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SALAMANCA, N.Y. — Seneca Nation Indians are asking federal officials to reject a deal that would allow a Wisconsin tribe run a casino in the Catskills.

Seneca President Robert Odawi Porter recently wrote a letter to U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar saying the deal sought by the Stockbridge-Munsee

Band of Mohicans would be bad public policy and likely unlawful.

The casino proposal and a complementary settlement of a Mohican land claim in central New York are championed by Sen. Charles Schumer and other officials who believe a casino near the lucrative New York City market will boost the economy of the old Borscht Belt.

But the Senecas and the Oneidas, which each run casinos in New York, have denounced the deal.

It's unclear when Interior officials will make a decision.

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