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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

GAMING CONTROL BOARD

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IN RE: MASON-DIXON RESORTS, LP APPLICATION
FOR CATEGORY 3 SLOT MACHINE LICENSE

* * * * *

PUBLIC INPUT HEARING

* * * * *

BEFORE: LINDA LLOYD, Presiding Officer
Gregory C. Fajt, Chairman
Raymond S. Angeli, Member
James B. Ginty, Member
Gary A. Sojka, Member

HEARING: Tuesday, August 31, 2010
10:15 a.m.

LOCATION: Comfort Suites
945 Baltimore Pike
Gettysburg, PA 17325

Reporter: Sarah Wendorf

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1 WITNESSES: David LeVan, Donald Dissinger, Steven
2 Snyder, John Finamore, Doctor Peter Angelides,
3 Daniel Thornton, John Sharrah, Doctor Terry Madonna,
4 Dan Moul, Doug Sherman, Don Boehs, David Waybright,
5 James Muller, Lisa A. Moreno-Woodward, Glenn R.
6 Snyder, Susan S. Paddock, Nicholas A. Redding,
7 Michael Siegel, Kristin L. Rice, Bruce A. Hoover,
8 Keith E. Miller, Alan Ferranto, Cinda Waldbuesser,
9 Melinda G. Crawford, Stephen R. Herr, Walter W.
10 Gallas, Reverend Jay E. Zimmerman, Jeff Klein,
11 Brendan Synnamon, Rich Randolph, John A. Wega,
12 Francis J. Pennings, Carl G. Harris, Joe M.
13 Breighner, Carl Athey, Eugene Golden, Tom Gilbert,
14 Rich Kitner, Suzette Love, Carol Loftus-Miller,
15 Emily Golden, John R. Spangler

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P R O C E E D I N G S

PRESIDING OFFICER:

Good morning, everyone. My name is Linda Lloyd, and I'm the Presiding Officer today assigned to conduct the public input hearing. Before we begin, if you could please turn off all your cell phone, Blackberrys, noise makers, et cetera, so that we don't disturb the speakers and/or the other people in the audience. Thank you.

As the Presiding Officer, I call to order this public input hearing for Category 3 Slot Machine License Applicant, Mason-Dixon Resort, LP, Docketed at Number 1568-2010. The date August 31st, 2010. The time is 10:15. And the location is the Comfort Suites at 1945 Baltimore Pike, Gettysburg, PA, 17325. This public input hearing is convened by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board pursuant to the directive and authority found in Section 1205(b) of the Gaming Act and the Board's regulations. This public hearing was advertised on the Board's website, announced at a previous Board meeting and advertised in local newspapers. Board members present today for the hearing are to my right, Chairman Greg Fajt and to his--- I'm sorry, my left, my other right. To my

1 left, Chairman Greg Fajt. And to his left,
2 Commissioner Ray Angeli. To my right, Commissioner
3 Gary Sojka and Commissioner Jim Ginty.

4 The Board and the staff would like to
5 thank the Comfort Suites and its staff for making the
6 facilities available for the hearing today. We
7 apologize to --- for the cramped quarters, but
8 unfortunately in this instance, the Act directs that
9 the Board hold the public input hearing in the
10 municipality where the Applicant proposes their
11 casino. And after searching high and low through, I
12 guess this is, Cumberland Township, and we cannot use
13 the Applicant's site as the hearing space, this was
14 the best option that we found. So, we do apologize
15 for the cramped quarters, but we will make it work
16 the best that we can.

17 This is the second public input hearing
18 in a series of four hearings conducted by the Board.
19 The purpose of which is to allow the Applicants for
20 the remaining Category 3 Slot Machine License to
21 present their plans before the Board and the public,
22 and to allow individual members of the public
23 community groups, elected and local officials to
24 express their thoughts and share their concerns about
25 the projects proposed to the Board. The order of

1 today's speakers is as follows, the Applicant for the
2 Category 3 Slot Machine License, Mason-Dixon, will
3 make its presentation first. Then we will hear from
4 any legislators, local government representatives,
5 community representatives, group representatives and
6 individual members of the public who have registered
7 to speak, in that order. Mason-Dixon will have 45
8 minutes to make their presentation. Each legislative
9 official will have five minutes to speak.
10 Representatives from local government bodies will
11 have ten minutes. Community group leaders, ten
12 minutes. And individual members of the public, three
13 minutes. Each speaker should begin their remarks by
14 stating his or her name and spelling it for our court
15 reporter, who is sitting over here in the teal shirt.
16 And if you are speaking on behalf of an entity, the
17 name of that entity. All public speakers will be
18 sworn in at a later time. To assist all speakers in
19 adhering to their time limits permitted, we have an
20 electronic stoplight right in front of me here today.
21 The light will show green, yellow and red. When the
22 light turns green, the speaker's allotted time has
23 started. When the light turns yellow, for
24 Mason-Dixon, they will have five minutes left in
25 their presentation. And when it is turns yellow, for

1 all other speakers, you will have 30 seconds left for
2 your presentation. If you see the yellow light,
3 please wrap up your comments, because when the light
4 turns red, a beeping sound will be heard and the
5 speaker is expected to stop speaking and leave the
6 microphone.

7 If your time runs out and you have
8 comments remaining, please submit them as written
9 comments for the Board's consideration. You may
10 submit these written comments via the Board's
11 website, which can be found at www.pgcb.state.pa.us
12 or you may mail or fax written comments to the
13 Board's clerk, Mickey Kane. We will be accepting
14 written comments for 60 days after the close of the
15 hearing today or the close of business Monday,
16 November 1, 2010, when the evidentiary record for
17 this public input hearing will be closed. If you are
18 a speaker today and you are reading from written
19 notes of testimony that you will read from during the
20 hearing, when you're finished if you would give a
21 copy to the court reporter sitting over here or the
22 woman sitting to her right, Deb Joyce, that would
23 greatly help the court stenographer.

24 Much will be said today during the
25 hearing, so please treat this hearing as if you were

1 attending a court proceeding. All witnesses speak
2 loudly and clearly into the microphone provided.
3 Please refrain from interrupting, speaking, making
4 any sorts of noise, objections or otherwise during
5 the proceeding. If anyone disrupts the proceeding,
6 they will be asked to leave. In addition, we have
7 media here today. We ask that you please do not
8 interfere with the speakers and conduct any
9 interviews outside of the hearing room. And we thank
10 you in advance for your cooperation in that respect.

11 So, I guess we'll get on with the show.
12 Let's begin by having witnesses that will provide
13 testimony for Mason-Dixon Resorts, please stand and
14 raise your right hand to be sworn by the court
15 reporter.

16 -----
17 WITNESSES SWORN EN MASSE

18 -----

19 PRESIDING OFFICER:

20 And your time is ticking.

21 ATTORNEY SCHRIER:

22 Okay. Thank you. Good morning,
23 Chairman Fajt, honorable members of the Commission
24 and Presiding Officer Lloyd. My name is Stephen
25 Schrier of the Law Firm Blank Rome. And I am pleased

1 to be here today representing Mason-Dixon Resorts,
2 LP, the Applicant for a Category 3 License under the
3 Pennsylvania Gaming Act. Also here today with me, to
4 my right, is Kevin Hayes of the Law Firm of Doherty
5 Hayes. On behalf of Mason-Dixon Resort & Casino, I
6 want to welcome you to Cumberland Township, Adams
7 County. And thank you for the opportunity to present
8 to you and to the public a tremendous economic
9 development project for Pennsylvania's gaming
10 industry.

11 The principals of this project intend
12 on placing a gaming facility at the Eisenhower Hotel
13 & Conference Center, which clearly qualifies as a
14 well-established resort hotel as defined by Section
15 1305 of the Gaming Act.

16 Before we began our proposal, I would
17 like to introduce our team. The principals in
18 attendance are Mr. David LeVan, who's sitting to my
19 right, Ms. Jennifer LeVan behind me. If you just
20 would stand up, please? Mr. Joseph Lashinger, Mr.
21 Bernard Yannetti, Mr. Michael Jackson. Also, we have
22 with us today key representatives from our esteemed
23 partner in this project, the most successful and
24 well-positioned gaming company in the industry, Penn
25 National Gaming. We have with us Mr. John Finamore,

1 Senior Vice President for Region Operations, Mr.
2 Steve Snyder, Senior Vice President of Corporate
3 Development, Mr. Carl Sottosanti, Vice President and
4 Deputy General Counsel and Mr. Thomas Auriemma, Vice
5 President and Chief Compliance Officer.

6 Also with us today are our
7 professionals, who are experts in their fields. Mr.
8 Don Dissinger, Senior Vice President of EwingCole.
9 Don? Mr. Peter Angelides, Vice President and
10 Director of Econsult, Mr. Daniel Thornton, Senior
11 Associate of Transportation Resource Group, Mr.
12 Robert Sharrah, President of Sharrah Design Group,
13 and Doctor G. Terry Madonna, President of Terry
14 Madonna Opinion Research. These representatives of
15 Mason-Dixon will be available at the conclusion of
16 our presentation to field any questions you may have.
17 As you know, their full reports are available as part
18 of the public file.

19 At this time, it's my pleasure to turn
20 over the presentation to Mr. David LeVan, who will
21 provide a brief overview of Mason-Dixon Resort.

22 MR. LEVAN:

23 Good morning and welcome to my home
24 town. We believe that we have identified and are
25 prepared to execute a vision that will set the

1 standard for a Category 3 License in the Commonwealth
2 of Pennsylvania. Maxon-Dixon Resort & Casino will
3 renovate a longtime jewel of Adams County. For
4 nearly 40 years, the Eisenhower Inn and Conference
5 Center has welcomed guests from near and far to our
6 community.

7 We intend to reinvigorate this proud
8 property by turning it into a world-class resort that
9 would sit only two miles north of the Maryland
10 border. And in doing so, we would allow Pennsylvania
11 to enter into its last untapped gaming marketplace.
12 As important it already includes the structure where
13 Penn National Gaming will operate a casino. That
14 means we will not have to use any new green space for
15 this project. With our zoning requirements already
16 in place, we are proposing a renovation, a
17 reinvigoration, a re-imagining, if you will, of one
18 of Adams County's favorite destination points.

19 As for the historic value of our
20 proposed property, I have received a letter dated
21 August the 25th from the Pennsylvania Museum and
22 Historical Commission confirming that our property
23 does not contain any artifacts of historical
24 relevance. Further, the National Park Service has
25 indicated that Mason-Dixon will have no impact on the

1 park, because it will be not located within the
2 6,000-acre boundary of the park.

3 Our concept near a national park or a
4 historic site is not a new one. Communities in
5 Vicksburg, Natchez, Yosemite, Deadwood, Dodge City,
6 Little Big Horn, Harpers Ferry, Philadelphia and,
7 yes, even Valley Forge all have worked to preserve
8 their historical meaning while embracing gaming and
9 the opportunities that the industry provides for the
10 future. And now to help to visualize our plan of the
11 is future, I would like to introduce Don Dissinger of
12 EwingCole.

13 MR. DISSINGER:

14 Good morning, Chairman Fajt, members of
15 the Board, Ms. Lloyd. I am pleased to be here
16 representing the Mason-Dixon Resorts, LP. My firm,
17 EwingCole, and as the architect of the Mason-Dixon
18 Resort & Casino. I grew up in Cumberland County. As
19 a boy, I spent my youth exploring the Gettysburg
20 battlefields and the rolling hills of south central
21 Pennsylvania. I grew up in a family of builders that
22 were also from south central Pennsylvania. I was
23 inspired by the landscape and the rural architecture
24 of the region, the historical buildings of the small
25 towns, the stone and brick farmhouses and the many

1 barn structures that dot the rural countryside in
2 this region. As an architect, I've designed many
3 buildings in sensitive historic settings. I have led
4 the restoration of national historic landmarks. I am
5 a resort planner and designer and an entertainment
6 and hospitality designer with experience designing
7 gaming facilities, explored many of the national
8 parks across the country, which have inspired a lot
9 of vocabulary for this project.

10 Today I would like to show you our
11 team's vision for a new dimension in Pennsylvania's
12 entertainment and resort industry. Thank you.

13 VIDEO PRESENTATION BEGINS

14 There was a time, nearly half a century ago,
15 when the Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Center was
16 a newly-added gem to Adams County. Nearly four
17 decades later it still has the quintessential
18 characteristics of a modern day resort that sits
19 only two miles north of the Maryland border, a
20 beautiful property with rolling hills, a lake, a
21 historic farmhouse and majestic barn that sit neatly
22 within mature bucolic landscape.

23 Its entertainment and conference facilities
24 still serve a variety of expositions trade shows and
25 corporate meetings. However, recent years haven't

1 been as kind to the resort and its tourism market.
2 Now, an opportunity created by a Category 3 License
3 suggests a new future for this proud property as the
4 Mason-Dixon Resort & Casino, providing an exciting
5 new dimension in Pennsylvania's entertainment resort
6 industry. The proposed restoration and renovation
7 of the property will establish a new identity for
8 Mason-Dixon in the region that is sensitive to its
9 historic past and welcoming of the future.

10 The design aesthetic of Mason-Dixon calls to
11 mind the great historic frontier lodges found near
12 our national parks across the country, foregoing
13 what many have come to expect from the gaming
14 industry. The design draws its inspiration from
15 native stone houses, brick and wooden structures,
16 split rail fences and the rural architectural style
17 of Adams County. With more than 300 rooms, it's
18 rustic yet elegant design will become the standard
19 for resorts found in similar settings throughout
20 America. By maintaining all restoration and
21 rehabilitation work within the resort's current
22 footprint, Mason-Dixon will preserve its pastoral
23 and wooded open space as a natural buffer between
24 the resort and Gettysburg National Military Park.

25 The newly redesigned entrance and boulevard

1 sets the tone and reveals the character of a resort
2 that has been reborn. The elegantly-lit drive
3 features rehabilitated structures, reflection pools
4 and a new porte-cochere to the resort. Guests can
5 expect a new ambience with modern amenities designed
6 for longer term stays that will create a resort
7 experience that cannot be found anywhere else in
8 Pennsylvania.

9 Further along the main boulevard, you will
10 arrive at a breathtaking entrance to the casino and
11 entertainment center destined to become a dynamic
12 architectural icon in the community. Inside
13 patrons will sense a distinctive lodge-like interior
14 as they pass through the main lobby, to experience
15 casual dining areas, an exciting gaming floor and
16 the centrally located lounge within the heart of the
17 facility. Adjacent to the gaming floor, the lounge
18 provides a relaxing atmosphere for live music,
19 dining and conversation and opens up to an outdoor
20 terrace that is situated within a wooded garden
21 providing spectacular views of the existing
22 landscape and the long-forgotten lake area.

23 Much care and thought has been given to
24 incorporate the architectural style and character of
25 the region. Mason-Dixon's design will reinvigorate

1 a proud resort that will celebrate Adams County's
2 past and become an important partner in its future.
3 Mason-Dixon Resort & Casino, a new dimension in
4 Pennsylvania's entertainment resort industry.

5 VIDEO PRESENTATION ENDS

6 ATTORNEY SCHRIER:

7 Thank you, Don. It's now my pleasure
8 to introduce Mr. Steven Snyder and with John Finamore
9 of Penn National Gaming.

10 MR. S. SNYDER:

11 Thank you, Steven. And thank you
12 members of the Board for taking the time today. Real
13 quickly, Penn National is certainly a known entity
14 here in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. We
15 currently are the Licensee and the operator of the
16 Hollywood Casino at Penn National Race course in
17 Grantville.

18 We became involved with Mr. LeVan back
19 in the wintertime, as he was looking for partners to
20 develop this facility. We did quite a bit of work
21 and due diligence on getting a comfort level with an
22 investment in this facility, and that's why we are
23 before you this morning. I don't think I need to go
24 in too much information about Penn National, again
25 because we are a known commodity and we are also a

1 Pennsylvania-based company with our headquarters just
2 outside of Reading, Pennsylvania.

3 We do operate on a very large national
4 footprint. In fact, I think we are the largest in
5 terms of the number of states in which we operate in
6 the United States. You can see we stretch from Maine
7 in the northeast, to New Mexico in the southwest and
8 have 22 facilities in total spread across that
9 footprint. So, these regional, local gaming markets
10 are the basis on which we have built our company, and
11 it is the expertise which we've developed. And
12 that's why we're so excited about the opportunity to
13 partner with Mr. LeVan for this project.

14 Real quickly, I think some of the
15 questions that you, as Board members, will have is,
16 if we are selected, will this project get completed.
17 And I think you can see from these quotes that's it's
18 through financial resources, our balance sheet and
19 our ability to serve as the developer and as the
20 operator for this facility is really unquestioned.
21 And we do have the financing available to complete
22 this project on a very timely and efficient basis.

23 Now, as to the project itself, our
24 partnership with Mr. LeVan, we would be the
25 developer. We would use and apply the gaming

1 expertise we've developed in those multiple
2 jurisdictions to the development of this \$75 million
3 project. We would, as I said, provide a hundred
4 percent of the financing for the completion of this
5 project, so we would not be --- this project would
6 not be reliant on Wall Street sources or bank lending
7 sources for its consummation. Who you see standing
8 before you today will actually be the principals that
9 will get this project over the goal line. We hope to
10 bring our experience to bear as the operator of this
11 facility and would encourage you to look at our track
12 record in operating other regional facilities for the
13 fit in terms of the expertise for this specific
14 project.

15 With that, I'd like to turn it over to
16 John to touch upon a couple of our employment
17 initiatives.

18 MR. FINAMORE:

19 Thank you. Thanks, Steve. Mr.
20 Chairman, Commissioners, Ms. Lloyd, good morning. I
21 know, as Steve said, you're familiar, you're very
22 familiar with our company, but I think it's important
23 that we touch on our proven track record in
24 Pennsylvania and, indeed, nationally with our
25 workforce, our workforces that are reflective of the

1 communities in which we operate.

2 Company wide, our overall workforce
3 represents or is made up of 52 percent women and 28
4 percent minority. Our properties put a priority on
5 hiring locally and supporting minority and
6 women-owned businesses within the communities we
7 operate. We also strive to do business with small
8 businesses within the community. In short, we work
9 to hire locally and buy locally.

10 This slide indicates some of the MWBE
11 percentages in our recent construction projects. And
12 again, it's reflective of our successes in this area.
13 We have hit the goal set out in these projects in all
14 cases. And in fact, a lot of this construction work
15 is also union-based.

16 Again, I know you're familiar with the
17 Penn Management team. I think the first three
18 gentlemen on that list have a combined over 75 years
19 of experience in the industry. Peter Carlino is well
20 known to you. Of course Tim Wilmott, our President
21 and Chief Operating Officer, joined us from a similar
22 position being held with Harrah's. So, again that
23 management team up there represents somewhere between
24 a hundred and 200 years of industry experience.

25 You also know us to be a very

1 charitable company. We are very committed to
2 charitable giving. The Penn National Gaming
3 Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) foundation was
4 founded actually originally right at the time of
5 Hurricane Katrina. And it was founded by the company
6 in an attempt to reach out and help our employees who
7 suffered --- our employees in the gulf region who
8 suffered from the storm. Today this foundation is
9 overseen by a Board of senior Penn Management. It
10 meets quarterly. And it's a supplement, it provides
11 a supplement to the existing charitable activities
12 and contributions at our properties. In 2009, Penn
13 National and our properties provided \$3 million in
14 donations across the country. And I think we're more
15 proud of the fact that our employees provided over
16 5,000 hours of community service within the
17 communities that we do business.

18 Thank you for your time this morning.
19 Let me turn it back to Steve.

20 ATTORNEY SCHRIER:

21 Thank you, Mr. Finamore. Our next
22 speaker is Doctor Peter Angelides, Director and Vice
23 President of Enconsult Corporation.

24 DOCTOR ANGELIDES:

25 Good morning, Board members. My name

1 is Peter Angelides. I'm Vice President of Econsult,
2 Pennsylvania Economic Consulting Firm. I also teach
3 Urban and Regional Economics at the University of
4 Pennsylvania. Econsult works for many state, county
5 and municipal governments including the Commonwealth
6 of Pennsylvania. In addition to the variety of
7 economic development, real estate analysis and other
8 projects we've conducted, we've prepared scores of
9 economic impact studies, like the one I'm presenting
10 today.

11 Our report measures the economic impact
12 of the hotel casino, both the activity that takes
13 place inside the hotel casino, called the direct
14 impact, plus activity that occurs outside the hotel
15 casino that is related to the hotel casino, which is
16 indirect or use effect. We measure four things,
17 jobs, wages, economic activity and taxes. The money
18 spent by the casino goes to buy goods and services.
19 A large part of the expenditure is wages for hotel
20 casino workers. Other parts include purchases of
21 food and drink, marketing, utilities and maintenance.
22 This spending by the casino is income to the
23 suppliers, who then have to purchase those good and
24 services. Thus, the same dollar gets spent more than
25 once in the area. Another way of looking at is that

1 the money is recycled in the community. The number
2 of times the money is recycled is called the
3 multiplier.

4 Our analysis uses industry standard
5 methods. We use the Regional Input-Output Modeling
6 System, RIMS, from the U.S. Department of Commerce,
7 the Bureau of Economic Analysis, which is one of the
8 few widely-used input-output models. The RIMS model
9 is based on geography and on industry so that the
10 multipliers we calculate are based on the economic
11 conditions of Adams County, Pennsylvania and on the
12 specific expenditures the hotel casino will make,
13 including expenditures on food, marketing, utilities
14 and the like. Thus, the multiplier is customized to
15 this specific hotel casino.

16 Our data comes from Mason-Dixon, which
17 we reviewed for reasonableness. For example,
18 Mason-Dixon supplied the number of employees at the
19 hotel and casino. And based on our experience with
20 hotels and other facilities, given the number of
21 rooms and visitors, the projection is 475 employees
22 seems reasonable. Similarly, the number of visitors
23 also came from Mason-Dixon, which again seemed
24 reasonable.

25 Our report, again, calculated four main

1 items, jobs, wages, economic activity and taxes
2 related to the economic activity generated by the
3 hotel casino. We examined both the construction fees
4 and the on going or annual operations of the project.
5 In the construction phase, for example, there will be
6 nearly 150 jobs in Adams County and more than 500
7 jobs in Pennsylvania.

8 But it is the ongoing annual impact
9 that is most important. In terms of jobs, the hotel
10 casino will have 475 direct jobs, an increase of 375
11 jobs from the current level of the Eisenhower Hotel.
12 Combined with jobs from the indirect and ancillary
13 activity, there will be a total of 900 jobs in Adams
14 County and 1,800 jobs in Pennsylvania. The direct
15 jobs are full-time equivalents and the others are a
16 mix of full and part-time jobs, which is the standard
17 output for this kind of project.

18 For wages and earnings, we project it
19 will be \$16 million wages and earnings in Adams
20 County, \$38 million in Pennsylvania. For economic
21 activity, we project there'll be \$66 million in
22 annual economic activity in Adams County and \$127
23 million in Pennsylvania. And in terms of taxes,
24 Adams County will benefit from \$3 million in local
25 tax revenue. Most of which comes from gaming taxes,

1 but in addition real estate tax and new rental tax.
2 Pennsylvania will benefit from \$37 million in tax
3 revenue annually. The lion's share of which is the
4 gaming tax, but also includes income tax, sales tax
5 and income (sic) tax and capital stock tax. The tax
6 information is prepared using Econsult's tax model,
7 again following industry standard methods.

8 In sum, there will be significant
9 economic activity related to the hotel casino project
10 in terms of jobs, wages, economic activity and taxes
11 to local communities.

12 Thank you. And I'll be happy to answer
13 questions after the presentation.

14 ATTORNEY SCHRIER:

15 Thank you. Our next speaker to discuss
16 traffic mitigation is Daniel Thornton of the firm of
17 Transportation Research Group.

18 MR. THORNTON:

19 Good morning. My name is Dan Thornton
20 of TRG. I'm a Registered Professional Engineer in
21 the State of Pennsylvania. I'd like to talk to you
22 about the traffic impact study that was conducted for
23 the proposed developments.

24 The traffic impact study was originally
25 conducted in March 2010, but was updated in June 2010

1 with new counts. The study area was determined based
2 on discussions with Cumberland Township as well as
3 PennDOT representatives, and was determined to be at
4 the following intersections. The Emmitsburg Road,
5 Barlow Greenmount Road, the Emmitsburg Road, the
6 Existing Resort Driveway and Emmitsburg Road and the
7 U.S. 15 Interchange.

8 A level service analysis was conducted
9 at the study intersections to determine the impacts
10 of the proposed development. As part of the study,
11 we analyzed the year 2010 traffic volumes, the year
12 2012 traffic volumes with and without development and
13 the year 2017 traffic volumes with and without the
14 development. Based on the level of service analysis,
15 it was found that the study intersections will
16 operate at acceptable overall levels of service in
17 the years 2010, 2012 and 2017 with the exception of
18 the Emmitsburg Road and Existing Resort Driveway.

19 In order to achieve acceptable levels
20 of services at that driveway, we are going to install
21 a traffic signal as well as a northbound right turn
22 lane on Emmitsburg Road.

23 Based on the analyses in the traffic
24 impact study, the following recommendations have been
25 made to the proposed development to provide safe and

1 efficient access to the site. Mason-Dixon will
2 install a traffic signal at the Emmitsburg Road
3 Existing Resort Driveway. The traffic signal will be
4 a two-phase operation with a future possibility of
5 coordination with future signals along Emmitsburg
6 Road. The developer will also construct a northbound
7 right turn lane on Emmitsburg Road at the Existing
8 Resort Driveway. Mason-Dixon will also conduct a
9 follow-up study after the proposed development has
10 been constructed.

11 The follow-up traffic counts at the
12 study intersections will be conducted in either May
13 or September after the proposed development has been
14 fully constructed. If the counts are significantly
15 higher than the anticipated traffic volumes in the
16 traffic impact study, a new study will be required to
17 determine the impacts and any initial improvements if
18 necessary.

19 A traffic impact study has been
20 submitted to PennDOT in Cumberland Township for
21 review. And at this time, we've received comments
22 back from Cumberland Township, and are anticipating
23 comments back from PennDOT shortly. Once the
24 comments have been received from PennDOT, the traffic
25 impact study will be revised and resubmitted for

1 approval from both the Township and PennDOT.

2 In the mean time, TRG has been working
3 on the HOP plans, the highway occupancy permit plans,
4 for the proposed improvements and will be ready to
5 submit the plans for review once the traffic impact
6 study has been approved.

