

Statement from Trustee Pedlosky

I have immense respect for your passion. I share it. It has fueled my efforts from the start over 2 years ago. Since getting elected, I've channeled this passion to carry the fight these past 8 months. It has not wavered.

I know our case record intimately. I think I could recite each document in my sleep. I am very, very familiar with the strengths of our case — and its weaknesses. I feel particularly let down by the state agency tasked with determining impact to our historic resources. As you know, the NY State Historic Preservation Office did not take issue with the monopine during the application review process, citing "no adverse effect."

I think I have a clear understanding of the forces we are up against, and the particular fragility of our tiny village. How many 600-person villages, with a savings account of \$132,000, are thriving today?

We are in no position to deplete the village's small savings, sell our open space, or impose an assessment on those struggling amongst us, to fund a legal battle with such odds. I told myself I would continue fighting until such efforts might jeopardize our village. Please understand, Nelsonville can't pay its outstanding legal bills without this settlement, let alone cover future legal representation. The 30K raised by residents is admirable and so humbling. But no public official should make an important decision based on the promise of future fundraising.

I fully understand every reason why you are against this decision. Please know that I've weighed all of your points over and over in my mind. But as someone representing the village, I can't move past the many counterpoints.

I do believe this settlement is the least atrocious of the outcomes Nelsonville faces.

I can only say that I've made this decision in good faith, trying to shield Nelsonville from further harm, but also with deep personal regret.