

May 25,2006

Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board
Po Box 69060
Harrisburg, Pa. 17106

Gentlemen:

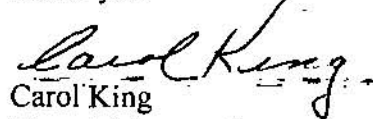
With regard to the issuance of gaming licenses, as a concerned citizen I would like to express my concerns regarding gambling in the Poconos.

We have always been a quiet restful place where people could come to relax. If gaming facilities are allowed here the whole character of the mountains will change. I know the tourist industry favors gaming but all they see is \$\$ signs, they do not see the impact on the rural aspect of the area. As far as jobs are concerned most of these will be low paying jobs since the high paying jobs will be filled by the gaming professionals. And the infrastructure of the area will be highly impacted with the need for better roads than our rural roads and the need for more police and emergency facilities. Who will pay for that? Consider Atlantic City – who would want to live in that city off the Boardwalk!! It certainly is not a very nice place to live. Will the Poconos be destroyed? I think so.

To me it makes far more sense to give the license to an area already having experienced an industrial impact such as the Bethlehem Steel Plant. This area would greatly benefit from a revitalization plan and gaming facilities along with hotel and convention centers would clean up a terrible eyesore. Easy access and fairly good roads are already in place and people coming to play can sleep over in the quiet of the Poconos and spend their days gambling in Bethlehem which is only about a ½ hour away.

Please consider Bethlehem Steel as a perfect place for gaming.

Thank you



Carol King
Mountainhome, Pa.

Municipal Building

**MOUNT POCONO
BOROUGH**

INCORPORATED
1927

May 26 2006

Mr. Tad Decker Chairman
PA Gaming Control Board
PO Box 6960
Harrisburg PA 17106-9060

RE: Official Position on Casinos of the Mount Pocono Borough Council

Dear Chairman Decker:

My Name is John P. Finnerty and I am the President of the Borough Council of Mount Pocono, we operate under a Borough Council type government with a (Non Voting) Mayor, President, and Vice President.

It has come to our attention that our Mayor Nancy Golowich has testified at your Casino Commission hearing at Split Rock as a spokesperson for the Borough of Mount Pocono. The testimony seemingly endorsed the Mount Airy project. This testimony expressed her own personal views and not the official position of the Borough.

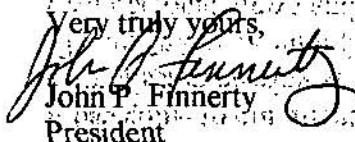
The Borough Council of Mount Pocono has taken no official position or endorsement of either the Mount Airy or Pocono Manor Project.

Our biggest concern is the impact of traffic on our 5 point intersection which at this time is a failing intersection, with the increased traffic the casinos will bring this issue must be addressed.

This letter is being written to clarify the position of the voting members of the Borough Council.

If any questions arise, or you need clarification of our position, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,


John P. Finnerty
President

LETITIA MCPHEDRAN

May 1, 2006

PA. Gaming Control Board
P.O. Box 69060
Harrisburg PA 17106-9060

Dear Gaming Control Board,

Why Pennsylvania is opening up one of its most beautiful areas to gaming is a real question. Please use the control part of your name to keep gaming out of the Poconos. We vacation at Pocono Lake Preserve and hope the area can build up only with homes + hotels + B and Bs.

Use your power and stop both proposed projects in the Pocono area.

Sincerely
Letitia McPhedran

PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

HARRY FORBES
RICHARD A. CARIDI
KARL A. WAGNER JR.

COMMISSIONERS



GARY R. ORBEN
CHIEF CLERK

JAY R. ROSE, ESQ.
COUNTY SOLICITOR

April 3, 2006

Mr. Tad Decker, Chairman
PA Gaming Control Board
PO Box 69060
Harrisburg, PA 17106-9060

Dear Chairman Decker,

In response to your recent announcement of the upcoming hearings for the proposed gaming facilities, we feel it essential to express our concerns over both the ramifications of such a facility and the location as well. Although the proposed locations are not within Pike County, the location and potential implications of siting a facility of this nature just outside of our political jurisdiction will have longstanding implications.