7 Thank you very much. And I'll be
8 willing to answer any questions after the
9 presentation.

10 ATTORNEY SCHRIER:

11 Thank you Mr. Thornton. Our next
12 speaker is Mr. Robert Sharrah, the President Of
13 Sharrah Design Group.

14 MR. SHARRAH:

15 Thank you, Steve, members of the Board.
16 As Steve indicated, my name is Robert Sharrah. I am
17 the president of Sharrah Design Group, Incorporated.
18 We are a land surveying, site design and civil
19 engineering firm employing currently a total of nine
20 people, including a registered professional engineer
21 and registered landscape architect. Both are
22 registered in Pennsylvania and Maryland. I am
23 registered as a professional land surveyor in both
24 states as well. I was born and raised here in
25 Gettysburg, and have been involved in land surveying

1 and civil engineering for nearly 30 years.

2 With regard to sewer, the current
3 sewage facilities at the Eisenhower Inn and Allstar
4 Sports Complex discharge wastewater to an existing
5 onsite wastewater treatment plant that is permitted
6 and inspected by the Pennsylvania Department of
7 Environmental Protection. The plant has permitted
8 capacity of 110,000 gallons per day. Flow reports
9 for calendar year 2009 indicate that the average peak
10 daily flow was 32,000 gallons per day. Therefore,
11 using Pennsylvania DEP-approved design flow rates for
12 the revised and expanded facilities adequate capacity
13 already exists to serve the needs of the proposed
14 Mason-Dixon Resort & Casino Complex.

15 Cumberland Township has been planning a
16 proposed municipal wastewater collection and
17 treatment system in this the Greenmount area for
18 several years. This municipal system would not only
19 serve this site, but other existing residences and
20 businesses that currently have private on-lot sewage
21 disposal systems. If this municipal project moves
22 forward, the payment of applicable fees by
23 Mason-Dixon would be the catalyst to allow the
24 completion of this much needed municipal system.

25 Moving on to water. The existing

1 improvements at the site are served by approved and
2 permitted community water supply systems. The system
3 consists of approximately eight wells drilled on the
4 site, a storage tank, pumping system, standard
5 chlorination equipment and a distribution system.

6 Mason-Dixon Resorts, LP has contracted
7 for the purchase of a property near the intersection
8 of Emmitsburg Road and Cunningham Road. This
9 property known as the Shriver Property had an
10 existing 200-foot deep well located thereon and was
11 tested for quantity and water quality in June of this
12 year. Water quality was found to be good for potable
13 purposes with little or no treatment required.

14 In August of 2010, this well was
15 drilled deeper to a depth of 535 feet with additional
16 water bearing zones discovered near the termination
17 depth. The well was tested under the guidance of a
18 Pennsylvania-registered geologist for quantity for a
19 continuous 48-hour period at a pumping rate of 60
20 gallons per minute. The results were good,
21 indicating that the single source can supply the
22 anticipated needs of the Mason-Dixon Project with no
23 adverse effects on any nearby wells.

24 With regard to environmental, the above
25 mentioned well site, as well as an additional well

1 site on the Shriver Property, was inspected by the
2 Pennsylvania DEP geologist on August the 19th of this
3 year. The sites were found to be acceptable for
4 development of public water supply sources. The U.S.
5 Army Corps of Engineers inspected the Mason-Dixon
6 site as well as the Shriver site for potential
7 habitat of the threatened bog turtle. Neither site
8 was found to have a suitable habitat. The U.S. Fish
9 and Wildlife service concurred with the Corps of
10 Engineers that the site did not have bog turtle
11 habitat and that the minor revisions contemplated to
12 the site layout would not result in the taking of the
13 endangered Indiana Bat if tree cutting were
14 undertaken between October 1 and March 31.

15 The Pennsylvania Historical Museum
16 Commission has, as Dave indicated, provided
17 correspondence indicating that no additional
18 archaeological studies would be required.

19 To summarize, the site has sufficient
20 wastewater capacity to fulfill the needs of the
21 expanded and revitalized facilities. The Mason-Dixon
22 Project would allow the municipality to move forward
23 with its public wastewater system in the area. The
24 existing water system can be expanded through
25 development of the Shriver wells and connection to

1 them to the existing system. Thereby providing the
2 additional capacity necessary to serve the
3 Mason-Dixon Resort and other improvements currently
4 on the property. No environmental or archaeological
5 concerns have been identified that would not allow
6 the revitalization of this site to proceed.

7 Thank you for your time. And I'll be
8 available for questions later.

9 ATTORNEY SCHRIER:

10 Thank you, Mr. Sharrah. Our next
11 speaker is Doctor Madonna.

12 DOCTOR MADONNA:

13 Good morning, Mr. Chairman and
14 Commissioners. Let me say at the outset that I'm
15 President of Terry Madonna Opinion Research. I am
16 not here in any way representing Franklin Marshall
17 College, my employer, or any of the media outlets
18 that I pull for. When Mason-Dixon came to me late
19 last winter, they wanted an independent assessment,
20 an independent evaluation of what the residents of
21 Adams County thought about this proposed project,
22 someone not involved in any way with the gaming
23 industry, not an employee of any aspect of gaming,
24 they chose me. Over the course of 20 years, I have
25 done hundreds of surveys in the State of

1 Pennsylvania. Many of them surveys for media
2 outlets, but some privately for fortune 500 companies
3 and other companies that have, you know, an interest
4 and do business in the State of Pennsylvania.

5 Let me begin quickly now by saying that
6 the task before us was to take a look at what the
7 residents of Adams County thought about this proposal
8 and a variety of other aspects of gaming, which we
9 did in late February and early March of last year.
10 The results of that survey were widely publicized,
11 but I will say just a word or two about the
12 methodology.

13 Importantly, we had a concern that we
14 interviewed sufficient folks in what we would call
15 the impact area, or put it another way, in the 17325
16 ZIP Code, which Cumberland County (sic) and
17 Gettysburg Borough are a part. And having done that,
18 we completed 604 interviews. About 184 of them in
19 the impact area. And what we found was in some
20 respects, surprising, we found virtually no
21 difference between the views of the residents who
22 live in the impact area and the views of the
23 residents in the county as a whole.

24 And here's a quick summary of the
25 results. Sixty-five (65) percent of the residents of

1 this county support legalized gaming, 65 percent
2 favor table games expansion, 40 percent visit a
3 casino or regularly play the lottery, 62 percent
4 support this project. And may I point out, this was
5 without any additional information about whether jobs
6 would be created or businesses that might prosper or
7 the historic nature of the town and what that might
8 mean. We did ask folks questions about that later,
9 but that followed a flat-out simple question upfront
10 without any addition, without any lead, 62 percent
11 support the project. Then later we're asked people
12 what they thought about the job creation aspect.
13 Eighty-nine (89) percent believe it will create jobs,
14 70 percent believe it will not hurt local businesses,
15 62 percent believe it will not harm the historic
16 character and 59 percent believe it will not increase
17 the crime.

18 In conclusion let me say, in my
19 professional judgment, notwithstanding the debate,
20 obviously there's debate over lots of elements of
21 this, the residents of this county support this
22 project. Thank you.

23 ATTORNEY SCHRIER:

24 Thank you, Doctor madonna. For our
25 concluding remarks, Mr. David LeVan would like to say

1 a few words again.

2 MR. LEVAN:

3 As we move towards the conclusion of
4 our presentation, we took a look around the country
5 and it was startling to us that there were numerous
6 gaming facilities in close proximity, literally
7 across the road from national historic sites and
8 battlefields. And we took one very similar
9 situation, which entails the relationship between
10 Vicksburg and Gettysburg, and we have a brief video
11 that provides insight to the issue. And I think
12 you'll find the two communities have an awful lot in
13 common.

14 VIDEO PRESENTATION BEGINS

15 In the history of the Civil War, there are many
16 battles of our forefathers. But two are often
17 called the turning points. For 47 days, Major
18 General Ulysses S. Grant besieged Vicksburg,
19 Mississippi until July the 4th, 1863, when
20 Confederate soldiers surrendered the Mississippi
21 River to the Union. A battle of equal if not
22 greater significance ended the day before, the
23 defeat of Robert E. Lee at Gettysburg.

24 The stories of these two places unique
25 and intertwined and each place knows the

1 responsibility of balancing the past and the future,
2 honoring the tradition of the place while providing
3 for future generations. And they know there is a
4 need to bolster the economy, provide funds to sustain
5 the cultural heritage, the infrastructure and the
6 modern needs of the community.

7 Vicksburg has made that move, and one key to its
8 success is the introduction of gaming. That wasn't
9 without controversy.

10 There was a move on initially by some people to
11 prevent gaming from coming to Vicksburg. And then
12 we met some people initially who felt like it was
13 going to bring a lot of low life and a lot of crime
14 to Vicksburg, which we have not seen that.

15 Seventeen (17) years later, the community
16 assessment is remarkable.

17 I think prior to gaming coming to Vicksburg,
18 there was a great fear that it was going to bring a
19 seedy element into the community. It was going to
20 affect our quality of life and the fact of the
21 matter is it hasn't at all. What it's brought is a
22 lot of jobs and a lot of taxable revenue, which has
23 given the government, the economy to really reinvest
24 in the infrastructure. So, as a community, I think
25 our economy --- I would guesstimate we were probably

1 20 years behind in general maintenance of the city
2 as it related to infrastructure. And today we're on
3 the cutting edge in terms of, you know, streets, the
4 pipes, the sewers. And it's because 30, 40 percent
5 of the tax revenue is coming from gaming. It
6 produced 3,300 high-paying jobs. It also provided
7 training for the staff, which I've noticed is
8 filtering out through to other businesses in the
9 community, the actual service standards are going
10 up. And we really didn't see anything. I mean, the
11 prostitution and the pawnshops and things that
12 everybody was fearful of didn't happen at all.

13 The casinos work very well together here to
14 promote the city in general and providing funding
15 for concerts and special events and United Way. The
16 casinos have all been very active community
17 partners.

18 The gaming properties have been very good. It
19 has employed a lot of people that otherwise would
20 not be employed in this community. And in addition
21 to that, we have an increase of people who have
22 moved into the community who live and work here who
23 support our schools, our churches, all of our other
24 organizations. So I would say given my personal
25 opinion that gaming has been good for Vicksburg.

1 Tourists visiting casinos and the National
2 Military Park share a common meeting area. The mix
3 is going to come downtown because some of the gamers
4 and some of the cultural heritage tourist are going
5 to go downtown. If you go to a new market in order
6 to understand that market and to understand the
7 life, you have to go to the downtown area to see
8 what the city is all about.

9 I couldn't tell you how much it has improved and
10 enhanced the quality of life, because there is more
11 money being made, there's more money being spent,
12 there's more money being retained and there's more
13 money being recycled. I look at that as always
14 being a great economic generator. And to that,
15 gaming has been not only a friend but a compatriot

16 The introduction of gaming has provided one more
17 entertainment option, another reason to visit the
18 region and spend money. It's lifted the area's
19 economic stability by adding quality high-paying
20 jobs and providing a funding source for community
21 upkeep, safety and recreation. Park visitation is
22 increasing despite recent national disasters, such
23 as Hurricane Katrina and a poor national economy.
24 The Vicksburg National Military Park has seen
25 visitation increase two out of the last three years

1 and five out of the last ten.

2 Adams County could use that boost. Our National
3 Military Park has suffered a decrease in visitation
4 seven consecutive years and eight out of the last
5 ten. Residents and businessowners here know we need
6 a spark. That's why the Mason-Dixon Project has
7 received overwhelming support from local residents
8 and businesses. One poll found an amazing 62
9 percent support Mason-Dixon, while 62 percent also
10 said that it won't harm the historic character of
11 Adams County.

12 If we get this project, the benefits would be,
13 first of all, property tax relief that the taxpayers
14 need because only 45 percent to 47 percent is
15 propping up Gettysburg.

16 Well, as it is right now, a lot of families are
17 traveling --- are having to travel outside of Adams
18 County to make a living. There are not a lot of
19 jobs, family-sustaining jobs here, so people are
20 having to leave in order to sustain their jobs.

21 Right now, Adams County is at its highest
22 unemployment rate in 25 years. And this isn't going
23 to create jobs for every single person, but it's
24 solid career-sustaining jobs.

25 The Mason-Dixon Resort Casino is a key to

1 boosting the region's sustainability. The aging and
2 struggling Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Center
3 provides the perfect start. The current space will
4 be transformed into a beautiful, naturally rich and
5 rustic world-class resort with more than 300 guest
6 rooms, 20,000 square feet of meeting and exposition
7 space, spacious parking and exciting entertainment
8 facilities. The casino will include 600 of the most
9 state-of-the-art slot machines, 50 popular table
10 games, casual and fine dining restaurants, pools,
11 athletic and entertainment facilities and other
12 amenities.

13 This is a perfect use of a Category 3 License.
14 The casino wouldn't just be an added perk to an
15 already successful business. The state has a unique
16 opportunity to embrace a real economic development
17 project by saving a once popular resort and 100
18 local jobs.

19 The Mason-Dixon Resort & Casino will be located
20 two miles from the Maryland border in southern Adams
21 County and unlike the development that continues to
22 take place on the battlefield, Mason-Dixon is not
23 located on a single inch of the 6,000-acre national
24 park. Its proximity to Maryland will allow the
25 state to tap a new marketplace and avoid further

1 saturating of its existing markets. Other Category
2 3 applicants would place their casinos in markets
3 where existing Pennsylvania casino are still working
4 to establish a foothold.

5 The local business community is with us, the
6 Gettysburg Adams Chamber of Commerce Board of
7 Directors voted by a two-thirds majority to support
8 the Maxon-Dixon Resort & Casino. Some of the
9 largest heritage tourism businesses, Gettysburg
10 tours, museums, ski resorts and golf courses are
11 with us. In fact, over a hundred local businesses
12 have signed on to support Mason-Dixon. As
13 businessowners, they see the benefits our state
14 gaming industry provides, and they know what's best
15 for their companies.

16 Economy, we certainly need jobs. We certainly
17 need the tax base in the Township in the county. I
18 think it's a win-win situation for the whole
19 community, not just us.

20 My hope is that the more tourism that comes to
21 the area, we all benefit, the restaurants, the pub
22 owners. I'm hoping they go golfing, hoping they go
23 skiing, you know, they use all the amenities.

24 Why it's important to Gettysburg is that it will
25 bring different types of people and more people to

1 Gettysburg, not only tourists but business groups,
2 for example, that will come and visit and stay at
3 the casino, but will also then come into our
4 downtown businesses and restaurants and benefit all
5 of us in Adams County

6 And we believe support will continue to grow as
7 people learn more about the project. We've already
8 witnessed this firsthand. More than 350 people
9 attended our recent special preview to learn about
10 jobs, opportunities for businesses and local
11 charities. Hire Adams First and Buy Adams are two
12 programs dedicated towards using our local
13 businesses and employment resources first and
14 foremost. The strong partnership between
15 Mason-Dixon, the business community and local
16 government is paramount.

17 Success will be measured not only in dollars,
18 but in the increased quality of life for thousands
19 of businessowners and residents of the region. A
20 great quality of life is so important to those of us
21 who have made Adams County our home. I'm Dave
22 LeVan, and I was born and raised in Adams County.
23 I'm a proud graduate of Gettysburg College, and I've
24 been a responsible businessowner here. This is my
25 own home. And that's why I have a vested interest

1 in being involved in a well-thought out business
2 enterprise. It contributes to the economic
3 wellbeing and the cultural enhancement of our area.
4 To that end, I have donated all of the development
5 rights on the 61 acres that I own within the
6 boundaries of the Gettysburg National Military Park
7 to the Gettysburg Foundation, to protect this
8 historic land for future generations.

9 With our traditions secure, Mason-Dixon can
10 empower the region and re-energize a struggling
11 county by creating good jobs and new opportunities
12 to attract tourists. In doing so, we can lift the
13 economy and the quality of life for our friends,
14 neighbors and guests. This can be done right. This
15 will be done well.

16 VIDEO PRESENTATION ENDS

17 MR. LEVAN:

18 Again, I want to thank the Board for
19 this opportunity, but I also want to thank the public
20 for giving us this opportunity to present our project
21 today. I would respectfully submit that if this
22 Board believes that the gaming industry plays a
23 positive and vital role in generating desperately
24 needed tax revenues, job creation and economic
25 development, then Mason-Dixon is the best candidate

1 for the remaining Category 3 License.

2 I thank you and will be happy to take
3 your questions.

4 PRESIDING OFFICER:

5 Thank you.

6 ATTORNEY SCHRIER:

7 Ms. Lloyd, that concludes our
8 presentation. Just from a housekeeping perspective,
9 we have some public input exhibits that we would
10 submit to the Board today.

11 PRESIDING OFFICER:

12 Okay.

13 ATTORNEY SCHRIER:

14 Should we do that now?

15 PRESIDING OFFICER:

16 Yes. What would you like to submit?

17 ATTORNEY HAYES:

18 Members of the Board, Chairman Fajt,
19 Director Lloyd. Good morning. I would just like to
20 introduce five --- six exhibits which have been
21 referenced during our presentation. Director Lloyd,
22 would you like those read into the record?

23 PRESIDING OFFICER:

24 If you could read the titles into the
25 record and exhibit numbers?

1 ATTORNEY HAYES:

2 Exhibit One is the PowerPoint
3 presentation, which was submitted by hard copy and
4 electronic form. Exhibit Two is the EwingCole DVD
5 dated August 28th, 2010. Exhibit Three is the
6 Mason-Dixon/Vicksburg DVD dated August 2010. Exhibit
7 Four is a correspondence from the Pennsylvania
8 Historic and Museum Commission, Bureau of Historic
9 Preservation. Exhibit Five is the correspondence
10 from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental
11 Protection. And Exhibit Six is the correspondence
12 from the United States Department of Interior, Fish and
13 Wildlife Service. They've been premarked. And I
14 will submit them to the Board Secretary.

15 (Mason-Dixon Exhibits One through Six
16 marked for identification.)

17 PRESIDING OFFICER:

18 Okay. Actually, if you could, give
19 them to Deb Joyce at some point. They'll be made a
20 part of the record. Thank you.

21 ATTORNEY HAYES:

22 Thank you.

23 PRESIDING OFFICER:

24 Okay. That completes the Applicant's
25 proposal and presentation, and we will move on to

1 speakers from the public. If I could have the
2 legislators and any local government representatives
3 who have registered to speak, if you would please
4 stand and raise your right hand to be sworn by the
5 court reporter.

6 -----

7 WITNESSES SWORN EN MASSE

8 -----

9 PRESIDING OFFICER:

10 I will remind everyone that when you
11 begin your remarks, if you would state and spell your
12 name for the court reporter, and also state the
13 municipality and state in which you reside. There is
14 no need to give us your full address, just your
15 township, town, city, municipality as well as your
16 state. And if you're speaking on behalf of an
17 entity, the name of that entity.

18 I would also have a request from our
19 Board Secretary, because our space is limited, she
20 asks that when you are finished speaking, if you
21 could leave the room to allow others that are out in
22 the lobby that are registered to speak the
23 opportunity to come in and sit down or stand in the
24 back, that would be appreciated. If the Applicant's
25 witnesses or presenters would like to leave, they are

1 welcome to do so or they're welcome to stay and hear
2 the comments.

3 ATTORNEY SCHRIER:

4 We would all like to stay, but we won't
5 stay at this table if that's --- you need the space
6 for that.

7 PRESIDING OFFICER:

8 We will --- shortly after the local
9 government representatives are completed, we were
10 going to break down the table. So, if you want to
11 sit here for now, that's fine. Dan Moul is our first
12 speaker today. Please come up to the podium. All
13 speakers come up to the podium when your name is
14 called. And after you introduce yourself, I will
15 start your time.

16 MR. MOUL:

17 Good morning. I'm State Representative
18 Dan Moul, that's M-O-U-L, from Gettysburg. I
19 represent Gettysburg, Pennsylvania here in Adams
20 County. Good morning. I'd like to welcome the
21 members of the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board to
22 Gettysburg.

23 Casino gambling. The issue before you
24 is an important one to Adams County, and it's not
25 without controversy. Forces have lined up on both

1 sides of the casino gambling issue and it is clear
2 that whatever you decide, you won't please everyone.
3 You will hear testimony from more than 400 people
4 during your two days here. One thing to keep in mind
5 is that regardless of whether this project is
6 approved, your decision will have a lasting impact on
7 Cumberland Township, Adams County residents and
8 businesses in this area for many years.

9 I personally believe that this is a
10 local issue that should not be influenced by the
11 needs and desires --- or that should be influenced by
12 the needs and desires of Adams County residents.
13 After all, it is the host community and the residents
14 and businesses of Adams County that have most at
15 stake in a decision to award a casino license here.
16 Depending on your view, these people --- these are
17 the people who will reap the rewards or suffer the
18 consequences of your decision. Yet there are many
19 who will offer their testimony who do not live here,
20 don't pay their taxes here, don't support our schools
21 or frequent our businesses. I am not challenging
22 their credentials as historians or their expertise on
23 the pros and cons of gaming. I am concerned that
24 these well-meaning outsiders who believe that they
25 know what is best for our community will attempt to

1 sway this decision to suit their own special
2 interests.

3 In some cases outsiders have engaged in
4 disinformation campaigns designed to raise fears and
5 distrust among citizens and sway public opinion in
6 their favor. However, it is the citizens of Adams
7 County who live here, pay taxes here and have a stake
8 in whether or not a casino is located here.
9 Therefore, in this decision, the only opinions that
10 should matter are those of the citizens of Adams
11 County.

12 When deciding this issue it's important
13 to set aside the fears and innuendo and focus on the
14 facts. The Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board is
15 charged with the responsibility of issuing this
16 gaming license in a location where the Commonwealth
17 stands to gain the most revenue. There are others
18 who are scheduled to testify that are in a better
19 position to address the revenue question than I am.

20 As the elected State Representative
21 from Gettysburg, many people have asked me to take a
22 position on the casino issue. I was elected to
23 represent and serve all the citizens of my
24 legislative district. That includes the property
25 rights of individuals, not to promote my own personal

1 agenda. As a citizen, I believe it is important for
2 each of us to fully explore the matter and weigh all
3 the facts, just as the Gaming Board is doing today.
4 It is my job to listen to the citizens in my district
5 and represent their interests in Harrisburg to the
6 best of my ability.

7 That said, I am troubled by the
8 willingness of those who would challenge the rights
9 of an individual to move a legitimate business into a
10 community. I believe that the Applicants for this
11 license have a right to apply and go through this
12 process. Likewise, we who live here and stand to be
13 impacted by the presence of a casino license granted
14 here have a right to express our concerns. Our Adams
15 County economy may well rise and fall on the PGCB's
16 ruling. Therefore, it is incumbent on all of us who
17 live here to study this proposal and voice our
18 opinions. Those without a direct stake are entitled
19 to express their opinions, but they have the luxury
20 of not having to live with the consequences.

21 Thank you for your time.

22 PRESIDING OFFICER:

23 Thank you. Our next speaker, Harry
24 Readshaw --- Readshaw (corrects pronunciation). I
25 forgot my caveat. Some of these names are not

1 familiar to me, so if I mispronounce your name, I
2 apologize ahead of time.

3 MR. SHERMAN:

4 Good morning. Dough Sherman, the Chief
5 Counsel of the Board. I'm going to read into the
6 record the statement of Representative Readshaw, who
7 could not be present today, but had registered and
8 submitted his comments. Representative Readshaw is a
9 member of the 36th Legislative District in
10 Pittsburgh.

11 His statement to the Board is, as
12 Gettysburg is one of four competitors for the last
13 remaining resort casino license in the Commonwealth,
14 the proximity to Gettysburg National Military Park
15 should not be a deterrent. I believe that the
16 decision should be and is a local decision.

17 However, I would like to make a few
18 relevant points of interest. One, I do not believe
19 there are any preservation problems that I can
20 detect. Two, the site in question, being the
21 Eisenhower Convention Center, south of the
22 battlefield is an existing business and not a new
23 site to be developed. Three, the site in question is
24 not visible from anywhere on historic battlefield.
25 Four, there is no doubt the activity would create job

1 and business opportunities for local residents,
2 thereby assisting in the promotion of the local
3 economy.

4 My interest in the Civil War and
5 specifically the Gettysburg Battlefield stems from
6 and originated with the Pennsylvania Monuments at
7 Gettysburg Project that I founded in 1997. I have
8 worked diligently to raise funds for the repair,
9 restoration and endowment of these monuments. Over
10 13 years of experience and activities for the
11 monuments' benefit has been a labor of love, and I
12 shall continue my efforts.

13 On a personal note, Mr. David LeVan has
14 assisted me in numerous important ways. As one of my
15 annual fundraising activities is the motorcycle ride
16 from Harrisburg to his Battlefield Harley-Davidson
17 dealership in the Gettysburg area. He is and remains
18 a person of integrity and possesses a deep desire to
19 protect the local historical areas for generations to
20 come. Therefore, I would never believe that he would
21 enter into any business activity that would adversely
22 affect our nation's precious history.

23 I am confident that the local residents
24 and businesses will be heard, as the decision should
25 remain with them.

1 I thank you for the opportunity to
2 participate in this process. Sincerely, Harry A.
3 Readshaw, Member 36th Legislative District.

4 PRESIDING OFFICER:

5 We'll now move on to the local
6 government representatives. Our first speaker is Don
7 Boehs, B-O-E-H-S.

8 MR. BOEHS:

9 Good morning. My name is Don Boehs,
10 B-O-E-H-S. I'm the Chief of Police for Cumberland
11 Township. I'm also a resident of Aspers, Adams
12 County. I'd like to welcome you to our community.

13 For the record, I'd like to report that
14 Cumberland Township Police as presently configured is
15 equipped to meet the overall needs of the Mason-Dixon
16 Resort. With that said, I should note that the
17 increased revenues from the Mason-Dixon Resort will
18 allow us to continue providing enhanced service for
19 our residents, as well as nonresidents not staying at
20 the revamped resort. The Cumberland Township Police
21 Department also welcomes the additional police
22 presence in our township since state law requires the
23 Pennsylvania State Police and emergency medical
24 personnel are to be permanently located at the
25 facility. You have our commitment to work

1 cooperatively with our counterparts in providing a
2 quality public safety experience for everyone.

