

# KILLINGTON RESORT ANNOUNCES UPWARDS of \$6.5 MILLION in IMPROVEMENTS for 2011-12

KILLINGTON, VT – Killington Resort announced a number of projects that will enhance skier and rider experiences for the 2011-12 season.

Most notable is the removal of the Peak Lodge from the 4,100-foot level of Killington Peak. The lodge, constructed as the return station of the original gondola, included a dining facility. "Constructed in the late 1960's, this facility has reached its usable life span, and it is time for it to be replaced," stated Chris Nyberg, president and general manager of Killington/Pico Ski Resort Partners, LLC. The existing building is currently serviced by the K-1 Express Gondola.

Pending permit approvals, the removal of the existing building and the new replacement facility and related infrastructure is expected to cost nearly \$7 million when completed and will consist of a multilevel restaurant and meeting space facility. The structure will be somewhat smaller than the building it is replacing and reside at the same location as the old structure. "Our primary goal is to replace the existing facility with a building designed to provide optimal views from nearly any point inside the building and the exterior design to blend itself to the preexisting location on the landscape," Nyberg explained.

The removal project occurred this summer and the new facility is expected to be constructed the next summer with anticipated completion date of Christmas 2012. The architectural firm of Robert Carl Williams Associates in Pittsfield, Vt., has been retained for design and planning.

This new facility will become the highest gondola served restaurant and meeting space venue in eastern North America. Situated near Killington Peak in the Green Mountains, the 22,000-square-foot facility will provide vistas of the Adirondack Range in New York, the White Mountains of New Hampshire and the Green Mountains of Vermont.

"This facility will be an icon for not only the Killington Region in Central Vermont, but for the entire state. The views and experience that the new facility will provide to our guests will be unsurpassed," Nyberg said.

In addition to the removal of the existing Peak Lodge structure, there were several other important infrastructure projects undertaken this summer to prepare for the construction of the Killington Peak facility. Projects include installations of waste water treatment and fiber optic lines from the summit area of Killington Peak down to the base of the K-1 Express Gondola.

The K-1 Express Gondola base area also got a facelift this summer. The maze area will be covered and heated. Additionally, the gondola car storage area and adjacent guest drop-off area was renovated.

For the 2011-12 season, a new tubing park is located adjacent to East Mountain Road across from the Killington Grand Hotel using the Killington Golf Course Clubhouse as the operations base.

Continued enhancement of the on-snow experience at both Killington Resort and Pico Mountain will take center stage this summer with a dedicated crew that will focus on trail and glade work. "We will be pruning and trimming gladed areas as well as clearing new growth," stated Jeff Temple, director of mountain operations. "Several years ago we began our trail development project. We'll continue the program this year by finishing up projects at Bear Mountain and concentrating on Snowdon and Skye Peak this summer as we continue to enhance skier flow."

Killington Resort continued a substantial investment in its snowmaking system with new replacement snowmaking pipe, hydrants and valves. "We are investing in our grooming fleet with the purchase of three new Prinoth grooming tractors and adding over 150 low energy



KILLINGTON, VT - Great snowmaking, great snow, good Beast. It snows when it is sunny in Killington as the snow guns provide the white stuff when Mother Nature doesn't.

Photo courtesy of Killington Resort

snowmaking guns to the arsenal," Temple stated. "The energy cost to produce air for the snowmaking process is the single largest expense in the production of snow. With the increased cost of all types of energy, making snow as efficiently as possible is critical to provide a quality experience to our guests in an environmentally responsible manner." Man made snow is critical to the sustainability of Killington's snow surfaces and is necessary to survive the weather variables seen in the East.

#### ABOUT KILLINGTON RESORT

Killington Resort sits on 3,000 acres in the heart of the Green Mountains in central Vermont. The Resort boasts more than 70 miles of diverse terrain spread out over six peaks and offers the most expansive lift network and snowmaking system in the East. In addition, the numerous après, dining, shopping and lodging options have made Killington an excellent destination for East Coast skiers and riders for over 50 years.

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