Pike County, located in northeastern Pennsylvania, has seen tremendous growth over the last 3 decades. The growth pressures on our infrastructure and the provision of services to the growing populace would be greatly exacerbated by the future location of a gaming facility with close proximity to our County. The proposed Mount Airy Resort & Casino, Pocono Manor Resort & Casino, and/or Pocono Casino (Downs Racing/Pocono Downs/Mohegan Sun Casino) may have some positive aspects; however, the negative impacts would severely outweigh the positives.

Similar to the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe's proposal for the Mohawk Mountain Casino and Resort in the town of Thompson, Sullivan County, NY, neighboring counties were not included in the analyses. The same holds true for these proposed facilities. We feel strongly that the Environmental Resource Reports, Traffic Study Reports, and Community Impact Analyses should be performed on a regional basis, especially since such a facility will impact the regional economy, regional infrastructure, and utilize the regions limited services. We also feel that we should be fully involved in the planning process for these proposals.

The most notable impacts would be on transportation, housing and the inevitable social issues. Traffic/transportation impacts alone pose a threat to our existing infrastructure and quality of life. Interstate 84 and roadways in Greene & Lehman Township's may be the most affected Pike County transportation concerns. The Mt. Airy proposal alone identifies 17 to 19 additional cars per minute or over 1,000 additional cars per hour. Roadways directly adjacent to the proposed facilities are identified for improvements, but roadways outside of the limited scope were not included or considered for anticipated impacts.

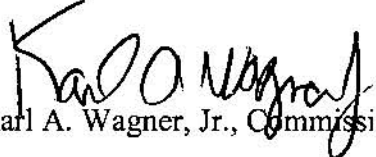
Although the negative impact on our infrastructure would be tremendous, the socioeconomic repercussions of such a venue becoming a reality in our region are equally of concern. Public health, alcoholism/impaired driving, financial distress, are just a few possible situations that may arise from such a facility. These and similar concerns should be seriously considered for these regional proposals as well.

In short, we feel that serious consideration be given to neighboring counties and an in depth assessment be performed for the regional impacts.

Sincerely,
Pike County Board of Commissioners


Harry Forbes, Chairman


Richard Caridi, Vice Chairman


Karl A. Wagner, Jr., Commissioner

PIKE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION



April 19, 2006

Mr. Tad Decker, Chairman
PA Gaming Control Board
PO Box 69060
Harrisburg, PA 17106-9060

Dear Chairman Decker,

The Pike County Planning Commission unanimously voted at its March 27, 2006 meeting to express our concerns regarding the lack of study and involvement pursuant to Pike County impacts of a proposed regional gaming facility. In response to your recent announcement of the upcoming hearings for the proposed facilities, we feel compelled to express our concerns. Although the proposed locations are not within Pike County, the implications to our county of siting a facility of this nature just outside of our County will have long-lasting implications.

Pike County, located in northeastern Pennsylvania, has seen tremendous growth over the last 3 decades. The growth pressures on our infrastructure and the provision of services to the growing populace would be greatly exacerbated by the future location of a gaming facility with close proximity to our County. The proposed Mount Airy Resort & Casino, Pocono Manor Resort & Casino, and/or Pocono Casino (Downs Racing/Pocono Downs/Mohegan Sun Casino) may have some positive aspects; however, the negative impacts would severely outweigh the positives.

Similar to the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe's proposal for the Mohawk Mountain Casino and Resort in the town of Thompson, Sullivan County, NY, neighboring counties were not included in the analyses. The same holds true for these proposed facilities. We feel strongly that the Environmental Resource Reports, Traffic Study Reports, and Community Impact Analyses should be performed on a regional basis, especially since such a facility will impact the regional economy, regional infrastructure, and utilize the limited services available in our area. We also feel that we should be fully involved during the planning process for consideration of these proposals.