3 I have personally done my research on
4 this issue and I want to thank the Board for creating
5 a model industry that has proven safe for its guests
6 and surrounding communities. I've checked with other
7 law enforcement jurisdictions where gaming has come
8 to the community. The calls for service have not
9 increased. In fact, they report overall a positive
10 experience in both community and public safety
11 services. The fears of crime simply have not been
12 realized. No data exists to show there is any
13 increase in serious crime at Pennsylvania gaming
14 facilities. The additional local municipal revenues
15 have not only allowed those communities to stabilize
16 their police and emergency response services, but
17 also to enhance those services without increasing
18 taxes.

19 We also look forward to working with
20 Penn National Gaming. And my research has indicated
21 that they have an excellent reputation of working
22 with local law enforcement agencies with their
23 jurisdiction.

24 In closing, it is my opinion that
25 Mason-Dixon Resorts is going to help our community by

1 enabling necessary infrastructure, improvements and
2 services, increasing municipal revenue and creating
3 jobs for our citizens. And I can personally attest
4 that the principal Applicant, Mr. David LeVan, has an
5 outstanding track record of community service and
6 support for both cultural and public safety
7 initiatives for many years. For all those reasons,
8 it is easy for myself and the Cumberland Township
9 Police Department to support Mason-Dixon Resort's
10 proposal for gaming in Cumberland Township.

11 I want to thank you for your time, and
12 have a good afternoon.

13 PRESIDING OFFICER:

14 Thank you. David Waybright?

15 MR. WAYBRIGHT:

16 Good morning. I'm David Waybright,
17 W-A-Y-B-R-I-G-H-T. Welcome to Cumberland Township.
18 I'm Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of
19 Cumberland Township. Thank you for the opportunity
20 to speak to you today.

21 I bring to your attention the critical
22 need for additional economic development diversity to
23 balance our tax base. We now rely heavily on
24 residential real estate taxes. This is just one of
25 the many reasons why our five-member Board of

1 Supervisors is unanimous in its support for
2 Mason-Dixon Resort.

3 Our community faces some unique
4 circumstances with many square miles of Cumberland
5 Township comprised of National Park Service lands and
6 buildings, a full 24 percent of the properties and
7 lands are tax exempt. This is a map of our township.
8 The area highlighted in red are tax-exempt
9 properties. They pay no real estate taxes.

10 Matters further challenging us are the
11 municipal services we provide for nonresidents and
12 visitors to these locations at no township cost to
13 them and without reimbursement to Cumberland
14 Township. Our constituents are also tendering
15 ---trending older as retirees do not pay
16 earned-income taxes. A recent report entitled
17 Analysis and Options for Cumberland Township authored
18 by the Civic Research Alliance of Mechanicsburg,
19 Pennsylvania states up to 30 percent of the total
20 population of Cumberland Township's residents may be
21 eligible for retirement over the next decade. This
22 has major consequences for the Township, including
23 tax consequences, as earned income taxes will be
24 greatly decreased, and real estate tax transfers can
25 be expected to decline.

1 Predictably, it has been difficult for
2 us to ward off annual real estate tax increases for
3 our residents. Your approval of Mason-Dixon's
4 Application will be critical in this regard to
5 stabilize our tax base and not continue to rely on
6 our homeowners. Cumberland Township has increased
7 real estate taxes twice since 2004, as our calls for
8 service and operating costs continues to increase.

9 Approximately 50 percent of our annual
10 taxing revenues are from real estate taxes.
11 Mason-Dixon didn't have to, but they voluntarily
12 agreed to guarantee \$1 million annually to Cumberland
13 Township no matter the performance of Mason-Dixon.
14 The agreement also assures that all development plans
15 must meet our approval and all costs, even those
16 accrued by the Township in studying the plans, will
17 be covered by Mason-Dixon. In doing so, we have
18 assured that Mason-Dixon will not lead to any
19 additional costs for our taxpayers.

20 As for the project itself, we have
21 reviewed the plans and believe it to be a wonderful
22 vision for restoring one of our finest and old est
23 existing businesses in the area. The Eisenhower
24 Hotel and Conference Center has long been a jewel to
25 our area, but it has fallen on hard times. We don't

1 want to see it close and lose the 100 jobs currently
2 in place. Mason-Dixon would sustain and create
3 hundreds of additional jobs, commercial, economic,
4 development diversity and would be an excellent
5 revenue generator with building improvements to
6 further enhance the value of the Eisenhower, which
7 would result in an increase in the property taxes
8 that benefits our residents and the school district.
9 This is good and smart planning by reusing
10 commercially-developed property that has existed for
11 decades without using any additional lands, green
12 space or expansion from the property's footprint.

13 We will have additional resources
14 available to pay for the essential police, emergency
15 and municipal services required to handle the needs
16 of nonresidents visiting Cumberland Township that is
17 now funded by our citizens.

18 I would like to close by also pointing
19 out that the development of Mason-Dixon Resort will
20 allow for the completion of a sewer service expansion
21 in Cumberland Township that has gone undone for
22 years. The work is expensive to say the least. But
23 this construction work will sustain and create jobs.
24 It's good to know we may complete this project
25 without burdening our existing sewer utility

1 customers.

2 Mr. Dave LeVan has consistently
3 displayed a very high degree of professional
4 integrity in his projects. He has also set an
5 extremely high standard for civic responsibility to
6 this community that has been longstanding.

7 For all the reasons I have listed in
8 the last few minutes, the Cumberland Township Board
9 of Supervisors respectfully requests the Gaming
10 Control Board to act favorably on Maxon-Dixon's
11 application.

12 Thank you very much for your time and
13 consideration.

14 PRESIDING OFFICER:

15 Thank you. James Muller?

16 MR. MULLER:

17 Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. My
18 name is Jim Muller. That's M-U-L-L-E-R. I live and
19 work here in Adams County. As the sheriff of Adams
20 County, I've spent the last 20 years of my life in
21 the service to the public to ensure their safety.
22 The mission of my office is and always has been to
23 improve the quality of life in Adams County by
24 reducing crime and the fear of crime, by working with
25 all the citizens to preserve life, maintain rights

1 and freedoms, protect property and promote
2 partnership with the community.

3 One of my reasons for being here today
4 is to try and clear up what I think are
5 misconceptions on this issue, and hopefully give you
6 some information that will help you make a more
7 informed decision on this matter.

8 I'm here today to speak to you not just
9 as the sheriff, but also as someone who has been a
10 citizen of this county for over 50 years. I'd like
11 to say at the outset that I'm not here to take a
12 position on this issue one way or another. I serve
13 all the citizens of this county and that issue is
14 something to be left to those here today who have a
15 vested interest in the outcome of these proceedings.

16 If you were to ask me my personal
17 opinion on Adams County getting a casino, I would
18 have to say I think it would be a great asset to our
19 community and a boost to our economy. As sheriff of
20 Adams County, one of the toughest things I have to do
21 is foreclosures, especially when it is because
22 someone has lost their job and have no prospects in
23 finding another one, which is something else I think
24 the casino could provide to the people of Adams
25 County. Now only jobs but the hope of being able to

1 keep their property. And personally, that is why I
2 support this project.

3 But my personal opinions are just that,
4 my personal opinions. As a matter of record, I would
5 like to provide information regarding a number of
6 foreclosures or writs of execution serviced by the
7 Sheriff's Office in Adams County. And those facts
8 are as follows, from August 2005 through December
9 2005, we serviced 34 writs. From January through
10 December of 2006, we serviced 121 writs. From
11 January 2007 to December 2007, we served 150 writs.
12 And from January 8 through December 2008, we serviced
13 198 writs. From January 2009 through December 2009,
14 we serviced 258 writs. In the first seven months of
15 2010, we have serviced 252 writs. With five more
16 months left in the year, it's projected that we will
17 significantly exceed the 2009 total. Put simply, in
18 the four years from the end of 2005 to the end of
19 2009, the number of such writs for foreclosures has
20 increased 113 percent. And I project that this trend
21 will continue for 2010.

22 I have been asked if the crime rate
23 will increase when the casino comes. And as to this
24 issue, I'm definitely not a researcher, not do I
25 claim to have any particular expertise. However,

1 like other officials in our profession, I have read
2 those studies among others to stay current with
3 issues that affect law enforcement. And from that, I
4 am aware that there have been statistical studies
5 that have concluded that casinos bring an increase
6 level of crime to the communities they are located
7 in. I have also seen studies that have concluded
8 that there is little or no increase in the crime rate
9 where casinos are situated. As a law enforcement
10 professional, I have also seen the results of a
11 National Institute of Justice Study on casinos which
12 concluded that there was no general effect on the
13 crime rate in a community.

14 The major problem that I've seen in the
15 studies reporting an increase in crime is that they
16 simply count crime before and after the casino is
17 built. They don't take into consideration the
18 increase with visitors to the overall crime rate.
19 For example, an area had a crime of, let's say, one
20 crime for every 1,000 residents in a community before
21 a casino was built. After the casino is built, that
22 same community has a crime rate of two crimes for
23 every 1,000 residents. The study would report that
24 there is a 100 percent increase in the crime rate.
25 What is not taken into consideration is the number of

1 visitors attracted to the community by the casino.
2 If the visitors who come here commit a crime, the
3 crime is counted, but the additional number of
4 visitors is not counted. By doing that, the study
5 over rates the crime rate. For example, each summer
6 brings significant visitors to this area. Crime
7 rates traditionally increase in the summer. The
8 crime is influenced by the number of visitors and not
9 particular attractions. The more people, the greater
10 the crime numbers.

11 To get a get a real picture of the
12 crime rate, you would have to count the number of
13 visitors to the area. And that is something that
14 many of the studies have not done. And maybe that is
15 because in non-tourist communities, it's hard to get
16 an accurate count of the visitors.

17 A review conducted by the Harrisburg
18 Patriot News regarding crimes associated with the
19 opening of the Hollywood Casino north of Harrisburg,
20 reported that theft was the most common crime
21 associated with the casino. And most of that was
22 handled by the casino's own security staff. They
23 found now significant increase in crime in the
24 surrounding area.

25 I've also heard concerns about a rise

1 in domestic situations due to the casino. Most of
2 what I've read estimates that the number of
3 compulsive gamblers is somewhere around 2 to 2.5
4 percent of all people who engage in gambling of any
5 kind. While that is not to be ignored, it is dwarfed
6 by the number of people who are addicted to drugs or
7 alcohol. The demand on public services is much
8 greater from that group.

9 The lack of a casino will not eliminate
10 the problem of compulsive gambling, because there are
11 too many other legitimate outlets for them to satisfy
12 their addiction, like sports gambling, lotteries,
13 racetracks and internet gambling and so on.

14 In closing, I would just like to say
15 I'd like to thank you all for your time and patience
16 in allowing me to present these statistics.
17 Hopefully this will help you in making your future
18 decision on this project.

19 PRESIDING OFFICER:

20 Thank you. Lisa Moreno-Woodward?

21 MS. MORENO-WOODWARD:

22 Good morning. Lisa Moreno,
23 M-O-R-E-N-O, Woodward, W-O-O-D-W-A-R-D. I'm here
24 representing the Adams County Board of Commissioners.
25 I am two of the three Board --- there's two of the

1 three Board members here today to present testimony.

2 Good morning and welcomes to Adams County.

3 Gaming Control Board members, the
4 Applicant, Mason-Dixon Resorts, and those here today
5 to testify and observe, I'm Lisa Moreno-Woodward,
6 Adams County Commissioner here to provide testimony
7 in support of the proposed casino to be located at
8 Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Center, Cumberland
9 Township, Adams County, Pennsylvania.

10 The Adams County Board of Commissioners
11 approved Resolution Number 18 of 2010, offering
12 support and agreement for two Board members to
13 testify in favor of the proposed project presented
14 today. If this license is awarded and because of
15 this agreement, a donation of \$10,000 for ten years
16 will be granted to the Adams County Volunteer
17 Emergency Services Association, a non-profit
18 organization dedicated to providing quality emergency
19 services to the residents and workers of Adams County
20 and training to our fire fighters and EMTs. And with
21 this agreement, a guaranteed \$1 million in revenue to
22 the county every year.

23 I support this project, because of the
24 economic developments that will be brought to our
25 county. With economic developments, comes job

1 creation and additional tax revenue for the county,
2 Gettysburg Area School District and Cumberland
3 Township.

4 The national economy is struggling to
5 stay afloat. We here in Adams County have seen some
6 tough times and are struggling, too. With the
7 closure of two large manufacturers in Adams County
8 since 2008, with a loss of nearly 1,000 jobs, this
9 job loss doesn't even account for those businesses
10 that have downsized its workforce just to be able to
11 stay in business. According to the Pennsylvania
12 Department of Labor & Industry, the unemployment rate
13 is at an all-time high in Adams County, reflecting
14 preliminary at 8.3 percent for the month of June
15 2010. Tax-exempt properties continue to be submitted
16 to the Board of Commissioners for approval.
17 Currently, there about 1,300-plus exempt properties
18 on the rolls. The county cannot continue to lose
19 property from its tax rolls without those lost taxes
20 made up in some other manner. Real estate taxes are
21 a county's only source of revenue. We cannot
22 continue to tax our local residents, Adams Countians
23 that have lived here all their life, out of their
24 homes.

25 I feel it is the responsibility of the

1 Commissioners to try and bring tax relief to our
2 residents. I also all believe it's time for our
3 state legislature to give counties a menu to choose
4 from, not putting the entire burden upon real estate
5 property owners.

6 In conclusion, I'm here today to offer
7 my support as a County Commissioner to the
8 Mason-Dixon Resort Project presented because of the
9 creation of jobs and increased tax revenue for the
10 County of Adams. Yes, we need jobs here, too. Thank
11 you.

12 PRESIDING OFFICER:

13 Thank you. Glenn Snyder?

14 MR. G. SNYDER:

15 Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.
16 Welcomes to Adams County. My name is Glenn Snyder,
17 G-L-E-N-N S-N-Y-D-E-R. I am one of the two County
18 Commissioners that you will hear testify here today
19 on the issue of the proposed Mason-Dixon casino
20 located in Cumberland Township, Adams County.

21 Mason-Dixon Resort will be located in
22 what is now the Eisenhower Inn and Conference Center
23 and we'll not encroach on the Gettysburg Battlefield.
24 It is outside the Gettysburg Military Park
25 boundaries. And the site conforms to the Adams

1 County Comprehensive Plan and the local ordinances of
2 Cumberland Township for this resort and casino
3 project. This facility will be located within the
4 footprint of an existing building and will not be
5 enlarged.

6 I, as a County Commissioner, have
7 concerns that this facility, which is underutilized,
8 may deteriorate in the future. The conversion to
9 this project would enhance the facility into the
10 future.

11 On the traffic issue, issues of traffic
12 to and from this facility will be addressed by the
13 Applicant. Patrons coming from the north, the south
14 will come by way of Route 15, which is a four-lane
15 limited access highway, an exit onto Business Route
16 15 for a short distance causing no concerns of
17 traffic congestion within the immediate area or the
18 Borough of Gettysburg, which is three miles from the
19 site. The Mason-Dixon project not only will create
20 jobs at the facility, but for other businesses in the
21 county, boosting the economy here in Adams County.

22 The county real estate tax keeps
23 increasing. With the need to promote commercial
24 development and to enhance stabilizing our taxes in
25 Adams County. This facility will help accomplish

1 this mission in the county. In addition to the
2 patron spending inside the casino and resort
3 facility, it also will generate significant
4 additional visitor spending outside of Mason-Dixon
5 Resort & Casino at other establishments in the
6 county.

7 Real estate taxes are a county's only
8 source of revenue. Economic development expands the
9 tax base in a positive direction and creates jobs
10 within the county while creating revenue in addition
11 to the property tax.

12 I would encourage the Gaming Board to
13 look favorably in selecting Adams County for the site
14 for the License 3 Category Gaming facility. Dave
15 LeVan is a very prominent person in Adams County, and
16 we enjoy everything that Dave has done for the
17 county. I've had the privilege to work with Dave
18 LeVan on other projects, and he was always positive
19 when we asked him to do something on that project.

20 So with that said, I would conclude and
21 say thank you and look favorably on this facility.

22 PRESIDING OFFICER:

23 Thank you. Okay. We are going to take
24 a very short five-minute break. I suggest if you
25 wish to keep your seat, you might just want to stand

1 up and stretch. The staff here at the Comfort Inn
2 has asked that I announce if you were an overnight
3 guest and you are not staying tonight, they ask that
4 you check out now.

5 SHORT BREAK TAKEN

6 -----

7 WITNESSES SWORN EN MASSE

8 -----

9 PRESIDING OFFICER:

10 Our first speaker in the Community
11 Groups is Susan Paddock. Come to the podium.

12 MS. PADDOCK:

13 My name is Susan Star Paddock. I'm the
14 Chair of No Casino Gettysburg and this is our
15 testimony.

16 VIDEO PRESENTATION BEGINS

17 First of all, a casino in Gettysburg is not a
18 local issue, it's a national issue.

19 The locals are standing up because they are so
20 insulted at what's with being done but I think it's
21 also a national issue. Historians and tourists who
22 come here feel that this is really a shrine.

23 People came from all over the country and gave
24 their lives here. Gettysburg belongs to all
25 Americans. If the United States had not been formed

1 in the these killing fields, world history would be
2 very different.

3 As a Pennsylvanian born and bred, I care a great
4 deal about what happens. Pennsylvania is a
5 custodian of a national treasure, a national site.
6 And once a treasure or site like that is misused,
7 then it begins to erode.

8 We have to make sure that our children's
9 children will be able to go to Gettysburg, be able
10 to understand these painful and difficult and
11 critical lessons without the interference of our
12 commercial world.

13 You know, just the contour of the landscape,
14 you can really feel what it must have been like when
15 150,000 men congregated in that one area.

16 You can see what the struggle was over, what the
17 pieces of territory meant.

18 I'm looking at this for real, not reading the
19 Gettysburg Battlefield was such and such.

20 It's so serene there now and it's hard to
21 imagine the horrific sacrifice that was given on
22 that field.

23 7,000 people dead at the Battle of Gettysburg.
24 We can't just not care about that. We can't. Ever.

25 And this is a war that when people went into it,

1 they expected the high probability of losing a limb
2 or being killed. It must have had a passion to it.
3 And it's absolutely incredible.

4 We tested the meddle of the United States,
5 whether we were going to live out the true meaning
6 of our creed, and it took a civil war and it took a
7 president coming back to Gettysburg, the great
8 beginning of our second act in the history of the
9 United States, to say we have the possibility of a
10 new birth of freedom. We really do mean that all
11 men are created equal. Now watch us. And what we
12 watched was the beginning of the American century.

13 It' such an incredible gift to the future, the
14 freedoms that were fought here. I don't know why
15 anybody would even attempt to change what it stands
16 for.

17 I think the American people have over a very
18 long felt strongly that certain historic sites,
19 hallowed settings, should not be violated by the
20 graffiti of the all mighty dollar sign.

21 I do think there's hallowed ground and I think
22 Gettysburg is it.

23 It's just a very, very moving place. It's like
24 walking into a huge cathedral.

25 The way we treat these sacred places reveals our

1 national character.

2 Those places that we cherish had better be
3 defended because development is so swift so
4 efficient and rather final.

5 The idea of having a casino here is being
6 advanced as a way to exploit the brand that is
7 Gettysburg, but Gettysburg is not just a brand. It
8 is a symbol of our desire as a nation to perfect the
9 promise of our forbearers.

10 I think it would be a tragic mistake that if a
11 place so special, so honored and so visited not for
12 gaming and for fun, but for solemn purposes would
13 prostitute it in the search of a few bucks coming
14 from a slot machine.

15 And by the way, you build a casino in
16 Gettysburg, someone will build a New York, Arlington
17 National Cemetery, the Lincoln Memorial, Ground
18 Zero. Why not put one right there around the
19 Washington Monument? Just think instead of having
20 the reflecting pool, we could have gaming tables.

21 I have nothing against casinos, water parks or
22 theme parks, it's just that the places that we
23 reverence, there aren't that many of them and they
24 need to be preserved in all their pristine quality.

25 I can't imagine there aren't other places for a

1 casino that are more appropriate.

2 Eighty (80) percent of my clients are in the
3 criminal system because of issues of addiction. We
4 are not a county that is equipped to deal with the
5 increased addiction that I believe a casino will
6 bring.

7 Gaming oftentimes provides a very short and
8 usually not as large bounty to the local community.
9 And after a year, it may be two years, three years
10 at the most, that bounty disappears and you're stuck
11 with a casino.

12 It's going to destroy many more jobs than it
13 provides because it will destroy the backbone of the
14 economics of this community which is heritage
15 tourism.

16 We need to spend a lot more time thinking about
17 how to create jobs that actually produce something,
18 not recycle money and we need to find ways to
19 provide jobs for people who should be seeing the
20 future as one of hope, not one of getting rich
21 quick.

22 It will change the nature of why people are
23 there in Gettysburg. Then it changes the whole
24 atmosphere of a community. And the community is
25 part of the experience of going to that site.

1 You have all the re-enactors that come and try
2 and teach people, and that would just be ruined
3 because, you know, it will bring more city life and
4 not that neighborhood, friendly feeling that you get
5 when you're here.

6 The proposed location for this casino operation
7 is basically a half a block from my front yard. I
8 will have the dubious honor to see all of the lights
9 and hear all of the sounds from the casino as I walk
10 out on my front porch in the evenings.

11 Some people say that the casinos won't bother
12 anybody because it's not on the battlefield, well
13 I've studied the battlefield. I've walked the
14 battlefield. They went all the way from York,
15 Lancaster, Chambersburg. These were all places that
16 men marched and the wounded were dragged across the
17 country roads in rickety carts with blood falling
18 out of the carts and onto the ground, so to say
19 there is no battlefield there, no, there's park
20 there. Maybe it's not on the park, but it's on the
21 battlefield.

22 Give us the buffer zone that permits Gettysburg
23 to be Gettysburg.

24 This developer first suggested a casino one mile
25 from hallowed ground in 2005, and it split our

1 community right down the middle. And the
2 Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board said no. Now, the
3 same developer is suggesting a casino license
4 one-half mile away from the Gettysburg National
5 Military Park.

6 What do we care about? What do we love? What
7 matters to us as a people? Is it just money? Is it
8 just entertaining ourselves? No. We can show what
9 we care about. We can show what matters.

10 Silence is acceptance, and we can't do that.

11 I hope that my fellow residents of Gettysburg
12 will get up every morning and wonder whether they've
13 made this a better community than the one they were
14 lucky enough to be part of.

15 We, too, are part of history and that we are
16 going to be judged by history, just as those who
17 went before us are judged by history. And how will
18 they judge us on this issue?

19 To the members of the Gaming Board considering
20 this decision, you seem to be enthused about
21 bringing gaming to the most hallowed piece of earth
22 in this country. Gettysburg? What will be your
23 legacy? What will you leave behind for your kids?

24 What will be your legacy? What will be your
25 legacy? What will be your legacy? What will be

1 your legacy? What will be your legacy? What will
2 be your legacy? Your legacy? What will be your
3 legacy? What will be your legacy? What will be
4 your legacy?

5 VIDEO PRESENTATION ENDS

6 MS. PADDOCK:

7 This was filmed entirely by volunteers
8 and every one appearing in it is a volunteer. No one
9 was paid. They came here because Gettysburg called
10 them to fight for itself. And we're asking you to
11 fight for Gettysburg. This film, there was an
12 attempt to suppress this film by Mason-Dixon. We are
13 asking you to please deny this application to make
14 your legacy saving Gettysburg.

15 Thank you very much.

16 PRESIDING OFFICER:

17 Thank you. Our next speaker, Nicholas
18 Redding.

19 MR. REDDING:

20 Should I wait until they're done?

21 PRESIDING OFFICER:

22 No. Go ahead.

23 MR. REDDING:

24 Fellow citizens, we can not escape
25 history. No personal significance or insignificance

1 can spare one or another of us. The fiery trial
2 through which we pass will light us down in honor or
3 dishonor to the latest generation, or so said our
4 16th President, Abraham Lincoln. Today our
5 generation is tasked with a similar duty, though we
6 are no longer lost in a Civil War to determine the
7 fate of our Republic. We are met on a great
8 battlefield with that struggle. And we have come
9 here to determine the fate of this now deathless
10 field. I'd like to thank you for the opportunity to
11 speak out on this issue on the future of Gettysburg.

12 I'm here today representing the 55,000
13 members of the Civil War Preservation Trust and the
14 countless Americans who recognize the importance of
15 this place and wish to see the sanctified, dignified
16 and hallowed nature of this ground preserved for
17 future generations.

18 The Battle of Gettysburg fought July
19 1st through the 3rd, 1863 was the largest and
20 bloodiest battle of the American Civil War. The
21 battle saw nearly 160,000 Americans locked in mortal
22 combat. More than 50,000 became casualties.
23 Historians concur that the engagement was among the
24 greatest of Civil War battles, but its place in
25 history was further cemented four months later when

1 President Abraham Lincoln traveled to the small
2 Pennsylvania farm town to help dedicate a National
3 Cemetery for those who fell here. Lincoln's few
4 appropriate remarks for the occasion popularly known
5 as the Gettysburg Address have become one of the
6 world's most recognized speeches.

7 The decision made by this Board, as
8 Lincoln would tell us, will light us down in honor or
9 dishonor to the latest generation. Make no mistake
10 about it, the eyes of the world are upon us today.
11 The eyes of the citizens from across this
12 Commonwealth are upon us, and they're looking to us
13 for leadership. They're looking to this Board to
14 carry out the will of the people. And that will is
15 undeniable, preserve Gettysburg.

16 Today you'll be hearing from both sides
17 of this highly controversial proposal. Unfortunately
18 there are many myths associated with this project.
19 Before we get too far today, we'd like to take this
20 opportunity to set the record straight. First, you
21 may hear someone testify that the proposed casino is
22 not located on the battlefield. The reality is that
23 although the proposed casino site along the
24 Emmitsburg Road lies outside the current
25 administrative boundaries of Gettysburg National

1 Military Park, it would be on land identified as
2 historically sensitive by the American Battlefield
3 Protection Program, an arm of the National Park
4 Service, which is shown in this piece --- in this map
5 right here.

6 Additionally, over 280 American
7 historians respectfully disagree with the notion that
8 this area is insignificant and voiced their concern
9 for this project, which we will be submitting today
10 here, for that very reason in a letter dated July
11 1st, 2010, the 147th anniversary of the battle.
12 Among the signers are some of the most prominent
13 historians in America, including James McPherson,
14 Gary Wills, author of the Pulitzer Prize winning
15 Lincoln at Gettysburg, Emmy Award winning documentary
16 film maker, Ken Burns, Carol Reardon, Director of
17 Graduate Studies and History at Pennsylvania State
18 University and Edwin Bearss, Chief Historian Emeritus
19 of the National Park Service.

