NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CLASS PERIOD: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**A LETTER TO YOUR REPRESENTATIVE**

Hellbender Education

**THE SCENARIO:** A development and entertainment company has proposed the construction of a large mountain resort close to where you live. The resort will include accommodations for thousands of guests, a small casino, a large indoor water park, and several restaurants, spas, a movie theater, and other spaces for entertainment. Many farmers have already agreed to sell their farmland to the company, and the plans seem to be moving forward, but a group of people from around town are starting to realize it may not be such a good idea, as the headwaters of several streams and rivers flow from the proposed construction site. Write a letter to your local representative that discourages them from approving the proposal for the resort’s construction. Use your knowledge of stream order*,* watershed connectivity*,* human impacts*,* and bioindicator speciesto justify your position.

**CHALLENGE:** Propose a solution that might satisfy as many stakeholders as possible (company executives, construction workers, farmers, community members, environmentalists, vacationers, etc.).