The most notable impacts would be on transportation, housing and the inevitable social issues. Traffic/transportation impacts alone pose a threat to our existing infrastructure and quality of life as I84 and roadways in Greene & Lehman Township may be the most affected Pike County transportation concerns. The Mt Airy proposal alone identifies 17 to 19 additional cars per minute or over 1,000 additional cars per hour. Roadways directly adjacent to the proposed facilities are identified for improvements, but roadways outside of the limited scope were not included or considered for anticipated impacts. These projected numbers would surely reduce the level of service to failing levels on many of our roadways.

Although the negative impact on our infrastructure would be tremendous, the socio-economic repercussions of such a venue becoming a reality in our region are equally of concern. Public health, alcoholism/impaired driving, financial distress, are just a few possible situations that may arise from such a facility. These and similar concerns should be seriously considered for these regional proposals.

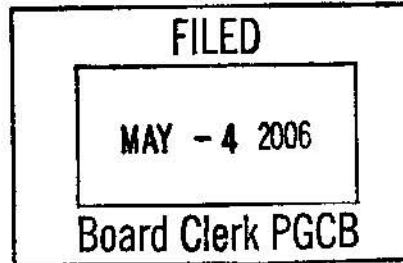
In short, we feel that serious consideration be given to the impacts on neighboring counties and an in-depth assessment be performed for the regional impacts.

Sincerely,
Pike County Planning Commission

Cindy Wildermuth (sig)

Cindy Wildermuth, Chairperson

May 1, 2006



Office of the Clerk
PA Gaming Control Board
PO Box 69060
Harrisburg, PA 17106

Although we vote in New Jersey, we have owned property in Lake Naomi for over thirty years and continue to spend much time and money in the Poconos.

We strongly oppose the slots applications for both Mount Airy Lodge and Pocono Manor.

Very truly yours,

Francis J. Blesso Jacqueline C. Blesso

FILED

MAY 24 2006

Board Clerk PGCB

Ron and Penny Joines

Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board
Office of the Clerk
PO Box 69060
Harrisburg, PA 17106

I am writing in opposition to the slots applications of the Mt Airy Lodge in Paradise Township and Pocono Manor in Tobyhanna Township.

These developers will tempt us with promises of jobs and tax revenue. But most of these investors will have left town after we discover what other communities have discovered before us. Study after study has demonstrated that casinos and other gaming institutions can damage a region's economic vitality. These studies conclude that for every \$1 a casino or gaming institution brings in, they require a \$3 investment (plus interest) for supporting infrastructure and services from local taxpayers.

Regardless of how sensitive and careful the developers think that their plans are, building these gambling venues in the area will destroy the local character and further reduce the clean air and open space which draws so many tourist dollars to the Pocono's. The plans will also interrupt the unspoiled views that we enjoy each day. While poorly managed growth and traffic are already beginning to plague our area, these gambling venues will make that even worse.

Let us continue to bring tourist dollars with the natural beauty of the Pocono's and to attract sustainable and productive industry to our area. These proposed gaming institutions in Paradise and Tobyhanna Townships are not a step in the correct direction.

Please feel free to contact us with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,


Ron and Penny Joines

FILED

MAY 19 2006

Board Clerk PGCB

May 15, 2006

Office of the Clerk
Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board
P.O. Box 69060
Harrisburg, PA 17106

Gentlemen:

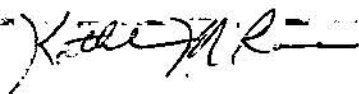
My husband and I moved to the Poconos 28 years ago to raise our family in rural, scenic, quiet, family-oriented surroundings. Each time a referendum question about allowing gambling in the Poconos was on the ballot we voted "No!" Now, slot machine casinos are threatening our quality of life. Again, we vote "No!"

Gambling does not belong in the Poconos where hiking, fishing, boating and other outdoor family friendly activities abound. We urge you to place the casinos in more populated areas of the state near the cities.

If it is a sad truth that it is inevitable that a casino be built here, the Mt. Airy proposal is the lesser of the 2 evils.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,



Kathleen M. Rowe