20 In part, their message stated that as
21 professional historians, they felt strongly that
22 Gettysburg is a unique historic and cultural treasure
23 deserving of our protection. Gettysburg belongs to
24 all Americans equally, future generations no less
25 than those of us alive today. Before concluding that

1 there are many places in Pennsylvania to build a
2 casino, but there is only one Gettysburg.
3 Furthermore, according to Professor McPherson, the
4 proposed site of the casino lies before the advance
5 of Union Calvary toward what became known as South
6 Calvary Field, which saw substantial fighting on
7 afternoon of July 3rd, 1863. This ground, in his,
8 words, is as hallowed as any other part of the
9 Gettysburg Battlefield. And the idea of a casino
10 near the fields and woods where men of both north and
11 south gave the last full measure of devotion is
12 simply outrageous.

13 In addition to the inappropriate
14 juxtaposition, these historians also fear negative
15 indirect impacts on their efforts to interpret the
16 battlefield and share their knowledge with students.
17 Gettysburg resident and Director of the George Tyler
18 Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War West
19 Virginia Shepherd University, Doctor Mark Snell, was
20 extremely concerned as he noted, as someone who has
21 tried to give a tour to my students of South Calvary
22 Field within easy walking distance of the proposed
23 casino, I personally can attest that the last thing
24 that it needs on the Emmitsburg Road where that fight
25 took place is any increased traffic. It wouldn't

1 just be noisy. It would be dangerous.

2 In 2006 when a previous proposal to
3 bring gambling to the fringes of the Gettysburg
4 Battlefield was under consideration, a group of
5 prominent historians similarly spoke out against the
6 ill-advised project. Such thorough and widespread
7 public opposition was among the reasons explicitly
8 cited by this Board in the rejection of the
9 application. One of those at the forefront of that
10 effort was Ed Bearss, a former historian at Vicksburg
11 National Battlefield, who feels that the site was
12 irreparably damaged by the emergence of gaming
13 nearby. His opposition to this newer proposal has
14 not diminished in the least. Over the course of his
15 storied career, Bearss has spent many thousands of
16 hours leading tours of the Gettysburg Battlefield and
17 explained that Gettysburg, if it embraces the casino,
18 is forfeiting that which has undeniable national and
19 international significance. Do you want the most
20 iconic battlefield in America and the site of Abraham
21 Lincoln's immortal Gettysburg Address or do you want
22 just another slots parlor?

23 Beyond the individual signatories, the
24 message and its sentiment received the endorsement
25 and support of the American Historical Association,

1 the National Coalition for History, The National
2 Council on Public History, The Organization of
3 American Historians, The Society for Military
4 History, and The Southern Historical Association.

5 Simply put, the last time this Board
6 recognized the casino one mile from the battlefield
7 was far too close. This proposal is even closer to
8 the absolute heart of the battlefield. This is
9 undeniably hallowed ground.

10 Next you may hear that the opposition
11 is simply anti-gaming. This again, is simply
12 unfounded. We have no qualms with gaming whatsoever.
13 Rather, we are opposed to gaming with a Gettysburg
14 address.

15 You may also hear that there is
16 overwhelming support for this project. But the
17 reality is that beyond the exaggerated claims of a
18 few local cheerleaders and their Astro Turf movement,
19 this proposal is considered absurd, strange and
20 distasteful by the vast majority of Americans. The
21 American Legion and its 2.6 million members call this
22 proposal a national disgrace. The Vietnam Veterans
23 Memorial Fund notes that the investors simply see a
24 chance to make money. They could not be more
25 misguided about this idea morally or historically.

1 Let them sew the seeds of their enterprise somewhere
2 else, not where our ancestors concentrated this
3 ground to preserve America and our freedom. The
4 Philadelphia Inquirer has noted on three separate
5 occasions the distasteful nature of this project.
6 And most recently explained that bringing roulette
7 tables and slot machines anywhere near the
8 battlefield would be a mistake of historic
9 proportions.

10 Scores of Gettysburg owned and operated
11 businesses also disagree with the economic logic of
12 citing a casino in a community that is so dependent
13 upon its heritage tourists. As you will hear later
14 today, the gaming and heritage tourism industry can
15 not coexist in perfect harmony.

16 And today, I'm also here to announce
17 that 30,293 citizens who signed petitions from across
18 Pennsylvania and the nation have respectfully
19 submitted a petition that lays before you now to this
20 Board in, quote, vote no to the desecration of the
21 hallowed ground where so many American soldiers
22 valiantly fought and courageously died in a war that
23 transformed our nation. That is anything but
24 overwhelming support.

25 The nation is speaking clearly,

1 Pennsylvania is speaking clearly, the opposition is
2 overwhelming. The choice is simple, license a casino
3 and destroy hallowed ground or deny this request and
4 ensure your place in history as the Board that stood
5 up for jobs, history and a sense of decency.

6 The preservation of this singularly
7 significant moment in our history will be your
8 legacy. It will be our legacy as the latest
9 generation of Americans that stood up to save this
10 ground, just as every generation before has had the
11 good sense to do. Remember well the words of
12 President Theodore Roosevelt, who implored an earlier
13 generation of Americans to cherish the history and
14 romance as a sacred heritage for your children and
15 your children's children. Do not let selfish men or
16 greedy interests skim your country of its beauty, its
17 riches or its romance. We ask you to follow the
18 logic and the words of Governor Ed Rendell, who said
19 in 2005 during the last proposal to bring gaming to
20 Gettysburg, and I quote, I wouldn't want a casino two
21 blocks from the Liberty Bell in Gettysburg (sic).
22 And if it were my decision, I wouldn't want it
23 anywhere close to the historic area of Gettysburg.

24 Therefore, on behalf of a concerned
25 nation, we respectfully request that this Board

1 consider the precedent set in its first decision and
2 reject this proposal for the serious, significant and
3 direct impacts it will have on one of this nation's
4 finest historic resources. Thank you.

5 PRESIDING OFFICER:

6 Mr. Redding, I don't believe you
7 identified yourself for the record ---

8 MR. REDDING:

9 Sure.

10 PRESIDING OFFICER:

11 --- or the group you represent or where
12 you reside. Could you do so, please?

13 MR. REDDING:

14 Absolutely. My name is Nicholas
15 Redding. Redding is spelled R-E-D-D-I-N-G. I
16 represent the Civil War Preservation Trust. I am
17 personally a resident of Jefferson, Maryland. My
18 organization resides in Washington, DC.

19 PRESIDING OFFICER:

20 Thank you. Michael Siegel? I
21 understand that the boxes that are sitting up in
22 front of me are what you'd like to move into the
23 record; ---

24 MR. REDDING:

25 Yes.

1 PRESIDING OFFICER:

2 --- correct?

3 MR. REDDING:

4 These we'd like to move into the
5 record.

6 PRESIDING OFFICER:

7 Okay. They will be admitted as
8 submitted as written comment and added to the public
9 comment written comment portion of the record. Thank
10 you.

11 MR. REDDING:

12 Thank you.

13 PRESIDING OFFICER:

14 Michael Siegel?

15 MR. SIEGEL:

16 Ladies and gentlemen, thank you very
17 much. My name is Michael Siegel. I'm representing
18 Businesses Against the Casino, a group of about 90
19 local businesses in the Adams County area. And I
20 have been retained by them and three other national
21 groups to address you on this subject today.

22 Let me start off by going right to the
23 heart of the matter, jobs. The jobs, as represented
24 in the Econsult report, are a mishmash of full and
25 part-time jobs and FTE. You cannot subtract an FTE

1 job from a full and part-time job and get a
2 meaningful result. It's like subtracting five dogs
3 from ten cats, you don't have that. Any math teacher
4 would mark that wrong.

5 I'm afraid to tell you that you have a
6 very defective document in front of you in the form
7 of the Econsult report. I've concluded in my
8 analysis, exhaustive analysis, they have double
9 counted at least 72,000 overnight visitors to the
10 area. And that impact, that double counting trickles
11 throughout the report. How do we know that? I first
12 became aware of it because when you look at the
13 indirect jobs, the 326 jobs that are shown in that
14 report I gave you, a short handout, so that you can
15 view these. And on the second page, well, those jobs
16 must be related by a multiplier, a multiple of the
17 total full and part-time jobs at proposed casino and
18 resort. When we apply standard industry multiplier
19 --- in fact, when we apply the one from Warren
20 County, Mississippi, which is where Vicksburg is
21 located, we would come up with 1,087 full and
22 part-time jobs at the proposed resort. That is
23 literally a ridiculous number.

24 That's the same staffing ratio as the
25 Borgata in Atlantic City, the highest and one of the

1 most popular and successful destination resorts for
2 international, national and other high-end and
3 high-roller visitors to Atlantic City. It's the most
4 successful casino in Atlantic City and one of the
5 most successful in the country. It's a \$2.7 billion
6 value --- sorry. 1.7 billion property. The value of
7 the proposed resort is around in there. So, we know
8 that's a ridiculous number.

9 We heard about an hour's worth of
10 testimony from various people how many jobs it's
11 going to be. They never told us how many jobs.
12 They're only telling us FTE. Well, if I work 13
13 hours a week, it takes three of me to take an FTE.
14 Why is this critical information still withheld? Why
15 is it still not on the record? It's nowhere in
16 Econsult's report. And that's how we know there's
17 double counting.

18 But there's another way we know there's
19 double counting. All we have to do is look at
20 Econsult's report. If you don't mind, turn to page
21 four and you can see how they define ancillary
22 spending, second to the last paragraph. It's all
23 spending by any visitor that doesn't take place on
24 the premises. Turn the page, page five. We see
25 total overnight visitors 93,333. The output

1 associated with that and with day trippers is a sum
2 of 12.61 million. Turn to the next page I've given
3 you, page six, we sit at 12.6 million coming up on
4 the ancillary spending and that 80 percent of that
5 goes over to Adams County. So, 100 percent of the
6 overnight visitors are assigned as ancillary.

7 Remember ancillary is offsite. Well, this would be
8 the first hotel casino in history that didn't have
9 anybody actually staying in their own hotel. Again,
10 this is literally preposterous. Now, they've made a
11 mistake here and that means that this application is
12 defective. It means they've double counted 72,000
13 overnight visitors, at least.

14 The other way it's defective is they
15 have not acknowledged any adverse impact of this
16 proposed casino. Zero. They are supposed to, by
17 your regulation on the face of your application,
18 identify any adverse impact to historical, cultural,
19 municipal and tourism resources. Well, what's the
20 --- biggest municipal resource is, of course, the
21 economy. We have three others that are given, equal
22 priority of those. And what we find when we go to
23 Vicksburg is we find this is actually a very serious
24 issue. If you noticed in the Applicant's video,
25 every single shot of downtown Vicksburg was empty.

1 And that's how I found it when I went there in March.
2 You and your ten best friends can set up a picnic
3 blanket in the middle of any intersection in downtown
4 Vicksburg, have a picnic there for hours and not
5 delay a single vehicle. I'm not joking about that.
6 It is dead. It is vacant. Forty (40) percent of the
7 structures in downtown Vicksburg, the main street,
8 are vacant. That's a depression of astronomical
9 proportions.

10 Now, that's important. But how do we
11 know that's connected with the casinos? Well, we
12 have some very, very significant data. We have
13 forensic data, and we also have coincident data. The
14 coincident data is the visitation pattern at the
15 National Park. What we saw is that in the years
16 after the casinos opened, visitation plunged 12 to 20
17 percent in the first two years. It took about four
18 to five years for it to bounce back to where it was
19 before casinos came in. That's interesting.

20 We also found --- but let's confirm
21 this with other data. The Mississippi Department of
22 Transportation has traffic counters immediately
23 outside the entrance to that park. And they have
24 dozens of traffic counters elsewhere throughout
25 downtown Vicksburg, and they have traffic counters

1 immediately outside the main casino complex, which is
2 located about the same distance as the proposed
3 casino would be from downtown Gettysburg. What
4 happened there?

5 Well, outside the National Park,
6 traffic increased 12 percent. Well, that would be
7 pretty good. That would suggest that a lot of those
8 people were turning right and going to the park.
9 They didn't, because we know park visitation
10 decreased 12 percent. Hmm, interesting. What
11 happened downtown? Traffic downtown from 1988 to,
12 2008 decreased 20 percent --- sorry, 17 percent.
13 Wow. Any businessowner who's looking at that kind of
14 drop in traffic counts is really going to be
15 seriously impacted.

16 Then what happened outside the main
17 casino complex, traffic did increase between 20 to 68
18 percent. So, we have the smoking gun and we have the
19 fingerprints on the smoking gun. There is
20 incontrovertible evidence that those casinos
21 seriously damaged the most important historical,
22 cultural and tourism resources in that economy. And
23 we know that it's still going on because 40 percent
24 of the structures are vacant. And the mayor is
25 quoted recently as saying, oh, it's those silly

1 businessowners didn't invest. Well, where I come
2 from, that's called blaming the victim. And we have
3 90 other businessowners here who are supporting my
4 work, who are just as concerned about the freight
5 train putting the faces on them.

6 Now, don't be confused, that this is
7 only 900 gaming positions, 600 hundred slots, 50
8 table games, about six positions of table games.
9 It's 900 gaming positions. That's more gaming
10 positions per person than Vicksburg residents were
11 exposed to. Vicksburg residents were exposed to
12 about seven gaming positions per person. That's
13 about 8.3 gaming positions per person if we
14 distribute those across the Borough of Gettysburg
15 population. So, the severity of the impact is likely
16 to be equal to and, in fact, exceed that which
17 occurred in Vicksburg.

18 Why do I say exceed? Vicksburg casino
19 are protected. They don't have a competing casino.
20 You can only put them along the waterfront. There's
21 no casino in Grantsburg. There's no casino over here
22 by Delaware. There's no casino over here by Charles
23 Town. This location is geographically impaired. It
24 does not have a protected market. They can't reach
25 their numbers. The only thing they can do is market

1 more heavily to the only population to which they
2 have an advantage. That's the people here in Adams
3 County and the people will who are currently coming
4 to visit them. They will divert up to around \$44
5 million and \$60 million. That's maybe at the high
6 end, could be lower. They will divert that much from
7 existing local businesses in the community. It will
8 destroy over --- 727 to over a thousand jobs,
9 existing jobs in this community.

10 Now, maybe the person's who might be on
11 the sheriff's foreclosure list might get a job there.
12 But what about those other thousand people? Now,
13 they're on that foreclosure list, and their jobs,
14 their livelihoods are threatened as are the jobs,
15 livelihood, businesses and professionals are the
16 businesses that would be most critically and most
17 directly impacted by the diverted spending.

18 Let me address --- we have another
19 defect in Econsult's report. There's no local data
20 in it whatsoever, except for one piece of data. They
21 say that there's two million visitors at Gettysburg
22 National Military Park. Well, I just checked the
23 website of the National Park Service, they got 1
24 million visitors there in 2009. And if we adjust for
25 the way they count, the most they've ever had in the

1 last few decades is about 1.4 million. This is only
2 local data point at all in Econsult's report. Here
3 we have the critical importance of the impact of this
4 project on the community and we have zero data that
5 has any accuracy. We have any zero data except for
6 one data point that's inaccurate. We have no other
7 data whatsoever that is conscious of this community.
8 What they've done is they've taken a generic model
9 ---

10 PRESIDING OFFICER:

11 Mr. Siegel, time is up.

12 MR. SIEGEL:

13 --- and they've applied it to a place
14 that is not generic. Thank you very much. I have
15 exhibits to introduce. Shall I give them? They
16 consist of the ones I've given you.

17 PRESIDING OFFICER:

18 Please give them to Deb Joyce and we
19 will enter them as written comments to the record.
20 Kristin Rice?

21 MR. SCHRIER:

22 Ms. Lloyd, we didn't hear where he was
23 from. Could you just have everyone follow the
24 procedure. We'd appreciate that.

25 PRESIDING OFFICER:

1 I believe he did say he was from the
2 Businesses Against Casinos.

3 MR. SCHRIER:

4 Okay. His residence and his ---?

5 PRESIDING OFFICER:

6 Mr. Siegel, if you could let us know
7 where you reside?

8 MR. SIEGEL:

9 I reside in Washington, D.C.

10 MS. RICE:

11 Okay. Hello. My name is Kristin Rice.
12 I live in Cumberland Township. That's K-R-I-S-T-I-N
13 R-I-C-E. As a matter of fact, my father and my
14 grandfather are buried on the hill right behind this
15 hotel. I represent Families Against the Casino. I
16 was born in Gettysburg in 1960, and I have now raised
17 my three boys here.

18 It was impressed upon me at a very
19 early age, and I have sought to teach my sons, that
20 living in Gettysburg is both a blessing and a
21 responsibility. The blessings are obvious. We're
22 surrounded by these beautiful fields of green and we
23 have history right outside our front door. But the
24 responsibilities are sober and compelling. And these
25 responsibilities include to honor those who served

1 and fell here, to preserve as much as we can the
2 integrity of this town, so that for generations to
3 come what was sacrificed here and what was spoken
4 here in 1863 will never be forgotten.

5 Now, every year from when I was in
6 first grade through when I was in sixth grade, I
7 walked with my classmates from Eisenhower Elementary
8 School in the Memorial Day Parade. We walked through
9 the streets of Gettysburg up to the National
10 Cemetery, where we strewed flowers on the graves,
11 many of unknown soldiers. My boys did it, too. And
12 as they got older, and I became a Cub Master and my
13 husband became a Scout Master, they Marched in every
14 Memorial Day Parade. I will forever connect bouquets
15 of peonies with Memorial Day.

16 Now, as Scouters, as adult scout
17 leaders are called, my husband and I have hiked with
18 hundreds of boys across the fields of Gettysburg, to
19 get their Gettysburg patch, via the Billy Yank and
20 the Johnny Reb hikes in part. The Gettysburg patch
21 is one of the most coveted of all Boy Scout patches.
22 If you go to a National Jamboree, people will spot it
23 and say, woah, you've got the Gettysburg patch. Do
24 you realize that tens of thousands of Boy Scouts come
25 here every year with their families to earn the

1 Gettysburg patch? 20,000 to 30,000 Boy Scouts and
2 their leaders camp on the battlefield in McMillan
3 Woods every season from April to October. The Boy
4 Scouts of America developed this patch in connection
5 with the National Park Service, because it teaches
6 the boys not just history but also the values of good
7 citizenry, of loyalty, of bravery and of reverence.

8 My middle son, who's an Eagle Scout
9 wears his Gettysburg patch proudly on his uniform.
10 And I just sent my youngest son who's 17, as a Rotary
11 Student Ambassador to Ruzow, Poland for the year.
12 And do you know what he packed for his host family, a
13 copy of the Killer Angels and a DVD of Gettysburg,
14 because that's what he wanted to show the people of
15 Poland, who he would be befriending, what his
16 American heritage meant to him.

17 Now, Gettysburg is a classroom for
18 families. Here children learn the values of service
19 to country, honor, sacrifice and reverence, which is
20 one of the 12 points of the Scout Law. I know it's
21 your duty to award this license, but please not here.
22 What would we think of the French if they put a
23 casino on the beaches of Normandy? We wouldn't put
24 one next to Arlington National Cemetery. For our
25 children, for the grandchildren, for the generations

1 to come, please give Gettysburg the reverence it's
2 due. Hold it apart from the other sites, because of
3 the blood that was spilled here and for all the
4 families throughout our nation that lost here their
5 fathers and their brothers and their sons.

6 Now, these troubled economic times will
7 pass, but the values preserved here and taught here
8 by families to their children are like the flames of
9 our peace, light, eternal. Thank you.

10 PRESIDING OFFICER:

11 Excuse me. I know you're all
12 enthusiastic and you all support the position that
13 you take. But in Court of Law, we would not allow
14 clapping. So, I ask that you all refrain from
15 clapping after the speakers are speaking. Thank you.
16 Bruce Hoover?

17 MR. HOOVER:

18 Good afternoon. My name is Bruce
19 Hoover, B-R-U-C-E H-O-O-V-E-R. I'm not a lawyer.
20 I'm not a paid consultant. I'm the executive
21 Director of Child Evangelism Fellowship of Adams
22 County. Add I've lived here for over 20 years. Our
23 organization's administration has been serving the
24 county, and especially children for 58 years. I
25 thank you for this opportunity this morning to speak

1 on behalf of children, who I believe are the youngest
2 group represented, the youngest group that will be
3 impacted, as well as families by the casino here in
4 Adams County.

5 Our ministry has programs in 15
6 elementary and middle schools here in the County. I
7 believe I can speak from a unique perspective because
8 of my contact with children throughout the county. I
9 hear their concerns. I hear their cries of their
10 hearts. I know their burdens, the burdens that they
11 carry, as they come to our clubs and classes.

12 Doctor Valerie Lorens, Executive
13 Director of Compulsive Gambling Center in Baltimore
14 stated that compulsive gambling is devastating to
15 individuals, to marriages, as well as to every family
16 member. According to a study, five percent of the
17 population becomes pathological gamblers. That's
18 five percent of the population, not five percent of
19 the gamblers. We plug the population of Adams County
20 into those numbers, that means 455 would become
21 potential pathological gamblers. That would mean 455
22 families would be adversely impacted.

23 While there are claims the casino would
24 provide economic research, but according to testimony
25 by Earl Grinols, Professor of Economics for the

1 University of Illinois, who's made a prepared
2 statement before a Congressional Committee. He said
3 these claims are mostly false. He goes on to say
4 that the cost to society per pathological gambler in
5 the population leads to a society cost between \$315
6 to over a thousand dollars per member of the
7 workforce. All theses dollars impact families and
8 children.

9 A study of 400 Gamblers Anonymous
10 members shows that 28 percent of them stated they are
11 divorced or separated from their family as a direct
12 result of their gambling. The Rapid City Journal, in
13 an article titled Video Gambling Roulette, reported
14 an increase of more than 200 divorces per year in
15 their small area. I know, and I see the deep hurt in
16 the children when their parents separate by divorce.
17 I see the scars that it leaves. Adams County
18 doesn't need that increase of a divorce rate. I know
19 these precious children would do all they could to
20 stop divorce. If I could have brought them with me
21 this morning, they would have all stood here and
22 pleaded with you not to allow this casino to be built
23 here. In Harrison County, Mississippi, the rate of
24 divorce and other family problems did not increase by
25 100 percent, not 200 percent, but by 300 percent with

1 the introduction of a casino.

2 Another impact among families and
3 children is domestic violence. A third-grader in one
4 of my classes shared with much sadness and concern.
5 She said her parents were arguing and they were
6 fighting. She went to her room and prayed for them
7 to stop. Her heart was torn by the way her parents
8 were treating each other. They're supposed to love
9 each other and care for each other and for her. She
10 was scared. In the Mississippi Gulf region, it's
11 reported that requests for assistance by domestic
12 violence shelters increased between 100 and 300
13 percent after the introduction of casinos in that
14 area.

15 Child abuse and neglect and other
16 serious outcomes come from gambling. In Indiana, a
17 review of the state's Gaming Commission records
18 revealed that 72 children were found abandoned on the
19 casino premises in a 14-month period. In Louisiana
20 and South Carolina, children have died after being
21 locked in cars for hours while their caretakers were
22 gambling. I know that these --- those who would say
23 that will not happen here, but you know the truth.
24 You know the situations that took place in the casino
25 in Berks Counts recently. You know of a woman who

1 was charged with child endangerment for leaving her 8
2 year old and 15 year old daughters in the parking lot
3 while she went and played the slot machines. You
4 know the teenage daughter in the parking lot who had
5 to flag down a passerby at 12:30 in the morning to
6 borrow a cell phone to call her father who was in the
7 casino. You know that in just a two-months period,
8 five children were found abandoned in the casino
9 parking lots. I know of my mother was sent to prison
10 for suffocating her infant daughter in order to
11 collect insurance money in order to continue to
12 gamble. I'm aware that these are extreme cases, but
13 there's no guarantee that these types of neglect and
14 abuse will not happen in this community.

15 Gambling has an impact upon the
16 finances of families. A survey conducted by The
17 Herald Sun revealed that 55 percent of money used in
18 gambling comes from household and living budgets of
19 families. That means nearly 50 percent of funds that
20 would have been used for food, for housing, for
21 clothing, the needs of the family are used instead
22 for gambling.

23 Let me just share one more example of
24 the negative impact upon gambling and children. In
25 November 2000, a man in Michigan killed himself, his

1 pregnant wife and their three children. He owned a
2 painting company and he used the funds from the
3 company to his support his gambling. His debt was
4 over \$500,000. In the suicide note, he clearly
5 indicated that he was sorry, he had to take the lives
6 of his expecting wife, his seven year old, his six
7 year old and two year old. The note suggested that
8 the family would not have been able to live if he had
9 just taken his own life.

10 I believe I've clearly demonstrated the
11 diverse impact gambling has on children and families.
12 It's an offense to children. It hardens them in so
13 many ways. In light of all this, let me close with
14 just one verse from god's word. It's a warning that
15 he gives to those who offend children. It comes from
16 the book of Luke, Chapter 7, Verse 12. It says it
17 was better for them that a millstone be hung about
18 his neck and be cast into the sea than he should
19 offend one of these little ones.

20 Thank you for your time and
21 consideration.

22 PRESIDING OFFICER:

23 Mr. Hoover, I'm not sure you identified
24 where you reside.

25 MR. HOOVER:

1 I live in Biglerville.

2 PRESIDING OFFICER:

3 Thank you. Keith Miller?

4 MR. MILLER:

5 Thank you. For taking our testimony
6 today. My name is Keith miller, M-I-L-L-E-R, of
7 Richfield, Connecticut. I represent the Adams County
8 Rescue Mission in opposing the proposed Mason-Dixon
9 Casino. For four decades the mission has served this
10 community sheltering, feeding and clothing those in
11 need. And I am honored to represent them here today.
12 Other will talk of a moral opposition to gambling
13 addiction, saving our nation's history and Adams'
14 economy. I will demonstrate why this is a marginal
15 location for the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board.
16 By a show of hands, how many people are carrying
17 \$1,484 on them today? How many are willing to lose
18 it in a casino?

19 I can stop my testimony now.
20 Mason-Dixon plans that 30 percent of Adams' residents
21 will lose \$1,284 in a casino. These folks don't have
22 that. In denying a Gettysburg Casino License in
23 2006, the PGCB concluded the Gettysburg area, itself,
24 is primarily a rural area without large population
25 centers nearby to sustain an casino, and that the

1 Applicant had failed to demonstrate to the Board's
2 satisfaction that the facility could draw gamblers
3 from Maryland, Baltimore and Washington D.C.

