



PRESS RELEASE

October 4, 2017

## **PROTECT Applauds State Agencies for Stepping in to Scrutinize Controversial Plans to Store Hundreds of Old Railroad Cars in the Adirondack Park**

*Railroad Company says rail cars are on their way to be stored in the Adirondack Park*

*The Department of Environmental Conservation and Adirondack Park Agency say they need to review plans*

### **For more information:**

Peter Bauer, Executive Director: Office 518.685.3088, Cell 518.796.0112

**Lake George, NY** – The controversial new plan by the Saratoga & North Creek Railway, an arm of Iowa Pacific Railway Company, to store hundreds of railroad cars on its rail lines that it leases and owns in Saratoga, Warren and Essex Counties will be scrutinized by state environmental agencies. In the past few days, spokespeople for the Department of Environmental Conservation and Adirondack Park Agency have stated affirmatively that their agencies must review any proposals to bring hundreds of rail cars into the Adirondack Park for long-term storage.

“We applaud the state for stepping in and taking a hard look at this proposal to store hundreds of old rail cars on rail lines in the central Adirondacks, including parts of the Forest Preserve. We think there are many significant environmental and legal issues that must be resolved. This controversial project needs to be reviewed by the APA and DEC and information needs to be disclosed to the public,” said Peter Bauer, executive director of Protect the Adirondacks.

Here is the recent statement from the Adirondack Park Agency:

“Adirondack Park Agency would strongly advise that the Saratoga & North Creek Railway submit a jurisdictional inquiry so we can determine if this project would require an APA permit or even be allowable under New York law,” said an APA spokesman for the agency in the Sun Community News.

Protect the Adirondacks!  
PO Box 769 Lake George NY 12845 (518) 685-3088  
[info@protectadks.org](mailto:info@protectadks.org) [www.protectadks.org](http://www.protectadks.org)  
Like Us on Facebook Follow Us on Twitter @ProtectAdkPark

Here is the recent statement from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

“The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) will closely evaluate any proposal for the storage of railcars, but has not received any such proposal. Storing such cars in the Forest Preserve is concerning and may have environmental impacts that must be carefully analyzed,” said a DEC spokesman in the Daily Gazette.

The Saratoga & North Creek Railway leases rail lines in Saratoga County from the Town of Corinth and in Warren County from Warren County. It owns the Sanford Lake Railway in Hamilton and Essex counties, from North River to the Tahawus Mine.

### **Protect the Adirondacks**

Protect the Adirondacks, Inc. (PROTECT) is a privately funded, IRS-approved not-for-profit organization dedicated to the protection of the 6-million-acre Adirondack Park in northern New York. PROTECT was formed through the merger of the Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks and the Residents’ Committee to Protect the Adirondacks in 2009. PROTECT pursues its mission to protect the Adirondack Park and defend the public “forever wild” Forest Preserve through citizen advocacy, grassroots organizing, education, research, and legal action. PROTECT is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. PROTECT maintains an office in Lake George. For more information see [www.protectadks.org](http://www.protectadks.org).

##