, which provide a minimum standard.

However, Onondaga County Department of Water Environment Protection (OCDWEP) must issue a separate county permit to Micron and other industrial plants for the specific effluent limitations from each of those sources. These are generally negotiated plant by plant based on the nature of their industry and the potential contaminants the plant will include in the effluent they send to the Oak Orchard plant. Section 1.4.2.1 of the November 11, 2025 Conceptual Design Engineering Report for the Oak Orchard plant by Brown and Caldwell provides a brief description of the conceptual nature of the "pretreatment limits" that will be required for the Micron project. Other industrial point sources would likely have different pre-treatment requirements. These pretreatment limits governing the effluent from the industrial point sources, such as Micron, will define the cost and difficulty of providing adequate treatment at the Oak Orchard site. Ideally, the Oak Orchard site will polish the effluent addressing issues like ammonia and other common biological issues that are often difficult for an in-plant industrial wastewater system to address. But the industry-specific contaminants that don't easily biodegrade should be addressed at the original plant source, not in the polishing POTW. Contaminants like PFAS

should not be in effluent from the Micron wastewater system that is then sent to the Oak Orchard plant which is not equipped to address them.

The Micron wastewater treatment plant will already be structured to address the industry-specific contaminants because they are planning to have a high degree of water reclamation use and that will need to be treated before it recycles through the plant. Therefore, the expectation should be that there will be a high degree of pretreatment of effluent water that is sent to the Oak Orchard plant. The OCDWEP permit for discharge to the POTW should reflect this expectation.

When training my junior staff in the origin of Superfund sites, I usually referred to *The Hat in the Hat Comes Back* as the seminal textbook on how a Superfund site comes to be. The book proceeds through the many ways the pink cat ring leaves the bathtub, spreads in the house and then into the yard. I spent much of my career cleaning up the pink cat rings that ended up in the house and yard. The primary lesson learned was that new industrial plants should never let the pink cat ring out of the bathtub in the first place. That is where it is least expensive and easiest to address, and the costs reside with the generator. The OCDWEP permit for discharge to the POTW is a primary tool for preventing the pink cat ring from leaving Micron and the other industrial sites and ending up in the sludges and brines in the Oak Orchard plant or, worse, passing through the plant and ending up in the Oneida River and Lake Ontario. Heavily contaminated sludges and brines will greatly increase disposal costs to Onondaga County. Pass-through contamination to the surface water system now becomes a societal burden that we should have learned must not be created in the first place.

The OCDWEP permit will also be the primary tool to prevent Onondaga County from being responsible for future environmental liabilities as emerging contaminants become heavily regulated in the future. Many hazardous waste remediation sites originated from waste management practices that were legal at that time.

Raymond D'Hollander, P.E.



Outlook

July 21st Public Hearing on Micron's Effect on Water

From Diana Elliott <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 7/21/2026 11:20 PM

To Office of the Onondaga County Legislature <legislature@onondaga.gov>

NOTICE: This email originated from outside of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

Dear County Executive McMahon,

As I missed tonight's public hearing, I am writing to express my concern over the effect on water quality the Micron facility will have, specifically PFAS discharge. From what I've read, there are no actionable limits set by the government. Chemicals that are linked to cancer could enter our environment, impacting millions of people (not to mention wildlife and pets) here and downstream, without any repercussions for the company producing said PFAS. That is irresponsible and neglectful.

We know the story of Love Canal; we know the story of Onondaga Lake and Allied Chemical. Let's not repeat a story we know the unfortunate ending to. As our representative, I implore you to protect the public you serve and their health by requiring the highest protections for water discharge with actionable limits and transparency.

Respectfully,
Diana Elliott



Outlook

Comments for today's public hearing

From Don Hughes <[REDACTED]>**Date** Wed 7/22/2026 12:16 AM**To** Gregory Eriksen <gregoryeriksen@ongov.net>; Office of the Onondaga County Legislature <onondagacountylegislature@ongov.net>

2 attachments (1 MB)

Remarks of D.Hughes for Onondaga Co.Public Hearing-21Jul2026.pdf; Hughes presents-HANDOUT -Onon.Co.Leg Envir.Comm.Public Hearing,21-Jul-2026.pdf;

NOTICE: This email originated from **outside** of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

To Chair Gregg Eriksen and the County Clerk:

I am submitting the attached comments for the **Water, Wastewater, and the Environment Public Hearing** held on July 21, 2026.

I would like to add these overall comments:

- 1) The county legislature should pass a resolution requesting that the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation re-open and modify the SPDES Permit (NY0030317) for the Oak Orchard Wastewater Treatment Plant. The modified permit would expand monitoring and include enforceable PFAS discharge limits based on sound science.
- 2) The county legislature should pass a resolution requiring a user agreement with Micron that contains enforceable PFAS limitations and assigns full liability for release of PFAS and other recalcitrant industrial compounds to Micron.

Draft language for these two resolutions is provided in the packet of printed materials called "Micron & PFAS: The Evidence," as submitted by Todd Fitzsimmons of ForeverChemicals CNY.

Finally, I strongly recommend that the County Legislature engage in direct talks with Micron Technologies to strongly invest in sustainable practices, including:

- work with Onondaga County to build a zero-liquid-discharge treatment plant for industrial wastewater and production of reclaimed water.
- minimize greenhouse gas emissions
- procure 100% of electricity needs from renewable energy sources
- minimize traffic, noise, and air pollution

thank you.

Donald J. Hughes, Ph.D.



=====

Syracuse, NY 13210

=====

"dans les champs de l'observation, le hasard ne favorise que les esprits préparés" ("In the field of observation, chance favors only the prepared mind") **Louis**

Pasteur, French chemist and microbiologist (1822 -1895)



Public Water

From jml5102@aol.com [REDACTED]
Date Wed 7/22/2026 11:14 AM
To Office of the Onondaga County Legislature <legislature@onondaga.gov>
Cc Cody Kelly <ckell1251@gmail.com>; Dale Caswell <[REDACTED]>

NOTICE: This email originated from outside of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

To Whom It May Concern

I was unable to attend the Public Hearing last night regarding Water, Waste Water, and the Environment. But would like to advise the legislature of the situation in our area - namely, we have no Public Water or Sewers. I live on Manhattan Drive which is off of Caugdenoy Road and approximately 7 miles from Micron. There are approximately 72 parcels on Caughdenoy Road, Manhattan Drive, and Fancher Road in this situation. Unfortunately, this has been an uphill battle since Feb. 13, 2023. Some of us have attended Clay Town Hall Meetings and expressed our concern. But we were told by Damian Ulatowski that in order to have Public Water brought to the area we would have to pay approximately \$2000 / year for 30 years. And that would depend on the Town securing a grant for 60%. This would most likely be met with opposition by some homeowners. We have tried contacting Gov. Hochul, Senator Gillibrand, Assemblyman Al Stirpe and have had no response. The only positive help I have had is from County Legislature Cody Kelly and Senator Chris Ryan.

My request is a simple one. I respectfully am asking for additional funding to secure Public Water. The funding would make up for what the Town Of Clay would contribute. In this way, we would satisfy those that would not be able to pay on their own. I can't understand why with so many municipalities, businesses, etc. securing Public Grants why can't we ? I have asked the Town of Clay to direct the Town Engineer who has the responsibility of securing Grants to help. But I assume that since he is a Lead Engineer for C&S Companies his time is more valuable elsewhere. That's not fair to all of us who are without Clean Public Drinking Water !!

Please help !!

Sincerely,

James Laratta

[REDACTED]
Brewerton, NY 13029

[REDACTED]