4 Today Mason-Dixon has no illusions as
5 to serving Washington or Baltimore, but still
6 forecasts an unobtainable \$83 million in revenue.
7 The forecast is overly optimistic. Its plan to
8 install 50 table games to produce \$22 million in
9 revenues contradicts prior statements that table
10 games are inappropriate for Adams County. And it is
11 a fantasy compared to what is achieved nationally in
12 forecasting residential or day trip local attendants,
13 the Applicant stretched the truth on distances and
14 ignored competitive dynamics. Their claims of
15 overnight casino attendance are unrealistic and
16 unprecedented. Located in a rural and relatively
17 poorer community than existing Pennsylvania casinos,
18 Mason-Dixon will fall short by at least 30 percent of
19 its projected revenues for gaming position.

20 Mason-Dixon could do worse. Because of
21 two additional impediments. First, patrons will have
22 to pay \$10 to enter giving them an incentive to
23 continue patronizing existing free casinos, which
24 offer more amenities. Second, Mason-Dixon will be
25 managed by Penn National, who's also the investor and

1 owns the prime competitors of this facility. Penn
2 National will have limited interest in expanding the
3 market beyond Adams' residents too poor to drive to a
4 Penn National facility.

5 Five years ago, David LeVan said table
6 games were inappropriate for Adams County. In 2005,
7 Gettysburg Gaming Resort & Spa website claimed slots
8 facilities have a tendency to be much less visually
9 ostentatious and feature attractions that are more in
10 line with the conservative culture found in our
11 areas. Its patron, slots, are very unlike the high
12 rollers that patronize Atlantic City and Vegas gaming
13 venues. Crossroads Gaming Resort & Spa explained
14 studies show that people who patronize slots gamings
15 are very different from people who regularly
16 patronize high stakes table gaming casinos, such as
17 those in Nevada, Louisiana and New Jersey. The high
18 rollers are not coming here.

19 Mason-Dixon's claim that it will
20 install 50 tables, which is 12 slots to each table,
21 is unprecedented. Pennsylvania's casinos, as you
22 know, currently operate 40 slots for each table which
23 is consistent with casinos across the nation.
24 According to the American Gaming Association, table
25 games provide 12 percent of casino revenues

1 everywhere but Vegas and Atlantic City. Mason-Dixon
2 will do no better than operating 16 table games which
3 will generate 12 percent, not 27 percent of their
4 total revenues.

5 Residential visitors, as shown in table
6 one, the first track there, this is from Mason-Dixon,
7 their forecast attendance of 673,894 locals living
8 within an hour of the casino. Mason-Dixon's forecast
9 concedes its market will be limited by Penn
10 National's casino in Grantville and Charles Town. As
11 shown in figure one on the next page, Dauphin,
12 Montgomery and Baltimore Counties are not considered
13 viable. The map almost looks like a syndicate's
14 division of the market between Mason-Dixon and Penn
15 National. And adjusted forecast was built by
16 examining travel times for each ZIP Code to
17 Mason-Dixon and competing casinos. When ZIP Codes
18 were found not to belong to Mason-Dixon's zone one,
19 they were moved to zone two. When ZIP Codes were
20 found to be closer or almost as close to a competing
21 facility as Mason-Dixon, the ZIP Code was removed.
22 Figure three on the next page shows a 35-minute drive
23 from Mason-Dixon with a blue line and a 35-minute
24 drive from a completing facilities with a solid blue
25 area. Carlisle's 43 minutes from Grantville, but 55

1 minutes from Mason-Dixon. It was removed. North
2 Frederick is 40 minutes from Charles Town and 35
3 minutes from Mason-Dixon. It is unlikely existing
4 Frederick-based casino Charles Town casino patrons
5 will pay \$10 to save five minutes and get fewer
6 amenities.

7 As shown on the next page in figures
8 four and two, after these adjustments, Mason-Dixon's
9 available market declined by half. Carlisle, York,
10 Frederick and Hagerstown are gone. What remains is a
11 rural swath from Hanover through Gettysburg to
12 Chambersburg. Even this may be optimistic. As shown
13 on the next page in figure five, much of the
14 remaining zone two is within an hour of competing
15 facilities. Penn National's reach swallows this
16 market.

17 As shown on table four, Mason-Dixon
18 forecasts 93,000 overnight casino guests with 43,000
19 staying at the casino. Perhaps these are just comped
20 visitors. Applying Mason-Dixon's methodology to
21 other 49,000 overnight guests shows Mason-Dixon's
22 forecasting of 24 percent of the adults coming to the
23 area will visit the casino. This is without
24 precedent. In its report from Valley Forge,
25 Econsult, the same firm which prepared Mason-Dixon's

1 LIR predicted only 85,000 overnight visits. The
2 Valley Forge hotel industry is seven times larger
3 than Gettysburg. To be comparable overnight guests
4 at Mason-Dixon would be 12,000 and revenue would only
5 be one and half million, not 11 million. It is
6 inconceivable that Mason-Dixon could convert 24
7 percent of the existing tourists into overnight
8 gamblers. Families come here for history, not to
9 gamble.

10 As you said, Adams is a small rural
11 county. And experience shows that small rural
12 casinos underperform larger suburban urban casinos.
13 As shown in table ten, comparable 600 slot casinos in
14 Iowa, Missouri, underperformed larger casinos in
15 those states by 30 percent. Such smaller casino are
16 located in counties where per capita income is 18
17 percent below that of larger casino counties and
18 where the population density is 13 percent that of
19 larger casinos. Adams is similar. It's per capita
20 income is 20 percent below Pennsylvania current
21 casino counties while its population density is 28
22 percent compared to casino counties.

23 The proposed Mason-Dixon casino will
24 underperform Pennsylvania's larger casinos by at
25 least 30 percent. Revenue at best will be \$169 per

1 day per position, not the \$240 achieved in
2 Pennsylvania's current casinos. Revenues, of course,
3 could be lower because you have to pay \$10 to go to
4 this casino, unlike Iowa and Missouri and
5 Pennsylvania's other casinos, which are free.

6 A \$30 million renovation of the
7 Eisenhower Inn is not the Borgata. Masino-Dixon is
8 neither a resort nor a suburban/urban casino. It
9 will produce less than half the Applicant's predicted
10 revenue and almost half of that will come from the
11 rural, conservative Adams County, which as we've
12 heard, cannot afford it.

13 Pennsylvania has more attractive
14 options. According to the National Park Service, the
15 Delaware Water Gap draws 5.2 million visitors a year.
16 The same report says the Gettysburg draws a million.
17 If only five percent wanted to go to a casino, this
18 is 260,000 in the case of Fernwood, but only 50,000
19 here. Mechanicsburg offers a suburban/urban market
20 for a casino. While some of their revenue would be
21 cannibalized from Grantville, they would expand
22 gambling the west side of the Susquehanna by offering
23 a more convenient and competitive venue to Penn
24 National for Mechanicsburg, Carlisle, Shippensburg,
25 Chambersburg and York. About 30,000 adults live

1 within 15 minutes of Mason-Dixon, 5 times that number
2 live within 15 minutes of Penn Harrah's.

3 Finally, a few resorts --- finally, few
4 resorts in Pennsylvania are as luxurious as
5 Nemacolin. It draws money from around the nation and
6 offers a unique opportunity to open a high roller
7 resort casino. Nemacolin's guests spend \$300 to \$400
8 a night, not a \$100 like the Eisenhower Inn. High
9 rollers want to gamble with high rollers. And
10 Mason-Dixon in Adams County is not that community.
11 Pennsylvania and the PGCB have more attractive
12 options than Gettysburg. However, even if Gettysburg
13 were the only Applicant, would you actually place a
14 casino in this town against the national outcry to
15 increase state gaming taxes by one percent on a
16 billion dollar base? Is that really how low it is?
17 America has a thousand casino towns, but only one
18 Gettysburg. Consider your legacy and please save
19 Gettysburg. Vote no casino. Thank you.

20 PRESIDING OFFICER:

21 Mr. Miller, the Board has a question.
22 What is your profession?

23 MR. MILLER:

24 Business consultant.

25 PRESIDING OFFICER:

1 Thank you. I have an announcement I've
2 been asked to make. There is a car parked in the
3 adjoining cemetery that needs to be moved
4 immediately. If you go out later, it may not be
5 there. So if it is your car, please move it
6 immediately. Alan Ferranto?

7 MR. FERRANTO:

8 Good afternoon. Thank you for allowing
9 me to speak. My name is Al Ferranto. I represent
10 Concerned Citizens of Cumberland Township, and I do
11 live in Cumberland Township. Today is a sad day for
12 me personally. It is sad because our beautiful
13 community and county are in the national spotlight.
14 This national spotlight is not on us because of the
15 famous Battle of Gettysburg or the Gettysburg
16 Address. It is on us because an application was
17 filed to for a proposed Category 3 Casino License to
18 be awarded by the State of Pennsylvania and is only a
19 half mile away from former President Dwight D.
20 Eisenhower's home and the Battle of Gettysburg
21 National Park. It is sad because the whole world is
22 watch a community and county having their own civil
23 war.

24 Since the proposal of an potential
25 casino has surfaced again, we have become polarized

1 and fractured. This division is even greater than it
2 was in 2005 and 2006, when the last proposal was
3 submitted and rejected. When you, the Board, make
4 your decision, whichever way you decide, our
5 community will live and feel this fracture,
6 polarization, anger and bitterness for years to come.
7 Is this why I'm sad as I stand before you today.

8 Our mission statement, Concerned
9 Citizens, CCCTPA is a community of citizens who have
10 joined together to help in promoting transparency in
11 representative government in Cumberland Township. We
12 are fortunate to live in a township rich in history
13 where one of the world greatest battles was fought
14 and where President Dwight David Eisenhower chose to
15 live during his retirement because of its beauty and
16 sense of history. To this end, our goal is simple,
17 to be actively engaged in our elected township
18 supervisors, to enhance the quality of life for its
19 citizens, to ensure that the township remains a
20 community of beauty to cherish and respect the
21 history that lies within our borders and to
22 encourage our fellow citizens to participate in
23 Cumberland Township's government and its
24 deliberations.

25 And another quote, many people chose to

1 live in the area because of beautiful settings and
2 the meaning of Gettysburg in American history. And
3 that's a quote from our Cumberland Township's
4 website, that quote I just --- that last quote I just
5 mentioned.

6 Now, why am I standing here before you
7 with a concerned citizens group? I was never
8 involved with any meetings with Cumberland Township.
9 I never attended a meeting. My first meeting was on
10 March 18th. And I went to that meeting because there
11 was a zoning change being made to allow casino
12 gambling. Which was disturbing to me was that the
13 developer was requesting that zoning change without
14 conditionings. And we were requesting it be placed
15 with conditions. Well, after over an hour of
16 testimony, the meeting ended and then 13 minutes
17 later, they reconvened and they ruled in favor of the
18 developer without conditionings. I then realized
19 that the meeting was meaningless. That our testimony
20 was meaningless. That minds were already made up.
21 And that democracy, transparency and openness in
22 government was not taking place in Cumberland
23 Township. And when that happens, you lose trust in
24 your elected representatives, and that's what
25 occurred to us. We can no longer trust our elected

1 representatives. All we wanted was conditions to be
2 placed with that casino ordinance change.

3 On March 23rd, we went to the meeting
4 and we announced our formation of our group and told
5 them why we formed our group. And on the very same
6 day, on March 23rd, a letter arrived at the Borough
7 Hall or sent to the attorney's office, we're not sure
8 which way it went, but they received it, that a
9 Memorandum of Understanding was being proposed by
10 Mason-Dixon Resort with Cumberland Township for a
11 million dollar guarantee. Five days after the
12 meeting. At that time at the meaning March 23rd, we
13 complained and said why wasn't this meeting held at
14 night instead of in the morning. Again, openness in
15 democracy was not at play here.

16 So what happens is April 1st, in the
17 legal notice, in the Gettysburg Times, there's this
18 little article here saying there's going to be a
19 meeting on a Memorandum of Understanding. No one saw
20 it. No one went to the meeting. There was wasn't
21 one citizen there. Two police officers, the attorney
22 for Mason-Dixon and a reporter. That's all that was
23 at the meeting. I said to them why couldn't the meet
24 ing be postponed so we could have an open debate and
25 talk about this Memorandum of Understanding. Let me

1 read to you a quote from the Gettysburg Times.
2 There's not going to be a discussion on the MOU.
3 This is this our township chairman, Mr. Waybright.
4 It's already been voted on and approved, Waybright
5 said regarding the legal agreement with Mason-Dixon
6 Resorts. It's a done deal. And this is April 28th.

7 So within 18 days of the time they
8 change an ordinance, they have a Memorandum of
9 Understanding with Mason-Dixon Resorts. When I
10 questioned them about the Memorandum of
11 Understanding, they said to me, how could they do it
12 in half an hour? Because that's what the minutes
13 said they met. This special meeting was in half an
14 hour. They've made a decision. How could you in a
15 half an hour make the decision? Attorney Dively
16 stated that she gave a synopsis of each paragraph and
17 there were no questions. No questions. A Memorandum
18 of Understanding that affected an entire township and
19 there were no questionings. No vetting. No nothing.
20 Just no questions. Again, another agreement, another
21 behind-the-scenes deal.

22 Let me read to you a couple of passages
23 in this Memorandum of Understanding that's troubling
24 to Concern ed Citizens. The parties recognize that
25 the extent of direct and indirect impacts of the

1 proposed gaming facility on the township is not ---
2 it cannot be known as the date of this Memorandum of
3 Understanding. And parties agree to explore in good
4 faith any amendments or modifications to this
5 Memorandum of Understanding that the Township and
6 Mason-Dixon deems warranted in the future, as those
7 potential impacts become known. So no one even knows
8 what impacts are going to be there, and they say it
9 in the MOU.

10 And then I'll read to you this language
11 about the terms. It says that this agreement will go
12 from owner to owner, but it says as long as a
13 Category 3 gaming facility's in operation at the
14 property, so long as Mason-Dixon is not in default
15 under the terms of this agreement or developer's
16 agreement, which may be entered into in the future,
17 as set forth therein. This agreement will run with
18 the land and so on. Default they put in here. They
19 could default any time and then there is no
20 agreement. And I could go on more about this 14-page
21 agreement, but time doesn't permit me.

22 And then we move on to July. And then
23 we have an article come out, former State
24 Representative to own majority of the resort.
25 Everyone thought it was David LeVan's casino. No one

1 knew who was Joseph Lashinger was other than a
2 partner. But it says right here, LeVan to buy out
3 other investor after casino license is granted. Joe
4 was brought in to assist with the formation of the
5 project. The understanding has always been that the
6 long-term ownership of this project would be with
7 David LeVan, La Torre said, upon licensure. David
8 LeVan is --- a lifelong Adams County resident will
9 purchase Mr. Lashinger's interests. So we're
10 supposed to believe that. No one seemed to have read
11 the agreement. And so that's why we in Cumberland
12 Township, the citizens that I represent and that I
13 work with, are concerned. Concerned about how this
14 whole thing has been laid out, how this whole thing
15 has come together.

16 Now, I know David LeVan has done many,
17 many good things and he's created a lot of goodwill.
18 And you'll hear lots of testimony about that today
19 later on after I speak. And you've heard it before I
20 spoke. But the bottom line is, we do have problems,
21 and the problems are many, with this agreement and
22 the way our township supervisors have represented us.
23 And you should take their testimony as being
24 unobjective and take their testimony for the vein
25 that it was presented. They are not representing

1 Cumberland Township residents because we never had a
2 chance to interact with them about the Memorandum of
3 Understanding. We never had a chance to interact
4 with them about how we felt, whether they should
5 support that Memorandum of Understanding. We were
6 never given that opportunity. Legally they didn't
7 violate the law, but they didn't have to go about
8 doing it the way they did. They could have given us
9 the opportunity to participate.

10 And I'm going to close with this
11 statements --- with this statement, I should say.
12 Why is this so passionate? Why are we here today
13 with such passion? Because of the fact it's
14 Gettysburg Battlefield. And for some reason it's
15 something that can't be explained to the Civil War
16 community. I feel it in my own heart. When I think
17 about a casino being so close to the battlefield, it
18 angers me. Yes, we could use the dollars and we
19 could use the jobs, but personally it angers me
20 because of how I feel about the battlefield. And
21 there are thousands and millions of other people in
22 this world that feel like I do.

23 You have a big decision to make. Don't
24 let your legacy be one, where we take that passion
25 away from the Civil War community, how we feel about

1 our battlefield. Thank you.

2 PRESIDING OFFICER:

3 Mr. Ferranto, ---

4 MR. FERRANTO:

5 Yes?

6 PRESIDING OFFICER:

7 The Board has two questions for you.

8 What condition on the zoning changes did your
9 organization ask for on the township?

10 MR. FERRANTO:

11 At that time, we didn't have an
12 organization at the zoning hearing. We formed our
13 organization March 23rd, but I got up and asked
14 personally that it be ruled with conditions.

15 PRESIDING OFFICER:

16 But no stated conditions, just with
17 conditions?

18 MR. FERRANTO:

19 Well, that was the proposal, whether it
20 would be --- the zoning change would take place with
21 conditions or without conditions.

22 PRESIDING OFFICER:

23 Okay.

24 MR. FERRANTO:

25 And I requested that it be placed with

1 conditions.

2 PRESIDING OFFICER:

3 And the second question was, did you,
4 and obviously not your group, oppose gaming outright
5 or just that it's occurring here?

6 MR. FERRANTO:

7 Our group has never taken a position on
8 the casino. And every meeting we've gone to and on
9 our website, we have not taken a pro or a con
10 position on the casino. We are concerned about
11 Cumberland Township. And we are very active in the
12 community, and we go to all their meetings. We have
13 representatives there, and we participate with them.
14 And if you look at the minutes, you will see that.
15 In fact, we're being accused of badgering and
16 complaining too much at the meetings. So, I know now
17 we're really doing our job because when people say
18 we're complaining and badgering, then that means that
19 somebody got's something that they don't want to talk
20 about.

21 PRESIDING OFFICER:

22 Okay. Thank you.

23 MR. FERRANTO:

24 You're welcome.

25 PRESIDING OFFICER:

1 We are going to take a lunch break at
2 this time. We will take approximately 40 minutes, so
3 we will reconvene at approximately a quarter to 2:00
4 and reconvene with the remaining community groups.
5 Thank you.

6 LUNCH BREAK TAKEN

7 PRESIDING OFFICER:

8 It I could have the following six
9 speakers stand to be sworn? Cinda Waldbuesser. And
10 I know I just mispronounced your name. Melinda
11 Crawford, Steven Herr, Walter Gallas, the Reverend
12 Jay Zimmerman and Jeff Klein. If you could all
13 stand, raise your right hand to be sworn by the court
14 reporter.

15 -----
16 WITNESSES SWORN EN MASSE
17 -----

18 PRESIDING OFFICER:

19 And we are still hearing testimony from
20 community groups. I will remind you all that you
21 have ten minutes allotted to you to speak, and when
22 the yellow light appears, you have 30 seconds left,
23 and I ask you to wrap up your comments at that time.
24 Cinda Waldbuesser?

25 MS. WALDBUESSER:

1 It's Cinda, C-I-N-D-A, Waldbuesser,
2 W-A-L-D-B-U-E-S-S-E-R. Didn't butcher it. And I'm
3 with the National Park Conservation Association,
4 Pennsylvania Field Office. I thank you for the
5 opportunity to speak today. I'm here speaking on
6 behalf of NPCA's almost 15,000 members who are
7 residents of Pennsylvania, as well as our more than
8 325,000 members nationwide, to express our strong
9 opposition to the Application For License to open a
10 casino within canon range of Gettysburg National
11 Military Park.

12 The mission of the National Park
13 Conservation Association is to project and enhance
14 America's National Park system for our children and
15 grandchildren. Since 1919, NPCA has worked to
16 educate the American public about the needs of our
17 national parks, establishing a diverse, well-informed
18 and engaged pro-parks constituency. Our decision to
19 oppose this casino application is based upon our
20 assessment that such a development would conflict
21 with and detract from the historic character of our
22 beloved Gettysburg and its proven economic engine,
23 heritage tourism.

24 To this end, our primary concern
25 remains the site's close proximity to the

1 battlefield. The Eisenhower facility's entrance lies
2 approximately one-half mile from the edge of
3 Gettysburg National Military Park. Marketing a
4 casino at Gettysburg is at odds with Gettysburg's
5 family-friendly atmosphere and with the solemn nature
6 of the events that happened here and their meaning to
7 our nation today and in the future.

8 Gettysburg provides the opportunity for
9 visitors to walk in the footsteps of soldiers who
10 gave their lives and laid the foundations for the
11 freedoms we enjoy today. It is a place where
12 visitors can contemplate their sacrifice for ---
13 their sacrifice and the country we are, because of
14 their bravery. Children who may not care or
15 understand about the importance of the Battle of
16 Gettysburg when they read about it in their textbooks
17 get it after they visiting the place where that
18 history happened.

19 In addition, the Eisenhower site is
20 located within a historically sensitive area, as
21 defined as the Gettysburg Battlefield Study Area by
22 the American Battlefield Preservation Program. Such
23 a designation follows extensive study by the National
24 Park Service and prominent scholars and historians.
25 The site is also located along the Emmitsburg Road.

1 Itself an important historic feature of the region
2 and just off of Highway 15, the central artery of the
3 Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Scenic Byway
4 and the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National
5 Heritage Area. Each of these designations reflects
6 the reality of this area's tremendous historic
7 significance. As the nation's premier classroom on
8 the American Civil War, Gettysburg National Military
9 Park is already a strong economic engine for the
10 area.

11 In 2008, the most recent data available
12 from the National Park Service, park visitors spent
13 more than \$91 million at local businesses and
14 supported 2,307 local jobs. The combination of Civil
15 War preservation and the family-friendly nature of
16 Adams County have created a proven winning formula
17 for the park and its neighboring communities.

18 Since 2002 park staff and volunteers
19 have invested \$3.2 million and hundreds of visitors
20 --- or volunteer hours to support the restoration of
21 the battlefield to its Civil War era appearance. In
22 addition, in 2008 in partnership with the Gettysburg
23 Foundation, the park opened a new state-of-the-art
24 visitor center and restored famous Cyclorama
25 painting.

1 NPCA is strongly advocated in support
2 of the Park Services long-range rehabilitation plans
3 for the park's landscape, and agreed that the proper
4 preservation and care of Gettysburg history is the
5 key to its future. Development of a casino simply
6 does not fit in this picture.

7 In your 2006 decision not to license
8 the Crossroad Casino in Adams County, you stated the
9 public opposition weighed heavily. This proposal is
10 even closer to Gettysburg National Military Park than
11 that proposal and has drawn widespread opposition,
12 including a letter from over 275 prominent
13 historians, more than 13,000 notes of opposition from
14 NPCA members and supporters and a petition signed by
15 over 30,000 Americans urging you to deny this
16 application. I hope you will again listen to the
17 American people and deny this application for a
18 casino so close to Gettysburg National Military Park.
19 There are many locations for casinos, but there is
20 only one Gettysburg. Thank you.

21 PRESIDING OFFICER:

22 Thank you. We're having a bit of
23 technical difficulty. If you give a moment. In the
24 meantime, Melinda Crawford, if you would like to come
25 forward?

1 MS. CRAWFORD:

2 I'm Melinda Crawford. I'm the
3 Executive Director of Preservation Pennsylvania. I'm
4 a resident of Hanover, York County. And my
5 organization is located in Harrisburg, Dauphin
6 County.

7 We are a statewide advocacy
8 organization whose mission is to help people protect,
9 preserve and enjoy the historic places that are
10 important to them and to our history. These places
11 define us and help us understand ourselves and the
12 direction we are headed. Our members and supporters
13 have told us loudly and clearly that Gettysburg is
14 one of those places.

15 In 2006, we placed the Gettysburg
16 National Military Park on the Pennsylvania at-risk
17 list, an annual listing of the Commonwealth's most
18 endangered historic resources, because of an earlier
19 proposal for a casino. Once a property is placed on
20 this list, Preservation Pennsylvania continues to do
21 everything in our power to protect that resource from
22 threat, from overt action, neglect, incompatible use
23 or loss of context.

24 Pennsylvania is a large state with 67
25 counties and 2,566 municipalities. Many of these

1 places you've probably never heard of or visited.
2 Each is unique and important, but some places in
3 Pennsylvania play a larger role in the story of
4 Pennsylvania and the nation. Gettysburg is one of
5 those places. The story of the battle and its
6 pivotal role in the outcome of the Civil War moves
7 Gettysburg to the top of the list as one of the most
8 important places in Pennsylvania. To not fight for
9 the protection of the sacred place would be to ignore
10 who we are as Pennsylvanians. To not protect this
11 special place would say to other places in
12 Pennsylvania that we are not important either. By
13 ensuring that Gettysburg remain a unique and special
14 place gives hope to others, other small towns in
15 historic areas, that they, too, can protect what they
16 care about.

17 In the months and years to come,
18 Americans can expect to witness and participate in a
19 wide variety of events commemorating the 150th
20 anniversary of the Civil War. Official committees
21 and commissions in numerous states, including
22 Pennsylvania, are planning re-enactments, exhibits,
23 lectures, concerts, tours and other opportunities to
24 mark the occasion. The vast majority of events are
25 planed to highlight the significance of this turning

1 point in American history, to encourage thoughtful
2 commemorations befitting such a solemn theme. But
3 here in Pennsylvania, the proposal up for state
4 approval is not one that will commemorate what
5 happened in Gettysburg. The question before the
6 Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board is whether on the
7 eve of the Civil War Sesquicentennial to license a
8 casino at the gateway to America's most blood-soaked
9 battlefield, to give a casino a Gettysburg address.

10 Though the investors continue to make
11 the argument that the casino would bring much needed
12 jobs to Adams County, the economic viability of Adams
13 County casino location is questionable at best. A
14 key argument made in the previous application was
15 that a Gettysburg casino would draw patrons from
16 Baltimore and Washington. Logic that is also being,
17 again, applied to the current site. However, the
18 explosion of gambling facilities throughout the
19 Midatlantic vying for the same customers as Adams
20 County totally undermines the business model that the
21 Gaming Board found questionable when it rejected the
22 previous application. Worst yet, a casino would have
23 a disastrous impact on Gettysburg's heritage tourism.

24 In Vicksburg, Mississippi, home to a
25 similarly-themed battlefield of that war, the

1 development of a casino was accompanied by a drastic
2 decline in visitation to the National Park and a slow
3 strangling of the local tourism-based economy.

4 Risking a similar outcome is a gamble that Gettysburg
5 cannot afford.

6 Casino proponents have put forth a
7 variety of creative measures to distort the site's
8 location and significance, but the truth is this,
9 this casino would be located just a half mile from
10 the boundary of the Gettysburg National Military Park
11 on land identified as historically sensitive by the
12 American Battlefield Protection Program, an arm of
13 the National Park Service. Suggesting that the
14 battlefield and the visitors' experience somehow
15 stops at the administrative political boundary of a
16 park is simply ludicrous.

17 Similarly, to imagine that a
18 development of this type and scope will not spawn
19 further inappropriate growth at the largely rural
20 edges of the battlefield is naive. So too is
21 believing that all the promises made by a casino
22 investor as they seek their license, such as limiting
23 construction to retrofitting the existing buildings,
24 will be kept once approval is granted. The long-term
25 reality indicates that should amendments to state

1 gaming laws be considered again in the future, as
2 they were this winter, when table games were approved
3 and the application process for this remaining
4 license was reopened. This and other gaming
5 locations will continue to grow to the maximum size
6 possible.

7 The decision by Preservation
8 Pennsylvania to take this position was not lightly
9 --- not made lightly. We cannot fight every
10 battle. But we do become involved in the issues that
11 we believe have the potential to affect not one
12 historic place, but the entire state, and in this
13 case the nation. We believe that a casino this close
14 to these hallowed grounds will adversely affect
15 Gettysburg and the National Military Park and
16 therefore, we stand strongly in opposition.

17 Next year, the beginning of
18 Sesquicentennial will serve as a time for
19 Pennsylvanians and all Americans to commemorate our
20 past and celebrate our future. The two, of course,
21 go hand in hand.

22 Recently nearly 280 historians wrote to
23 the Gaming Control Board that the casino threatens,
24 quote, the essential meaning of Gettysburg's place in
25 history, end quote. And that on the eve of our Civil

1 War Sesquicentennial, protecting that legacy is
2 particularly critical. We ask that the Pennsylvania
3 Gaming Control Board reject this proposal. Thank
4 you.

5 PRESIDING OFFICER:

6 Thank you. Steven Herr?

7 MR. HERR:

8 My name is Steven Herr, H-E-R-R. I
9 live in Cumberland Township, Pennsylvania, and I
10 serve as the current Chair of the Gettysburg
11 Ministerium. I want to begin by thanking the Board
12 for the opportunity to share our thoughts regarding
13 the proposed casino in the Gettysburg area.

14 The Gettysburg Ministerium is a
15 fellowship of ministers who live and serve in the
16 Gettysburg area. And in 2005, the ministerium
17 released a statement of opposition against the
18 proposed casino at that time. And when the issue
19 came up again, the ministerium wanted to speak out
20 its opposition and its concerns with a new statement.

21 The following statement was signed by
22 66 Adams County ministers, representing 15 different
23 ecumenical and Christian denominations. I'd like to
24 read that statement and submit the names of those who
25 signed into the record. A statement from local

1 ministers on the proposed Adams County casino. In a
2 spirit of god's love and grace, we the undersigned
3 ministers who serve in the Adams County faith
4 community want to express publicly our opposition to
5 the establishment of a casino in this community. We
6 oppose legalized gambling for ethical reasons, and
7 for reasons of economic justice and for the symbolic
8 role that Gettysburg plays in our national life. We
9 are deeply concerned that casino gaming will increase
10 problem gambling and addictions, marriages, families
11 and communities will suffer as a result. When those
12 already overwhelmed with bills and financial
13 obligations discover that they have less money for
14 necessities, tensions arise at home, spouses and
15 children become financially and emotionally
16 victimized and social service agencies, which help
17 those in need, are often overburdened.

18 We are in favor of economic growth for
19 Adams County. However, we remain unconvinced that
20 the proposed casino will provide jobs able to sustain
21 families. Furthermore, if a casino takes in millions
22 dollars, that means the individuals, many from our
23 own community, will have lost millions dollars, which
24 are not able available to be spent elsewhere in the
25 local economy. We recognize and honor the

1 significant role that Gettysburg has in our nation's
2 history. We are concerned that a casino cheapens the
3 memory and meaning of Gettysburg for those of us who
4 live here, as well as for the nation and the world.

5 Finally, we encourage ongoing civil
6 conversations by persons on both sides of this issue.
7 We offer the statement with our prayers for god's
8 wisdom and guidance for the leaders and residents of
9 Gettysburg, Adams County, our Commonwealth and the
10 nation. Thank you.

11 PRESIDING OFFICER:

12 Thank you. Walter Gallas?

13 MR. GALLAS:

14 My name is Walter Gallas. The last
15 name is spelled G-A-L-L-A-S. I'm the Director of the
16 Northeast Field Office of the National Trust For
17 Historic Preservation in Philadelphia. I'm always
18 also a resident of Philadelphia.

19 The National Trust For Historic
20 Preservation has worked for 60 years to help people
21 save the places that matter to them. As a nonprofit
22 organization with a membership totaling 230,000
23 across the country, including 9,455 in Pennsylvania,
24 we respond to the requests of our members and
25 partners when an important place is threatened.

1 Threats can come in many forms. The
2 most obvious one might be demolition or lost of a
3 building when a community or a group sees an
4 important piece of history threatened, which defines
5 their place. Threats could be natural and manmade
6 occurrences, like floods and levy breaks after storms
7 and hurricanes. Threats can also come from
8 development plans, such as this one, which have the
9 potential to alter the character of a place so much
10 that the experience of visiting or living and working
11 there is profoundly degraded.

12 In 2006, the Gaming Control Board
13 considered an application for a casino here in
14 Gettysburg, which would have been within two miles of
15 the battlefield proper. This body denied that
16 application. The proposal being considered today is
17 even closer to the boundaries of the Gettysburg
18 National Military Park, only one half mile and within
19 a historically sensitive area. The proposed casino
20 site would also be along the 180-mile corridor that
21 forms the spine of, as we've heard, the Journey
22 Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area and
23 National Scenic Byway. Concerned about the effects
24 of overdevelopment and sprawl on this one of kind
25 area, the National Trust, in 2005, named the Journey

1 Through Hallow Ground to its list of America's 11
2 most endangered historic places. Gettysburg is
3 arguably the most important northern terminus of this
4 heritage area.

5 This proposal is not just an Adams
6 County matter. Gettysburg belongs to all who care
7 about the protection, interpretation and
8 commemoration of one of the defining moments of our
9 nation's history. Casino gambling is being touted as
10 the economic savior of the moment, all over this
11 country. And hardly more so than in Pennsylvania.
12 Casinos promise jobs and revenue for struggling state
13 and local governments. We challenge these sweeping
14 generalizations. The National Trust asks why place a
15 casino in an area rich with heritage tourism
16 opportunities, when Gettysburg already provides that
17 most valuable of commodities with the heritage
18 tourist, the authentic experience built on the
19 stories and people of the past and the present. To
20 do so would diminish or destroy the very thing that a
21 heritage tourist seeks and they spend their money
22 experiencing, irreplaceable historic, cultural and
23 natural resources.

24 Data from the travel industry show that
25 78 percent of all U.S. leisure travelers participate

1 in cultural and/or heritage activities on their
2 trips. Furthermore, cultural and heritage visitors
3 half, on average, half, again, as much per trip
4 compared to all U.S. travelers. \$994 per trip versus
5 \$611 for travelers as a whole. These travelers are
6 not seeking casinos.

7 As Stephanie Meeks, President of the
8 National Trust for Historic Preservation has stated,
9 when President Lincoln dedicated the Gettysburg
10 Battlefield in 1863, he ensured that this ground
11 would remain sacred soil, a place for the entire
12 nation to visit and remember the sacrifices made on
13 the battlefield. For almost 150 years untold numbers
14 of Americans have visited Gettysburg to learn about a
15 highly significant event in American history and
16 remember the soldiers who fell here. The National
17 Trust does not believe that communities should be
18 frozen in amber or preserved in place like museum
19 artifacts. Communities evolve and not every new
20 business needs to be geared toward the interest of
21 heritage travelers. As the National Trust National
22 Main Street Center, which works to revitalize
23 business districts and thousands of towns and cities
24 across the country can attest, a successful
25 commercial district includes a mix of businesses.

1 But city planners and elected officials must also be
2 mindful of the authentic sense of place that attracts
3 heritage travelers and other visitors to places like
4 Gettysburg.

5 Good city planning doesn't mean the
6 township leaders should accept just anything that
7 comes along, bowing to the misguided argument that
8 any jobs are better than none. Good planning needs
9 to take the full picture, both short range and long
10 range into account.

11 In addition, the recent independent
12 economic analysis we helped to commission suggests
13 that many of the economic development claims made by
14 casino supporters are either false or greatly
15 exaggerated.

16 Continuing with President Meeks'
17 comments, she says my own experience in the
18 preservation of open land during 18 years at the
19 Nature Conservancy tells me that part of the appeal
20 of a visit to Gettysburg is the careful effort over
21 the decades to balance conservation of open spaces
22 with a built environment. A casino contributes
23 nothing to this effort.

24 For residents of Gettysburg and Adams
25 County, this casino jeopardizes the very things that

1 have long made the area unique and attractive to
2 heritage travelers. The National Trust urges the
3 Board to deny this application. Thank you.

4 PRESIDING OFFICER:

5 Thank you. Reverend Jay Zimmerman?

6 REVEREND ZIMMERMAN:

7 Jay Zimmerman representing United
8 Methodist Advocacy in Pennsylvania. Members of the
9 Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board, fellow residents
10 and guests, I am Jay Zimmerman, and I am pastor of
11 Gettysburg United Methodist Church. I do reside here
12 in Gettysburg, and have so for the last six years. I
13 not only serve as a local pastor, but I am also an
14 ordained elder in the Susquehanna Conference of the
15 United Methodist Church. And I am, this day,
16 representing one of our extension ministries, so
17 named United Methodist Advocacy in Pennsylvania. I
18 do thank you for the privilege and the honor of
19 speaking before you this afternoon.

20 We, as United Methodists, do not, by
21 our social principals, advocate for gaming or
22 gambling in any form. This is on the grounds that
23 gambling often undermines personal character and
24 social morality. It can foster greed and stimulate a
25 fatalistic faith in chance. In many instances, it

1 leads to addiction, crime and various other mental
2 health and relational concerns, including abuse,
3 divorce, depression and suicide.

4 Amid these aspects of gambling, you are
5 obviously not here today to determine the legitimacy
6 of this endeavor. The State of Pennsylvania
7 sanctions games of chance as a means of revenue. At
8 this time, there seems to be no turning back. Thus
9 the issue is where and how will the gaming take
10 place. Adams County and the community of Gettysburg
11 are now before you a second time as such a potential
12 location. Several years ago, your decision to reject
13 a gaming license here in Gettysburg was undoubtedly
14 based on numerous concerns including those that are
15 being voiced today. Namely, the inappropriateness of
16 such a practice within the vicinity of the Gettysburg
17 National Park, the inadequacy of such a location to
18 produce desired state income or profit, as well as
19 the potential employment that is projected. The
20 inability of this rural area to support, by goods and
21 services, such an endeavor and significantly the
22 realization that gaming does not reflect the values
23 that our community wants to set forth for its
24 residents as well as its guests, including tourists
25 and historians, military personnel, dignitaries,

1 students from elementary to high school, as well as
2 those who attend Gettysburg College and Gettysburg
3 Lutheran Theological Seminary.

4 In essence, the issues that surfaced in
5 2005 and 6 have not changed. However, one thing has.
6 The economy of the state, the nation and the world is
7 in flux, possibly as never before. State, borough
8 and township governments are desperately looking for
9 anything that will not only produce needed revenue,
10 but also squelch the cry of stressed taxpayers. As a
11 result, some, both personally and corporately, are
12 becoming more willing to sell out for a quick fix.
13 They contend that a casino may solve all of our Adams
14 County problems of economy and employment. And in a
15 way that's fairly easy to see. Our tax base in this
16 county is very inadequate for the population and its
17 needs. Gainful industry and corporate endeavors have
18 not come to this area either by default or by a lack
19 of invitation. Our population is not significantly
20 growing, because many students graduate from high
21 school, college, technical school and never return to
22 the area because there is no gainful employment or
23 the commute is just way too far and way too costly.
24 In short it puts a lot of stress and strain on this
25 very historic community.

1 If there is any support for games of
2 chance within our community, it is among those who
3 believe that the Mason-Dixon Resort Corporation is
4 better than nothing to fix a broken economy. We, as
5 United Methodists within Pennsylvania, do believe
6 that Mr. David LeVan and the Mason-Dixon Resort
7 Corporation have the right to enter into business for
8 the sake of profit. However, we do believe that such
9 enterprises should also enhance the social, moral,
10 and spiritual good of the community. Otherwise, it
11 is very parasitic in nature. It saps the life out of
12 the community, rather than nurturing it.

13 In short, we do not believe that a
14 proposed casino will provide the long-term historic,
15 economic and social good that the Gettysburg
16 community really needs and deserves. Again, I want
17 to thank you for this opportunity to speak before you
18 today on behalf of United Methodists throughout
19 Pennsylvania. We do trust that you will exercise
20 significant wisdom in your decision as in all that is
21 before you. Thank you.

22 PRESIDING OFFICER:

23 Thank you. Jeff Klein? And Mr. Klein,
24 it's my understanding that you are speaking on behalf
25 of about 25 individuals who have agreed to allow you

1 to express their opinions as well; is that correct?

2 MR. KLEIN:

3 That's correct.

4 PRESIDING OFFICER:

5 If I could have you read each of their
6 names and if they are in the room, if they would
7 please stand to be counted?

8 MR. KLEIN:

9 I'll start with myself, Jeff Klein,
10 K-L-E-I-N, resident of Biglerville, Pennsylvania,
11 Adams County. First name Andrea Theissan, Kirby
12 Gavin, Darlene Becket, Sandra Stecklein, Beverly
13 Heare, Martin Healy, Troy Brawner, Sandra Brawner,
14 Ron Rohrbaugh, Jane Kessel, Wendy Sykes, Robert
15 Krumrine, James Long, Robyn Case, Ryan Mumaw, James
16 Mumaw, Marvin Thomas, Stephanie Holbrook, Barb Gantz,
17 Mary Bonitatis, Joan Simpson, John Murphy, Thomas
18 Miller, Ronald Asper and Edna Misner.

19 PRESIDING OFFICER:

20 The Board has a question. Are all of
21 those standing residents of Adams County?

22 ALL SAY AYE

23 PRESIDING OFFICER:

24 Okay. Thank you. And I'll let the
25 record reflect that all of these individuals have

1 signed up to speak as individuals, but again have
2 agreed to allow Mr. Klein to express their views as a
3 group, and we thank you for that. You may be seated.

4 MR. KLEIN:

5 Thank you. As I said, I'm a resident
6 of Biglerville, Pennsylvania. This is my home. I
7 work in Gettysburg. I have a degree in history. And
8 I'm looking to retire from the military after 20
9 years of service. I'm a combat veteran of the Iraq
10 War and have been home for less than a year from my
11 last deployment.

12 About Pro Casino Adams County. The
13 organization is formed by residents of Adams County,
14 Pennsylvania. We're the largest pro-casino
15 organization in the nation boasting over 4,600
16 supporters and another 1,572 Facebook fans. Our
17 progrowth initiative is leading the charge to bring
18 jobs, tax relief and economic revival back to Adams
19 County, while being respectful of our history and
20 heritage. Our mission is to provide a voice for
21 those that live, work or own property in the county.
22 We are the collective group that is in favor of the
23 Mason-Dixon Resort & Casino Applicant and believe
24 that is in the best interest for the county's future.
25 Our intent is to show the Pennsylvania Gaming Control

1 Board that our county residents have the clear
2 majority of citizens, businessowners and elected
3 officials in favor of this project. All citizens
4 have a right to express their views and that the
5 views of a few shall not represent those of all.

6 Some PCAC stats and facts --- stats and
7 facts. Two polls conducted locally confirm that over
8 62 percent of Adams County residents are in favor of
9 the Mason-Dixon Resort Casino Project. We have
10 collected over 3,000 petition signatures with 2,437
11 signatures from Adams County, which is 81.3 percent
12 of every signature we collected. There are another
13 469 central Pennsylvanian residents that have signed
14 a petition in support of the resort. PCAC has
15 supporters from 19 states and 27 nations. Our
16 visitors are saying that they will travel and plan to
17 visit the resort and historic land surrounding it.
18 We have 168 businesses that support the project
19 publicly, with another 32 confidential. We will
20 submit these companies as evidence down the road
21 here. They stay with us because they understand that
22 smart growth and new vendor contractor opportunities
23 will make us more fiscally sound. These 200
24 companies represent 1,595 employees. The Adams
25 County Chamber of Commerce supports this project as

1 well and this would the include hundreds of more
2 companies from that organization alone.

3 Adams County unemployment rate is
4 nearly eight percent, the highest it's been in 25
5 years. This is unacceptable. Two-thirds of our
6 county's commissioners support this project. Both
7 State Senator Rich Alloway and State Representative
8 Dan Moul have expressed support for the project and
9 have stated that this is an issue to be decided
10 between the residents of the county and the Gaming
11 Control Board, not outside residents. Cumberland
12 Township supervisors have come out in support of a
13 --- as a host municipality. Members of the
14 Bendersville Pennsylvania Borough Council have joined
15 us in support with --- along with numerous other
16 individual local elected officials across our county
17 PCAC as also received 51 requests for employment from
18 supporters that want to work for Mason-Dixon when
19 they are granted a gaming license. And this facility
20 hasn't even been licensed yet.

21 This organization is proud to state
22 that they have never taken one penny in financial
23 donations from any individual, business or group. We
24 are a true grassroots organization that could not
25 exist without the dedication of great volunteers.

1 Sorry. We don't have money for presentation or
2 Hollywood actors.

3 Hallowed ground, the facts. The
4 proposed site is not on the Gettysburg National
5 Military Park, nor is it in the view shed, which
6 means that neither site can be seen from others ---
7 from the other. The proposed site located is located
8 on commercially zoned already developed hotel that
9 has been in business for over 37 years. The
10 Gettysburg National Military Park has stated that the
11 proposed casino will have no direct impact on the
12 park's resources. They do not see this as a
13 preservation issue, but one for the private sector.
14 The Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association
15 has come out in favor of the casino and has stated
16 that this is not a preservation issue, but a local
17 private property one. This is the nation's oldest
18 organization, 50 years, that has protected over 2,000
19 of the 6,000 acres of Gettysburg National Military
20 Park. Their opinion should carry the most weight
21 since they are located right here.

22 Opposition groups to the proposed
23 resorts have done nothing to preserve true hallowed
24 ground, yet claim this site somehow is. PCAC has
25 raised nearly \$1,000 for the preservation of the

1 Monterey Pass Battlefield Association, which is the
2 final phase of the Gettysburg campaign prior to
3 leaving Pennsylvania.

4 No Casino Gettysburg has stated
5 publicly they are not a preservation group and have
6 not raised one penny to protect any endangered
7 battleground from development, yet they want all of
8 America to think they are saving acres of land from a
9 new casino to be built.

10 The Civil War Preservation Trust has
11 come out against the casino twice in this area. We
12 urge both the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board and
13 the media to look into allegations that the Civil War
14 Preservation Trust President, Jim Lighthizer, has
15 family connections with the construction of a casino
16 in northern Maryland. We believe that this is the
17 reason why he does not want a casino to be
18 established here, because it will take profits away
19 from that casino. The small opposition group is
20 against this proposal because they are against gaming
21 as whole or that they have personal financial
22 interests that they want to protect. They have no
23 base nor claim that this site is hallowed ground.
24 They are simply using these words to lure individuals
25 to their cause by using raw emotions. Decisions are

1 not made on emotion. They're based on facts.

2 Common sense 101, the best voice to
3 come out of this issue was written by a gentleman
4 named Ben. He wrote that all business depends on
5 people losing their money, end quote. It does not
6 matter whether you're selling \$3 gasoline, purchasing
7 Brasstrains from a 66-year-old business, playing
8 doctor with people's heads or convincing someone who
9 is 96 years old they need life insurance. They're
10 all making you lose your money. This is what the
11 nation was founded on, and this is why we fight so
12 hard to preserve it. Gaming is adult entertainment.
13 Whether one chooses to or not to visit Mason-Dixon is
14 up to them. If you do not agree with gaming, then do
15 not go, but do enjoy what the rest of the area has to
16 offer.

17 You will hear testimony from out state
18 individuals and speakers and out-of-staters speaking
19 on behalf of local organizations. These are people
20 who do not live in this county, own property, pay
21 taxes, provide employment or even have the right to
22 vote here. We can accept their position if it's
23 based on facts, but most were giving an one-sided
24 slant. And we ask the Gaming Board to weigh the
25 voices of the local residents and businessowners over

1 those that do (sic) live here.

2 Adams County needs to diversify our
3 attractions events and tourism initiatives and the
4 license of the Maxon-Dixon Resort & Casino will be
5 the catalyst to do this. The old saying if you build
6 it, they will come is the kind of marketing this
7 county badly needs.

8 The Gettysburg National Park and the
9 Town of Gettysburg will always be here, but what we
10 provide for those that visit is what needs to be
11 preserved and added to. The Gettysburg National
12 Military Park is the most preserved and well-kept
13 park of its kind in the nation. In the last 20 years
14 we have seen it grow in size and scope, but we have
15 also seen more and more of our local economy,
16 attractions and businesses close shop during the same
17 time frame. What I'm getting at is in order to
18 continue to preserve the park, we must preserve the
19 economy that drives it. Penn National would not be
20 involved in this project if they thought this project
21 would not be profitable.

22 Of the four gaming applicants,
23 Mason-Dixon is the one that will provide the largest
24 return for Pennsylvania tax payers. We have the
25 largest visitation numbers, the largest untapped

1 gaming market in Pennsylvania and this facility will
2 make the most revenue for the state. Visitors have
3 been coming to Adams County for nearly 150 years and
4 the presence of this added attraction will keep them
5 coming back again and again. This is what our
6 economy needs. This will create added jobs and
7 stabilize our tax base even more.

8 PCAC believes the infusion of gaming in
9 the format dictated by the Gaming --- dictated by the
10 Category 3 License and in the responsible and
11 unobtrusive manner planned by Mason-Dixon will
12 enhance further --- enhance and further diversify the
13 hospitality product the county offers leisure
14 visitors and meeting attendees, attracting more of
15 them and encouraging longer stays and thereby
16 creating greater state and local and economic impact.

17 In closing, Adams County has been given
18 a rare second chance and we cannot afford to throw it
19 away based on false facts, myths, speculation or even
20 emotion. The majority of Adams County residents and
21 businesses are in support of this casino Applicant.
22 We are an asking the Gaming Control Board to provide
23 what we so desperately need, quality jobs, lower
24 taxes and a stronger business base to share with our
25 future generations. I thank you for your time for

1 listening to the citizens of Adams County and to all
2 of pro casino supporters that gave up their time to
3 be here today and hopefully not tomorrow. Thank you.

4 PRESIDING OFFICER:

5 Please if you could hold your applause.
6 Again, treat this as a court proceeding and we don't
7 hear that in court proceedings. Thank you. Will the
8 next six individuals stand to be sworn, Brendan
9 Synnamon, Pastor Jerry Stoltzfoos, John Wega, Francis
10 Pennings, Carl Harris and Joe Brightinger --- or
11 Brighner.

12 -----
13 WITNESSES SWORN EN MASSE
14 -----

15 PRESIDING OFFICER:

16 Brendan Synnamon --- Synnamon (changes
17 pronunciation)?

18 MR. SYNNAMON:

19 Synnamon (corrects pronunciation). My
20 name is Brendan Synnamon, correctly spelled on your
21 list, S-Y-N-N-A-M-O-N. And I'll also be speaking on
22 behalf of four individuals who have given me their
23 testimony, Pat Neil 1518 speaker, Mary Alice Forbes
24 1512, James Forbes 1515, and Dennis Pennese 761.

25 PRESIDING OFFICER:

1 Okay. We will note for the record
2 those four individuals are here and have stood up and
3 he is speaking on behalf of those as group. Thank
4 you.

5 MR. SYNNAMON:

6 My name is Brendan Synnamon, and I am
7 the President of the Gettysburg Battlefield
8 Preservation Association. We are the oldest
9 preservation --- battlefield preservation group in
10 the United States. We mark our 50th anniversary this
11 year. Our organization has a distinguished history.
12 One of our earliest members and supporters was none
13 less than that of Dwight D. Eisenhower. Since our
14 inception, the land that we have saved through our
15 actions constitutes one-third of the present day
16 Gettysburg National Military Park. We're constantly
17 engaged in preservation work. We are currently
18 engaged in the preservation and restoration of
19 145-acre Daniel Lady Farm and the restoration of more
20 than 140 Pennsylvania monuments and markers on the
21 battlefield, many of which were erected by the
22 Veterans of Gettysburg themselves.

23 When the Mason-Dixon Resort Project was
24 first announced, our Board initially determined to
25 take no position. As with any other professional

1 organization, we wanted to first learn the facts and
2 do our own independent analysis. After months of
3 learning the project details, our Board of Directors
4 voted 10 to 1 to support the Mason-Dixon Project.
5 The Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association
6 would not support a commercial facility that would
7 impinge or use the battlefield. This has been a
8 longstanding association policy and that hasn't
9 changed.

10 In this case, the Eisenhower Conference
11 Center located well south of the Battlefield would be
12 convert into the resort, which already exists as a
13 commercial facility and has done so for 37 years.
14 The proposed resort does not go beyond the already
15 existing facility boundaries. You cannot see the
16 Eisenhower Conference Center from anywhere on the
17 battlefield. It has never interfered with nor
18 detracted from the Gettysburg Battlefield and it's
19 reuse as the Mason-Dixon we strongly believe will
20 also neither interfere or detract with the
21 battlefields.

22 It is useful to note what is proposed
23 in Gettysburg is not on a scale --- scope which
24 exists in larger casinos. There seems to be some
25 confusion to the public on this point. The

1 Mason-Dixon Resort would have no more than 600
2 hundred slot machines and 50 table games, which is
3 considerably smaller than the attractions at larger
4 casinos. Further to the point, when one leaves the
5 battlefield and proceeds south of the Eisenhower
6 Conference Center, you must first pass a bowling
7 alley, an RV campground, a motorcycle shop and a
8 military souvenir shop. All of which have been there
9 for many, many years. Simply said, the Eisenhower
10 Conference Center does no harm to the battlefield and
11 its reuse will not harm the battlefield.

12 As an organization, our primary mission
13 and focus is on preservation. That's what we do. We
14 have found after very thorough review, the
15 Mason-Dixon Resort does not represent a preservation
16 issue. The property under discussion, which is
17 already a commercial facility played no significant
18 role in a three-day engagement in 1863.

19 The Board of Directors of Gettysburg
20 Battlefield Preservation Association regards the
21 proposed project as a local issue. The Board is
22 aware that Adams County and the local economy is
23 hurting. We need jobs and more private investment
24 and we could use additional visitation. The
25 Mason-Dixon Resort offers all these things and does

1 so without one square inch of a battlefield or open
2 space being developed. It is our Board's belief the
3 resort will draw more people to this Gettysburg area
4 and encourage them to stay longer because there will
5 be more to experience here, not only with the resort
6 but with the nongaming components of the resort and
7 other area attractions.

8 In addition to the direct positive
9 impact on jobs, the resort will encourage added
10 visitors and visitor hours and will bring new tax and
11 other revenues to the local communities and local
12 economy. We need this. A stronger local economy,
13 which the Mason-Dixon Project would significantly
14 boost, is helpful to the cause of preservation.
15 Preservation doesn't exist in a vacuum. Our local
16 preservation work cannot thrive absent local economy
17 to induce and support it.

18 On the question of whether the proposed
19 project would effect heritage tourism. The Board
20 strongly believes that the Gettysburg Battlefield has
21 a unique position amongst all Civil War related
22 sites. It is considered where the tide of war was
23 changed. It is the most significant battle of the
24 Civil War and led President Lincoln to defining the
25 cause of the Union Army in honoring the dead at

1 Gettysburg. Our heritage based tourism exists
2 because of this and none of that changes. The
3 battlefield, this hallowed ground, will always be
4 here and so will heritage tourists to wish to
5 experience it.

6 Let's be clear we, do have preservation
7 needs and challenges impacting the battlefield, but
8 Mason-Dixon does not represent one of them. Our
9 focus has been and will be on the real preservation
10 issues. At this very moment off York Road, much of
11 what was Camp Letterman, the largest field hospital
12 of the Civil War, where 4,900 Union and Confederate
13 troops endured amputation and slow recovery or death,
14 right now that property is advertised for the sale
15 for the development of convenience stores, cluster
16 homes, condominiums. Already a portion has been lost
17 to commercial development, including a state liquor
18 store. These represent real preservation issues.

19 Why haven't people so vociferous about
20 the reuse of the existing facility, which is outside
21 the historic park boundary, not raised \$1 for even
22 one voice against looming obliteration of Camp
23 Letterman? It's clear, when listening to the
24 opposition views, the underlying premises is in
25 opposition to gaming itself. We understand this

1 view, but the fact remains licensed gambling is legal
2 and the Gaming Control Board has license approval.

3 As the Gaming Control Board considers
4 where to award the casino license, no doubt
5 consideration in identifying the place where the
6 resort has the best chances of success. We believe
7 this place is Gettysburg. Here there is sufficient
8 infrastructure in existence to support it. There is
9 also already existing attractions which have
10 established a market. And contrary to a higher risk
11 of building a stand-alone facility distant from
12 anything else, here there is the support of a
13 municipality where the Mason-Dixon Resort will be
14 hosted and here there's relatively easy access from
15 the transportation system that connects the
16 Midatlantic region of the country. Also, here is an
17 array of vendors and suppliers that can easily
18 service this facility throughout the year. The
19 existence of Mason-Dixon Resort here will allow for
20 easy interconnection with other area attractions and
21 businesses, which is precisely the kind of
22 synergistic economic impact we know the Gaming
23 Control Board wants to see.

24 We do not take this issue lightly. I'm
25 raising a family here. My wife and my infant

1 daughter and I live here in Gettysburg. We expect to
2 be residents here for a very long time. We wouldn't
3 support any project that would bring harm to our
4 battlefield or affect our quality of life here. We
5 are proud of our history and our surrounding area.
6 With the abundant diverse attractions that are
7 already possessed, no one has to go to a casino.
8 Others will go. It's simply a matter of personal
9 choice.

10 Because of these facts and months of
11 important analysis, our association has come to
12 support the Mason-Dixon Project. And I want to thank
13 you for your consideration and also wish to thank the
14 Gaming Control Board for your having the time to hear
15 all sides. Thank you.

16 PRESIDING OFFICER:

17 Thank you. Pastor Jerry Stoltzfoos?

18 MR. RANDOLPH:

19 Good afternoon, members of the Gaming
20 Control Board. Thank you for hearing what the
21 Freedom Valley Worship Center has to say about the
22 casino in Gettysburg. My name is Rich Randolph. I'm
23 a member of the church. And I live in Straban
24 County, which is a --- I'm sorry. I live in Straban
25 Township which is in Adams County. My senior pastor,

1 Jerry Stoltzfoos, asked me to speak on behalf of him
2 in that he wasn't going to be able to be here on time
3 for the presentation. Freedom Valley is located at
4 3185 York Road, Gettysburg. It has the overall
5 mission to help people who have given up on church to
6 learn about Jesus Christ and ultimately to form a
7 personal relationship with him. There are about a
8 thousand adults attending our services each week and
9 about as many children. Over 60 teenagers attend our
10 youth program each Wednesday.

11 In the course of the discussion, I will
12 not cite references, but they are cited in the
13 printed version I'll turn in. Let me start with four
14 aspects of our church mission that are particularly
15 important to the matter at hand today. First, we
16 teach responsible Christian stewardship. We teach
17 god's word about managing money and caring for the
18 family. And we teach god's word about investing in
19 the kingdom of god. Since all things belong to god,
20 people are placed in positions of stewards and we
21 must keep a proper accounting. We have great family
22 programs at Freedom Valley, and we always emphasize
23 the care for our families as a priority. Jesus'
24 parable of the talents indicates that good and
25 faithful servants administer the talents entrusted to

1 them in such a way that their master was pleased. We
2 place our time, energy and money in things that
3 advance the kingdom of god. The Bible instructs
4 believers whatever you do, do it all for the glory of
5 god. God is not glorified when people trust in
6 chance rather than the lord.

7 Secondly, we emphasis the need for
8 Christians to help others. We teach people the
9 habits love, giving and supporting others. We have
10 many ministries that help people, a food bank, visit
11 the sick, train prisoners for release back to
12 society. And we hold support groups for substance
13 abusers and we do pastor counseling, et cetera as
14 god's people are to love their neighbors as
15 themselves. And the nature of gambling is such that
16 a person has a chance of gain only because others
17 have suffered loss. So the persistent appeal of
18 gambling to covetousness is fundamentally opposed to
19 the unselfishness taught by Jesus Christ.

20 Third, we teach the work ethic of
21 scriptures. Throughout scripture, the importance of
22 work is emphasized. In several places, the
23 correlation between work, working and eating is
24 taken. The Bible teaches we reap what we sow. And
25 warns against the something for nothing, get rich ---

1 I'm sorry, get rich quick approach in several
2 different passages. So gambling whether to secure
3 wealth in a hurry or to place bets at the tables is
4 inconsistent with what the Bible teaches.

5 And finally, we teach avoidance of
6 unhealthy habits and addictions. The word of god
7 points out that Christians should refuse to be
8 brought under the power of other influences. It's
9 obvious that habitual gamblers are under the control
10 of a compulsion to gamble, rather than being the
11 servants of god. We must face the facts that's some
12 of our people are good citizens, our own community,
13 even our own church will become addicted at the
14 Mason-Dixon Casino. And they'll be ruined by it.

15 So, that's the summary of what we
16 teach. I want to emphasis our church has a
17 commitment to the community. We are a vibrant part
18 of the community. We want to serve it. We want to
19 spread the good news of the salvation of Jesus
20 Christ. But there's a real threat to the area that
21 the casino will aversely impact our heritage tourism
22 business. This will result in and further harm those
23 even described by Mr. Miller's analysis. Our tourism
24 is not about skiing or boating or beaches, golfing.
25 None of that kind of amusement. It's heritage

1 tourism. It's a totally different thing.

2 Ms. Violet Clark as completed a
3 professional study of the impact of casino gambling
4 on our heritage tourism industry and it will be
5 submitted later. The bibliography is over 13 pages
6 and it's thoroughly documented. The study includes a
7 robust description of the term branding --- brands.
8 How Gettysburg has the unique and powerful brand
9 image. Brands are more than products or logos. A
10 true brand exists as a collection of enduring
11 intangible values.

12 It's a general belief of the visitors
13 to Gettysburg, that to a large extent what they see
14 is authentic and they're trying to get the full story
15 of what happened and they think it's accurately
16 represented. Gettysburg is completely different and
17 unique from other tourist sites in this regard.
18 Visitors can immerse in it. There are period dining
19 fairs available. There are reneactors stationed
20 across the battlefield. There are licensed tour
21 guides. Gettysburg offers experiences not readily
22 available on other sites. So, the presentation and
23 preservation of the battlefield provides an authentic
24 experience. We can actually walk through Pickett's
25 Charge and visit Little Round Top as it was.

1 So, there are --- well, one expert has
2 given seven cornerstones of authenticity. I'm going
3 to address one or two if time permits. Honesty and
4 human. To be honest, a heritage tourist site has to
5 be honest. The destination has to promise something
6 that it can deliver. If the site fails to deliver
7 authentic environment, the market brand is tainted
8 and it will eventually disappear. Gettysburg has a
9 generation's long iconic value that resonates across
10 the world. Like other Civil War sites, it's a family
11 tourism destination.

12 To change the character and nature of
13 Gettysburg with casino gambling while still claiming
14 that the authentic environment remains intact is
15 dishonest. Heritage tourist who come to the area
16 expecting a well-preserved battlefield will find
17 marketing materials for a casino, casino tour buses,
18 heavy traffic up and down Emmitsburg Road and later
19 boarded-up shops and eateries and businesses
20 destroyed from the loss of the diverted funds. And
21 funds that went to the casino and out of the
22 community. Billboard advertisements, casino
23 literature, along with the presence of an adult
24 gaming facility will shock the contextual
25 authenticity of the battlefield. I'm wondering if I

1 look around today if that's may be a sample of what
2 we see coming. Visitors who come to the area will
3 feel cheated and lied to, and they will not return.

4 Brand avoidance is defined as an
5 incidence of which consumers choose deliberately to
6 reject the brand. If Gettysburg is allowed to fall
7 victim to the introduction of the casino into the
8 historic environment, you can expect to lose
9 thousands of family groups that take their business
10 to other sites that don't have this bizarre mix of
11 adult gaming and battlefield tours.

12 Two surveys were done in this study.
13 One of casino visitors and one of heritage tourists.
14 They were done in the Cherokee-Overhill (sic) County
15 and all around the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians,
16 which is in Tennessee and North Carolina and the
17 Harrah's Cherokee Casino. The heritage tourism in
18 Cherokee has significantly depleted the --- I'm
19 sorry. Heritage tourism in Cherokee has taken a
20 significant blow since the introduction of the casino
21 in the late '90s. But the results of the survey very
22 simply, casino gamblers are not interested in
23 visiting historic sites. Heritage tourists are
24 offended by the casinos. And over 80 percent of them
25 said they would not be more likely to visit a site

1 with a casino nearby.

2 From some of my own research --- I'll
3 just step back a minute. A recent report issued by
4 the Connecticut Office of Legislative Research noted
5 that since Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun opened, the
6 serious crimes have increased overall in Ledyard,
7 Montville and Norwich, North Stonington and Preston
8 precedent. And I just have to say that, because I
9 once lived in Montville and I'm really sorry to hear
10 about that.

11 But in summary then, the proposed slot
12 machine parlor and gambling hall is detrimental to
13 our church mission and to our people. God's not
14 glorified. God's word concerning stewardship is
15 ignored. We will bear the cost of healing the damage
16 to our people, financial, emotional and ethical. And
17 we lament the expected decline in heritage tourism
18 ---

19 PRESIDING OFFICER:

20 Your time is up.

21 MR. RANDOLPH:

22 --- which means a decline of the
23 community as a whole. Thank you very much.

24 PRESIDING OFFICER:

25 Thank you. John Wega?

1 MR. WEGA:

2 Good afternoon. My name is John Wega.
3 I'm the Executive Director and Refounder of a group
4 called the United States Christian Commission, which
5 was originally formed November 16th, 1861 after the
6 Civil War had begun. And they went to the
7 battlefields of virtually every field of battle and
8 hospital, as quoted by U.S. Grant, with Bibles and
9 bandages and a love of Christ. They were called one
10 of the wonders of the world when the war was over.
11 And here at Gettysburg we're quoted by William
12 Hammon, the Surgeon General of the U.S. Army, to have
13 saved thousands of lives, here being the first to
14 arrive and some of the last to leave in treating the
15 wounded in the midst of such a terrible situation.

16 And I thank you for the chance to speak
17 to you today in representing this organization and
18 heros that actually went to Civil War battlefields
19 with Bibles and seeing that the men in the midst of
20 turmoil and death and suffering were given not just
21 something not to do, but they were given
22 alternatives. And many cases and stories of what you
23 might call from the time, temperance movement against
24 alcohol, tobacco and gambling in the forms of card
25 playing primarily would have been that case in

1 exchange for Bibles. And that's just one kind of
2 example on that.

3 But I came to speak to you not about
4 what the Christian Commission did, but I came to
5 speak to you about what Gettysburg --- not really
6 what it was, really not even what it is, but in your
7 consideration of what and where a casino in
8 Pennsylvania would be located, what Gettysburg can
9 be, because I think as we sit here today and try to
10 consider all the economic factors, the personalities
11 and all the situations, you have a very tough job at
12 your hands with all the things, and no one has a
13 crystal ball. We can all have hopes. We can have
14 suppositions with business theories. And many of
15 them, perhaps, are true and many, perhaps, will fall
16 by wayside as any business endeavor. And you have a
17 very tough job at your hands to try to very
18 selectively make a decision for other people's towns
19 and communities. And we appreciate the effort that
20 you're putting into that in representing the State of
21 Pennsylvania.

22 Gettysburg is special not because what
23 it was. Gettysburg may not really be special for
24 what it is. It's not a perfect town. There's may
25 ills, one of which is economy. The other thing is

1 the ideals that are presented about the history, what
2 it really represents as a treasure of America. It
3 also represents something to Pennsylvania and to the
4 nation, but I think that it cannot be fully defined
5 by the media decision on a casino. Because when you
6 look back at Gettysburg in the early '70s, when we
7 were in a very similar time of our history, we were
8 coming out of war, we were coming out of inflation,
9 high gas prices, we had political and social
10 corruption. Based on statistics and estimates of
11 visitation by the U.S. government at the Park Service
12 going back to about 1934, you see a spike in the
13 season of time about four years surrounding the early
14 '70s with an average visitation of about four and a
15 half million people. Now, the spike right in the
16 middle of that was 6.78 million.

17 Now, at that time we did not have fancy
18 hotels. We didn't have the internet, but we had a
19 time in our history when people were looking back at
20 our heritage to see what we were really about in
21 America. And I think that that is very telling in a
22 time of our history, because at a similar time that
23 we're in now with wars that have gone on for much
24 longer than anyone expected, we're in a time of
25 social and political corruption and now even

1 seemingly of growing social unrest about what we
2 should do in our country. We are having high gas
3 prices. We're having economic woes and wondering
4 about where that should be. We are facing a time
5 when we're being challenged of what --- about our
6 nation was really built upon, our heritage.

7 Pennsylvania may be the greatest state
8 to be able to claim what our heritage really is, with
9 the founding of Pennsylvania through William Penn and
10 the Quakers in Philadelphia, the ringing of the
11 Liberty Bell, the signing of the Declaration, the
12 writing of the Constitution, the first Bible Society
13 in Philadelphia, formed in 1808, Benjamin Rush being
14 instrumental in that as one of the signers of the
15 Declaration of Independence. And then the battle
16 that defines maybe all battles from the Civil War is
17 at Gettysburg. And I would suggest to you it's not
18 just the high-water mark because of the battle that
19 took place. But America was suffering many of the
20 woes that we are touching upon today. May we not
21 dare say that it would be as extreme as during our
22 Civil War when we killed each other at 365 per day
23 for four years.

24 But we were at a time when the Civil
25 War began, very similar to today. Church attendance

1 was probably the lowest point in America's history.
2 I spent about eight years researching with thousands
3 of hours and probably one of the most consolidated
4 collections about not just the U.S. Christian
5 Commission but chaplaincy and religion during the
6 Civil War era. Between 5 and 13 percent of Americans
7 had gone to church before the Civil War. Abraham
8 Lincoln would state, I think, very profoundly in
9 April of 1863, that in our own prosperity, our own
10 success, our own wealth may be like no other nation
11 had ever seen, he said that we had forgotten god. He
12 asked the country, both north and south, that we
13 would beg for gods's clemency and forgiveness.

14 And as I think --- as we look at our
15 times, may we not forget the religious element,
16 because we cannot define everything by what we can
17 see just in our minds and what we can intellectually
18 determine by economics and forecasts and business
19 plans. It took Gettysburg for this nation to be
20 spiritually broken to come back under god. Within
21 three weeks, The New York Herald, Gettysburg was
22 called one of the altars of the nation. Gettysburg's
23 fields of battle would turn into fields of prayer.
24 Ministers in the camps working with the U.S.
25 Christian Commission would write in their diaries

1 that the presence of god here was so thick and heavy,
2 if you didn't come to know god, then you might never.

3 Recently, Jeff Sharrah gave a speech at
4 the cemetery in remembrance of the Gettysburg Address
5 and referred to his father, Michael Sharrah, who had
6 written the book, Killer Angels and formed the movie,
7 Gettysburg. He said his father had traveled the
8 world. And in every other cultural around the world,
9 they had what they considered a holy land, but to
10 Americans that's kind of a misnomer, we don't
11 incorporate that into our normal thinking. But
12 Michael Sharrah who had spent much of his life
13 writing and inspiring people about our Civil War said
14 that Gettysburg is America's holy land. We can't
15 just think what Gettysburg was. We really can't even
16 judge it by what it is, because it has lot of growing
17 to do. We have to look into the future as you have
18 been given that responsibility for what this town can
19 be for America, because America still needs an altar
20 that's untainted by the economics, that's untainted
21 by ---. Even when at the time of Abraham Lincoln in
22 giving his second inaugural address stated that both
23 sides prayed to the same god, we were unquestionably
24 divided. We were killing each other. And many of us
25 here are divided today. But I think we're looking

1 very close up to the forest, and we're not seeing the
2 bigger picture. Because we can't put our hopes into
3 something that might be just short lived and somehow
4 circumvent the future that Gettysburg holds, not just
5 for this community, not just for the state, but for
6 our nation to have a place to come back under god
7 once again.

8 I would consider in opposition to the
9 casino for what Gettysburg not was or even is, but
10 what it can and, I believe, will become. And you
11 hold in your hands, as you make the decision, the
12 ability not just for the today of Gettysburg, but for
13 the future of it in the long term. And if seven
14 million people came in the early '70s, I can just
15 imagine all the families that came with their little
16 station wagons packed up coming to see a place where
17 America was built. Could it be seven million? Could
18 it be ten million? Maybe not just look at it as a
19 way to make a dollar for the quick, but look at it
20 for a way for America to come back and find out what
21 our nation is really built and founded upon, for that
22 will truly impact our nation and what it will become
23 in the future once again. Thank you very much. I
24 appreciate the time. May god bless you.

25 PRESIDING OFFICER:

1 Mr. Wega, can you tell us where you
2 reside?

3 MR. WEGA:

4 Yes, ma'am. I live in Mount Joy
5 Township, and I operate the United States Christian
6 Commission with an office in Gettysburg,
7 Pennsylvania, also a museum. And we do living
8 histories on the battlefield, so we've incorporated
9 in the State of Pennsylvania. We run the business
10 here and we live just nearby locally in Mount Joy
11 Township, near in Lewistown, Pennsylvania.

12 PRESIDING OFFICER:

13 Thank you. Francis Pennings?

14 MR. PENNINGS:

15 My name is Francis Pennings. I live in
16 New Oxford. I'm a dairy farmer in Adams County and a
17 Board member of the Adams County Farm Bureau. Today
18 I'm here representing the Adams County County Farm
19 Bureau. We currently have 732 members. We have a
20 standing policy concerning casinos. Our policy
21 states the Adams County Farm Bureau does not support
22 gambling casinos, because of the impact on the rural
23 community and Adams County.

24 Currently agriculture is the number one
25 industry in Adams County. We use the local roads in

1 our daily operations. The capacity of the local
2 roads is already being challenged due to an increase
3 in population and constant residential development.
4 We use the local roads for our tractors, equipment
5 and farm vehicles. Like many other businesses,
6 agriculture is time sensitive, with the weather
7 sometimes dictating our schedule. A casino would
8 increase traffic throughout the area. Increased
9 traffic is a detriment to running our businesses.

10 It could be argued that the casino
11 patrons will mainly use Route 15 and Emmitsburg Road.
12 This is mostly true. However, we feel that local
13 residents would use alternates routes to avoid the
14 new traffic congestion. This will cause more traffic
15 on the local roads that don't normally have so much
16 traffic.

17 If the casino materializes there will
18 be otherwise business interests introduced in order
19 to take advantage of the new guests in the area.
20 This will put more developed pressure on the land in
21 the area. The ag community is already feeling the
22 effects of decreased availability and increased land
23 costs. We think a casino will accelerate this trend.

24 Casino proponents claim that casino
25 revenues will help decrease our local tax burden.

1 The amount of money going into the county budget
2 sounds like a lot. The effect it will have when
3 divided by all local taxpayers will be minimal.

4 In conclusion, we don't want a casino
5 in Adams County, because of an increase of traffic as
6 well as increased development from new businesses.
7 We wish to continue to enjoy a rural county where
8 agriculture is the number one industry. We feel that
9 since growing food is weather dependent, that is
10 enough of a gamble for us. Thank you very much.

11 PRESIDING OFFICER:

12 Thank you. Carl Harris?

13 MR. HARRIS:

14 My name is Carl Harris, and I live in
15 Fairfield, Pennsylvania. I'm the Senior Pastor of
16 the First Baptist Church in Gettysburg, located at
17 1015 Chambersburg Road, which is two miles west of
18 the center of town, on Highway Route 30. I've been
19 serving as an ordained pastor for 19 years and for
20 almost nine of those at the First Baptist Church here
21 in Gettysburg. During my time here, I've come to
22 love and appreciate the people of Adams County. My
23 congregation has been serving our lord in Gettysburg
24 in this community for over 55 years and continues to
25 be invested in a variety of ways through work at

1 local mission groups, soup kitchen, Angel Food
2 distribution, relief teams which provides free labor
3 to those who need that. We also are involved in
4 benevolence, people who have needs, financial
5 counseling. We offer that to our members and to our
6 residents. We have preschool classes. We have five
7 classes registered this year, over 60 students, and
8 we provide pastoral care. Our church is located on
9 the grounds on the first day of fighting of the civil
10 war. And we count it to be a blessing to be a part
11 of the history and future of Gettysburg.

12 Please know that we are invested and
13 committed to this town, and we feel strongly that a
14 casino and overall --- it would be an overall
15 detriment to the local community, including small
16 businesses and families.

17 I want to make a matter of record that
18 I am pro jobs, pro tax relief, pro Gettysburg, pro
19 economic growth, pro business and pro capitalism, but
20 I am not pro casino, especially not in Gettysburg. I
21 am deeply concerned that the casino in Gettysburg
22 would be a detriment to this small and delicate
23 community, increasing the traffic patterns
24 overloading social and governmental agencies,
25 weakening the established business space and

1 undermining the historical monument that it is.

2 I also want to acknowledge and I
3 appreciate David LeVan and his partner's desire to
4 invest in this region. It is commendable that Mr.
5 LeVan wants to put money into Gettysburg, but I feel
6 that a casino at the Eisenhower facility is not the
7 right vehicle for this area.

8 And for the same reason --- and for the
9 same reasons that the Pennsylvania Gaming Board voted
10 no last time, I'm asking you again to deny this
11 application, for it is not the right thing for
12 Gettysburg.

13 Gambling winnings come from gambling
14 losers for every winner, there is a loser. One
15 person gains many, because others lose. In the end,
16 the few select investors get richer and the poor get
17 poorer. Larry Burkett says gambling consumes but it
18 doesn't produce. It creates no new money and no new
19 goods. George Washington said gambling is a child of
20 avarice, the brother of iniquity and the father of
21 mischief. Virgil Peterson, a former Crime
22 Commissioner of Chicago, said that gambling produced
23 no wealth. It simply redistributes it from the hands
24 of many to the hands of few. Gambling invariably
25 leads to higher police and welfare costs.

1 I have several friends who own and
2 operate small businesses in this town. Many of them
3 understand that the casino is claiming economic
4 vitality to this town, but they also understand and
5 are very concerned that the casinos work hard in
6 keeping the gambler and his money in their compound,
7 providing food, meals, entertainment, places to shop
8 and even tapping perhaps into the tourism industry in
9 which many businesses depend upon. This may benefit
10 the casino owners and create few jobs, but like when
11 Wal-mart comes to town, it usually ends up ruining or
12 creating more hardship with the small businesses. I
13 would hate to see many of our small business who have
14 been invested in this town and depend on the tourists
15 closing down.

16 Perhaps when they argue that casinos
17 will pay for the extra police, fire and social
18 agencies, but what will become of the families
19 destroyed because the breadwinner becomes addicted to
20 gambling? I have heard that one of the highest
21 volumes of gaming days is right after Wel checks are
22 checks are distributed. Great for the casino, but
23 the community has now to deal with the fallout,
24 desperate people do desperate things. Senator Alex
25 Wiley said the idea that legalized gambling will be a

1 revenue raiser is an illusion. For every dollar
2 raised for such resources means \$5 spent in higher
3 police costs, court costs, penitentiary costs, relief
4 costs.

5 Nevada is a gambling capital of the
6 nation, the city that never sleeps, a playground for
7 the adults. Yet Las Vegas also has one of the
8 highest suicide rates. And according to the National
9 Association of County and City Health, in 2004 had
10 the highest rate of suicide. No wonder Harry Reid,
11 Chairman of the Nevada Gaming Control Commission told
12 U.S. News & World Report, any state trying to follow
13 Nevada's lead will find that the social costs far
14 outweigh any economic advantage.

15 Proverbs 627 and 28 says can a man
16 scoop fire onto his lap without this clothes being
17 burned? Can a man walk on hot coals without being
18 --- without his feet being scorched? No alcoholic
19 ever planned on becoming enslaved when he took his
20 first drink. No addict addicted after his first hit.
21 No first time gambler ever planned to become enslaved
22 with just first nickel inserted. But the statistics
23 show that many will become enslaved.

24 I've read numbers suggesting up to
25 eight percent of those who say they gambled the first

1 time just for fun became compulsive gamblers. If the
2 eight percent is correct, I want to say even if it's
3 just one percent, that it correlates to eight out of
4 100, every 100 people in this area or who gamble in
5 this area are likely to become problem gamblers.
6 These are friends, family members, sons, daughters,
7 parents and grandparents, precious citizens all vital
8 to the health of this town.

9 I'd ask you not to place this
10 temptation in this town. Many who come to this
11 region are tourists who come to contemplate what has
12 taken place during the Civil War. Over 160,000 men
13 fought the bloodiest battle on American soil, over
14 50,000 men lost their lives or were severely wounded.
15 The course of American history was changed because of
16 what happened here. We must preserve this treasured
17 place.

18 Please do not muddy these pristine
19 waters and hallowed grounds by distracting from what
20 has happened here by placing a casino in this town.
21 You have already given the gambler many places ---
22 you have already given the gambler many places in the
23 Commonwealth to go. I'm asking you, Pennsylvania
24 Gaming Board, on behalf of the hundred-plus families
25 that are under my pastoral care, all the concerned

1 citizens of Adams County, please do not approve the
2 application for the Mason-Dixon Resorts, LP Category
3 3. Please preserve this national treasure. Please
4 further preserve the health of this town by not
5 allowing a casino to be built here. And I want to
6 say thank you for your time, and wish you the best.

7 PRESIDING OFFICER:

8 Thank you. Joe Breighner?

9 MR. BREIGHNER:

10 I'm Joe Breighner, B-R-E-I-G-H-N-E-R.
11 I'm a resident of Highland Township, about 3.5 miles
12 from here. My name is Joe Breighner, and I'm here to
13 represent the Democracy for American Gettysburg
14 Chapter. For those of you not familiar with the DFA,
15 it's a nationwide grassroots movement committed to
16 progressive values underlying our democracy. Fiscal
17 responsibility, personal liberty under the umbrella
18 of community wellbeing and protection of our natural
19 environment.

20 I am here to express opposition to the
21 creation of a casino here in Gettysburg. Here is our
22 reasoning. We request that the state government
23 recondition itself to bring in its profited spending
24 ways under control. Even using constitutional
25 convention if necessary. A casino is in direct

1 conflict with the existing tax generation of tourism
2 here, that has been tried and true. We regret that
3 our representatives whose mantra has been rallying
4 against poor spending habits to Harrisburg lie mute
5 or in favor of a casino that enables dysfunctional
6 spending pipeline to continue. A few votes and a
7 political donor is the price of hypocrisy.

8 As citizens, \$52 tax break after
9 watching our property taxes raise from a \$1,000 to
10 \$2,000 in the last month is an insult. You wish to
11 mine us, endanger our tourism industry for a \$52 tax
12 cut. As for job creation, we, as a political group,
13 have witnessed this promise of job creation without
14 specifics or legally-binding agreements as a common
15 marketing ploy used to sway the politically naive.

16 I am native born in Adams County, born
17 in Annie Warner Hospital. And I've watched the
18 tourism trade evolve here. Family oriented tourism
19 pervaded the '60s and '70s here. And the
20 intellectual history tourism evolved in the '80s and
21 '90s, as demonstrated by all the reenactments, the
22 lecture series and the specialized tours. Though I'm
23 not involved in that group, I understand their
24 complaint. I am interested in Native American
25 culture. However, I don't go to a Native American

1 casino to study and learn about Native American
2 culture.

3 A third type of tourism, agrotourism
4 has been rising very briskly, taking advantage of the
5 shop local, eat local food movement. We are blessed
6 geologically and geographically to exploit this
7 robust movement. We have rich conglomerate soils,
8 some of the best in the east coast. And our
9 proximity to major urban centers puts us in a
10 favorable position. For those of you not familiar
11 with what is going on in the fruit industry, the
12 apple industry left about ten years ago to China and
13 recently with the drought and the early heat, the
14 peach industry, which has been booming, has taken a
15 hit this year as they have to compete with all the
16 peach growers from Georgia to New York, bringing down
17 prices dramatically. We are hoping that this local
18 food movement extends here to Adams County.

19 A fourth type of tourism has recently
20 emerged centering around motorcycle subcultural,
21 where some businesses prosper while townspeople and
22 tourist run for cover from the raucous weekends.
23 This bad-boy bad-girl wannabe culture is in direct
24 conflict with the other three. A casino is no more
25 than an addition to this form of tourism.

1 Develop that tourism if you must, but
 2 not in a place that imperializes existing tourism.
 3 Nationally, the DFA recognizes the effects of our
 4 laissez-faire economics that has evolved into
 5 laissez-fair moralism. Both the right and the left
 6 deserve blame for this. American lifestyles are
 7 currently suffering from this malaise. Gettysburg is
 8 a microcosm of that phenomenon. It's time to turn in
 9 the other direction. Let Gettysburg be the place for
 10 an another turning point in our nation's history,
 11 genuflecting the short-term economic gain like a
 12 casino is just more of the same. We ask you to
 13 reject the casino license.

14 PRESIDING OFFICER:

15 Thank you. Would the next list of
 16 individuals stand to be sworn when I call your name?
 17 Reverend Robert Costello. Okay. I don't see him.
 18 Carl Athey, Eugene Golden, Tom Gilbert and Rich
 19 Kitner. And we'll see if we can find Reverend
 20 Costello. Okay. Court reporter swear these four in.

21 -----
 22 WITNESSES SWORN EN MASSE
 23 -----

24 PRESIDING OFFICER:

25 Since the Reverend does not seem to be

1 here, Carl Athey?

2 MR. ATHEY:

3 My name is Carl Athey. I am speaking
4 on behalf of the Adams Countians For Tax Relief. I
5 will give you the names and numbers for the people
6 I'm representing. Nancy Tyler ---

7 PRESIDING OFFICER:

8 If you could please stand if you're in
9 the room? Thank you.

10 MR. ATHEY:

11 --- 1363, Diana Llauget 1212, Michele
12 Zigler 1521, David Schneider 1359, Marion Schneider
13 1358, Susie Kaiser 1323, Kathryn Groot 1362, Betty
14 Kepler 1479, Mary Jane Carver 1537, Harold G. Kepler
15 1401, Jerome Storm 1371, Nadaga Poist 1155, George
16 Chronister, Junior 712, Angela Chronister 711 and Deb
17 Spitzer 1605.

18 PRESIDING OFFICER:

19 I have 15 individuals; is that correct.

20 MR. ATHEY:

21 Yes, 15.

22 PRESIDING OFFICER:

23 Okay. We'll note for the record those
24 15 individual have stood to be recognized and that
25 Mr. Athey is speaking on their behalf as well, and we

1 thank you for that.

2 MR. ATHEY:

3 Okay. As I said, my name is Carl
4 Athey. I live here in Cumberland Township with my
5 wife and two daughters. I also have a local
6 construction business that at sometime employed 65
7 people. We had been, since the end of 2008, 23
8 people. We also had to make the painful decision to
9 reduce pay and benefits for our employees, myself
10 included. Obviously, my take on this is more geared
11 towards the job part of this for this area.

12 I know they've considered traffic.
13 Anyone here that has ever tried to navigate the
14 square on the weekend knows the traffic is --- it's
15 fun, you laugh about it. But it's a tourist town.
16 It's part of our everyday living, you know.

17 I also belong to an organization that
18 volunteers on the battlefield that we solely take
19 care of the equestrian trails. Our primary funding
20 for those trails was rides. We would get rides and
21 people would come in. We are down 70 percent.
22 Trying to make up that difference now because the
23 economy is so bad in this area, to allow us to make
24 up that difference. I would you to consider that.

25 You know, we're looking for a tax base,

1 a supplement to our tax base and I think this will
2 help us do that. We will see the jobs. We will see
3 that tax base. Recently, as someone else mentioned,
4 we recently had a reassessment. That assessment hit
5 me extremely hard. It hit some older people that I
6 know that seriously have to consider leaving this
7 area now, because they cannot pay those taxes. So,
8 I've heard some of the speakers and I think their
9 arguments are very well put, but when you don't have
10 a job, all the other things, whether it's the
11 battlefield or anything else are very difficult.
12 When you can't feed your family and you can't support
13 the things that you had to pay your taxes, and that's
14 what we're seeing. They were almost 1,400 people
15 showed up to the Adams Town --- to the Gettysburg
16 High School. I was one of them who waited outside
17 after this reassessment, you know, that saw their ---
18 some of them saw their property taxes doubled. And I
19 know you can understand that that's a difficult deal
20 for these people.

21 To put it mildly, no one's happy.
22 We're just looking for this lead. You know, please,
23 consider their returns --- or their concerns. You
24 know, the tax issue has a minimum of \$1 million in
25 local shares taxes to both the township and the

1 county, and this will go a long way to help us. You
2 know, there's a lot of people here that I'm
3 representing hopefully adequately, that took time out
4 of their day, myself included, to be here before this
5 Board, so that they could hear their concerns. And
6 they are definitely concerned about the taxes and the
7 jobs primarily.

8 Host counties where this has been done
9 have profited. They have gotten better. You know,
10 this tax part will definitely give us more
11 infrastructure. It'll support our infrastructure.
12 It can potentially purchase us fire and rescue,
13 police presence, you know, which we're trying to
14 struggle with now in this township and this area.

15 I'm going to be short and sweet.
16 That's all I can ask you to do. Please, consider the
17 local people here. This is a local issue. I
18 understand the battlefield belongs to everyone and I
19 do feel that. But from a jobs perspective and a tax
20 and people living here, it is their issue. We live
21 here. We have to live it every day. Thank you. And
22 I know you'll make the right decision.

23 PRESIDING OFFICER:

24 Thank you.

25 PRESIDING OFFICER:

1 Eugene Golden?

2 MR. GOLDEN:

3 Hello. I'll also be speaking for a
4 number of people today. I'll be speaking for --- are
5 you ready for this?

6 PRESIDING OFFICER:

7 Yes. If you could --- are in the room,
8 could you please stand as well?

9 MR. GOLDEN:

10 Do you want me to start off by --- my
11 name is Gene Golden, Eugene Golden. I'm number 1470.
12 I live in Cumberland Township, Gettysburg. And the
13 names, I have Deborah Fleet number 834, Patricia
14 Boyer 867, Linda Dillon 725, Carol Rebert 823, and
15 Carol Loftus-Miller 824. And I am representing them
16 as members of BoroughVENT.com.

17 PRESIDING OFFICER:

18 Okay. The record will reflect that
19 those individuals are in the room to be counted, and
20 Mr. Golden's comments will be attributed to them as
21 well. Thank you. And you may begin.

22 MR. GOLDEN:

23 Thank you. Well, like I said, my name
24 is Gene Golden, 145 Herrs Ridge Road, Cumberland
25 Township. This is also considered Gettysburg. I

1 represent BoroughVENT.com, which is a local website
2 bullet in board forum that has been in existence for
3 over three and a half years with nearly 600 members.
4 Our members are very opinioned, to say the least. We
5 cut through the bull. Our site is definitely a
6 resource for many locals, as well as people
7 throughout the United States, as they keep up with
8 current events and find out the back stories to many
9 issues that are occurring in our region. In spite of
10 our irreverent attitude, we have come extremely
11 serious topics and expose issues that affect us on a
12 daily basis. BoroughVENT is both respected and
13 reviled. Someone's opinion of us really depends on
14 which side of the truth they are on.

15 The casino has been one of our hottest
16 topics since it was announced earlier this year. I
17 would say that a majority of our posts are pro
18 casino, but they're more like extremely anti no
19 casino. We have, therefore, been labeled by No
20 Casino Gettysburg as being a pro casino website.
21 We're really neither, but we do tend to pick up the
22 pros.

23 When BoroughVENT holds a mirror in
24 front of controversial individual --- controversial
25 individuals or groups, that forces them to look at

1 how they are perceived. What they see is often their
2 ugly side, as is the case of No Casino Gettysburg
3 leadership and organization. We see them for what
4 they are and we challenge them on it. Obviously,
5 we've struck a nerve. Some No Casino Gettysburg
6 fellows have joined our site and they've posted on
7 it. Their own sites don't allow any dialogue
8 whatsoever. So when confronted by people asking
9 tough questions and demanding answers to them, they
10 tend to drop out quickly from our site. If you go to
11 the No Casino Gettysburg site right now, you will be
12 required to enter a cell phone number or credit card
13 number as a means to authenticate and authorize
14 someone to write on their pages. Their paranoia runs
15 deep. They control the rhetoric and the lies on
16 their site in the hopes that the readers will not
17 look elsewhere for facts. Facts will just confuse
18 the faithful. I'm not always politically correct, to
19 say the least, when I write or when I speak, and I
20 don't have much tolerance for mincing words or
21 watering down a statement to prevent hurting
22 someone's feelings. I apologize for that now to
23 anybody I will hurt here.

24 In 2006, when the previous PGCB Board
25 bypassed Gettysburg when granting casino licenses, we

1 really couldn't figure out what went wrong. We were
2 a solid candidate back then and we played by the
3 rules, and we deserved a license. What did we do?
4 Or more specifically what did we not do? We finally
5 realized what it was. We had sat back and we allowed
6 a small vocal group to decide what we wanted.

7 This time, though, we came out in force
8 to overwhelmingly show our support of the effort by
9 Dave LeVan and this partners to bring this viable
10 industry into our region. It didn't seem right last
11 time and it doesn't seem right now, that we need to
12 fight the nation in order to place a legitimate legal
13 business in our own hometown. Things have changed
14 since 2006, and we have now become proactive in order
15 to determine our own fate instead of allowing special
16 interest groups to meddle with our livelihoods and
17 futures.

18 The following comments are pretty much
19 indicative of some of the BoroughVENT.com topics and
20 some are my own opinions. Who are the individuals in
21 groups that represented No Casino Gettysburg? We
22 have some pretty good some ideas and some theories on
23 why they're involved. That's what we do on
24 BoroughVENT, we talk about everything. Certainly
25 some No Casino Gettysburg's support comes from the

1 orchard region of Adams County. Why does a region 15
2 miles north of the site care so much about the casino
3 in South Adams County? Much of the workforce in the
4 fields and orchards is made up of hard working people
5 who work long hours for low wages. When the casino
6 comes to the region, those orchards and farmers, farm
7 owners may be concerned that their workers will leave
8 them for higher wages and better environment. That's
9 a valid concern. But to deny another industry and
10 the region simply to keep their status quo is selfish
11 and shortsighted. When a casino comes, hopefully
12 their increased wages will encourage other employers
13 in the region to increase their wages and benefits
14 also and make Gettysburg the profitable
15 family-sustaining town it should be. Until wages are
16 increased, there's not much incentive for any other
17 businesses to raise the bar.

18 We've heard the term heritage tourist
19 bandied about by No Casino Gettysburg. Evidently,
20 only certain types of tours are good enough for this
21 group. It's elitist. No Casino Gettysburg has
22 grasped at many straws while trying to make a case,
23 but most the groups that they have convinced to
24 support them, as you've seen tonight, are national
25 organizations or religious groups. None of which pay

1 taxes in Cumberland Township, none of them, or in the
2 Gettysburg region.

3 When the National Commander of the
4 American Legion, who was mentioned earlier, recently
5 chose to support the No Casino Gettysburg, he did so
6 without even consulting the local branch. Why
7 circumvent the local chapter? Because No Casino knew
8 that they could not get the support from the locals
9 who actually know the truth. We at BoroughVENT see
10 through their sham called them on it.

11 Has anyone --- I haven't been here for
12 everything. But has anyone not yet mentioned the
13 irony that the place that we are now gathered in was
14 built upon the hallowed ground, just yards from where
15 Lincoln spoke the Gettysburg Address and the
16 reconstruction of this building wasn't even
17 challenged, and the difference is gaming. We at
18 BoroughVENT seek --- oh, I'm sorry.

19 There is an unmistakable religious
20 overtone to their ramblings. Churches want their
21 flocks to avoid gambling, make their faith forbids it
22 and by all means, they can ask their people to stay
23 away. I contend that it is probably more so to
24 prevent parishioners' discretionary funds from
25 finding their way into slot machines instead of

1 collection baskets. But they should not try to cloak
2 their primary reason for opposing a casino. Their
3 beliefs for truly the major reason for fighting it.
4 So, it's disingenuous at least and outright lying at
5 best to hide the significant religious influence that
6 they have. Just like some groups that were speaking
7 before you today proves that. I'm not going to
8 through all of them because I don't have time. Adams
9 County Rescue Mission, Gettysburg Ministerium,
10 Gettysburg Valley Worship Center, the U.S. Christian
11 Commission, Child Evangelism, First Baptist Church,
12 Liberty Worship Center, et cetera, et cetera.

13 Although No Casino Gettysburg has a
14 moral and religious --- has moral and religious
15 issues with casinos, the State of Pennsylvania has
16 addressed those issues. Your organization, the five
17 of you, is basically being told that your job is
18 actually promoting an industry of sin and evil.
19 Shame on you. They will just not say that to your
20 face, of course, because they want you on their side.
21 I don't know why you're doing that, but it's not for
22 me to decide.

23 No Casino Gettysburg sees everything as
24 black or white. They try to convince you that the
25 casino patrons will displace our heritage tourists.

1 These entities can certainly coexist, as do many
2 other businesses. They are not exclusive industries,
3 and there will be crossover by tourists. Adding a
4 casino to our existing tourism will increase our
5 potential. For example, a Burger King purposely
6 locates near McDonald's and KFC. It creates a food
7 destination that will benefit all of them.

8 The addition of the casino will provide
9 greater incentive for national organizations to chose
10 Gettysburg as the location for their conventions.
11 And it will be more attractive to families looking
12 for a well-rounded place to visit. Something that
13 doesn't close at five o'clock at night. Gettysburg
14 attracts 2-plus million, depends on who you're
15 listening to, visitors a year. It's not like ---
16 excuse me, but it's not Beth Sands or someplace where
17 it's kind of like build it and they will come. Here
18 it's more like build it, because they're already
19 here. We've got these visitors. We need to take
20 advantage of it and I have no problem saying that it
21 is Gettysburg. Buckminster Fuller once said, let the
22 people walk and then the build a path.

23 Please take special note of this, and
24 one of the major supporters, of course, is the Civil
25 War Preservation Trust. That may seem to make sense

1 on the surface, but it's a little hard to follow.
2 Maryland recently approved gaming. Anne Arundel
3 County, a former executive, Jim Lighthizer, is the
4 CWPT President. Anne Arundel County is definitely
5 getting a casino.

6 PRESIDING OFFICER:

7 And your time is up. Thank you. I
8 have question for you, Mr. Golden.

9 MR. GOLDEN:

10 Sure.

11 PRESIDING OFFICER:

12 I have an individual registered by the
13 same name at number 553. Is that you?

14 MR. GOLDEN:

15 Yes, I was an individual at one point
16 when the time came.

17 PRESIDING OFFICER:

18 Well, we can cross you off the
19 individual list.

20 MR. GOLDEN:

21 Or you can let me finish in the next
22 three minutes.

23 PRESIDING OFFICER:

24 You're more than welcome to submit them
25 as written comments, sir. Thank you. Tom Gilbert?

1 MR. GILBERT:

2 I have 13 people, Madam Chair, that
3 stand with me on this.

4 PRESIDING OFFICER:

5 Tom Gilbert?

6 MR. GILBERT:

7 Yes, I have 13 people that will stand
8 with me on the Adams County Pro-Growth Initiative.
9 If I can name them and list their numbers?

10 PRESIDING OFFICER:

11 Yes, please.

12 MR. GOLDEN:

13 Patricia A. Sandoe, number 1328,
14 Pauline Deatruck number 1103, Dale T. Deatruck 1527,
15 Matthew Callery number 836, Jean Klindedust number
16 1326, Stephen Silvious 1109, Kathryn Groot 1362,
17 Irene (sic) Alwine 1618, George Alwine 1615, Paul A.
18 Krom 1152, Michael White number 746, James Fleet
19 number 833, John Ernst number 1442, and I am speaker
20 number 1472.

21 PRESIDING OFFICER:

22 And I count 13 individuals ---

23 MR. GOLDEN:

24 Yes, ma'am.

25 PRESIDING OFFICER:

1 --- without yourself on those?

2 MR. GOLDEN:

3 Yes.

4 PRESIDING OFFICER:

5 Thank you. And the record will reflect
6 they are here and have standed --- stood to be
7 counted. You may begin.

8 MR. GOLDEN:

9 Okay. My name is Tommy Gilbert. I've
10 lived in Adams County all my life, born in
11 Gettysburg. Business names Gilbert's Hobby Shop, and
12 then we reformed it and called it Tommy Gilbert's
13 Hobby Shop. It's a 65-year-old family business in
14 the community.

15 The Adams County Pro-Growth Initiative
16 was started shortly after David LeVan announced his
17 intentions regarding the Mason-Dixon Resort Casino.
18 As businessowners in Adams County, it's been no
19 secret the Eisenhower Inn & Conference Center has
20 seen the highs and lows of the local economy. For
21 nearly 40 years, the Eisenhower has served south
22 central Pennsylvania and Adams County. If you are a
23 businessowner within a 50-mile radius you know the
24 Eisenhower. Like the rest of us, the Eisenhower is
25 suffering the worst recession in decades. You may

1 not know the unemployment in Adams County is at a
2 25-year high with no signs of those numbers coming
3 down. Local businesses have boarded up and closed
4 down, example Long & Foster, our realtor in
5 Gettysburg has closed its doors today. I seen many
6 shops that they just can't stay in business. And
7 it's not because they didn't have a good business
8 model. It's because the economy has sunk them.

9 I'd like to read to you the coalition
10 form that each signer signs. And this is what they
11 have signed and pledged to their business to the pro
12 casino. As a businessowner in Adams County, I
13 support the efforts of the Mason-Dixon Resort &
14 Casino to create jobs, bring tax relief, increase
15 tourism and enhance our community's desirability and
16 destination location. Members of the Adams County
17 Pro-Growth Initiative are already for our community
18 communities to experience all the economic benefits
19 generated by the gaming industry, as has occurred
20 elsewhere in Pennsylvania. The Mason-Dixon Resort &
21 Casino will provide an economic boost to our regions
22 needed by creating jobs, providing tax relief,
23 increasing tourism, encouraging smart business growth
24 that is sensitive to our area's proud heritage and
25 historical significance.

1 Now, I have these applications here or
2 these Pro-Growth Initiatives right here before you.
3 These are 168, and they will be recognized. And I'd
4 like to read them off. Here is 32, which is in
5 confidentiality, 200 businesses. Those businesses
6 are 911 Photography, AC Catering, ASJ Imagining,
7 Incorporated, The AAkron Line, Adams County Abstract
8 Associates, Incorporated, Adams County Surplus
9 Banking --- Building Supply, Advanced Realty, Ace
10 Transportation Services, Apple Bin Grill & Bakery,
11 Ariel Premium Supply Company, BACA of Gettysburg,
12 Incorporated, Battlefield Harley --- Battlefield
13 Harley-Davidson, Battlefield Leathers, Battlefield
14 Taxidermy Studio, Beechwood Orchard, Biglerville
15 Hardware, Biglerville Tupperware Sales, BizWop
16 Businesses Website, Optimism, BODY Care, BOPAX, Inc.,
17 BoroughVENT.com, Branding Iron BBQ, Brookhart Home
18 Improvement, C.E. Williams & Son (sic), Cafe
19 Saint-Amand, Caring Hearts Ambulance and Medical
20 Medical, Carver's Business Machines, Carver's
21 Toyland, Chan Chemuyil Vacation Rentals, Chapel Ridge
22 Meats & Mercantile, Inc., China Gardens Buffet,
23 Chronister's Barbershop, Colton Motel, Corrado's
24 Pizza, Curves of Gettysburg, Date Trucking, LLC, B.C.
25 Electrical Contractors, Dyer's Deli & Foods, Deliso's

1 Pizza, Dicks Macaw World, Down to Earth Dental
2 Services, LLC, Dino's Family Restaurant, Earle's Inn,
3 East Coast Helicopter Service, Ed Steinour Building &
4 Remodeling, Edge of Design Studio, Edgewood Bowling
5 Center, Eiker's Concession, Emmitsburg Historical
6 Society, Fairways Pub & Grille, Fast Lane Biker ---
7 Fast Lane Biker Pennsylvania Magazine, FLEX &
8 Flanigan's, The Flower Boutique, Fine Line Tattooing
9 Company, Frankie's Used Auto parts, Frazer's Tree
10 Service, Garretson's Tile Company, Gettysburg PP Gas,
11 Gettysburg Evan's Restaurant, Gettysburg Glass, the
12 Gettysburg Inn, the Gettysburg Marketplace,
13 Gettysburg Signs, Gettysburg Tourist Center,
14 Gettysburg Village Shops, Gettysburg Bike Tour
15 Rentals, Ghostly Image Tours, Gill-Line, Gilly's Bowl
16 & Grill, Gina's Styling Salon, Gino C. Barbati
17 Chimney Sweep, Golden Living Restaurant, Golden
18 Studio, GraceKelly Salon, Greg's Automotive Repair,
19 Hall of Presidents, the First Ladies Hanover Boxing
20 Club, the Heritage Inn of Gettysburg, Hilly Beef ---
21 Hill-Billy's Beef Jerky Products, HIS Place,
22 Incorporated, Insidenviro Solutions, Integrated,
23 Incorporated, J&J Auto Repair, Jeffcoat Construction,
24 Jennie Wade House, Jennifer Myers Avon, Joe's
25 Trucking & Hauling, Johnson's Karate Institute, JR's

1 RV Repair, Just Jennifer Gallery, Kayhoe Roofing
2 Company, Kerin Marketing, Keller Farms, Kelli Payne,
3 CMT, Keystone Fireworks, Kitchen & Bath Discounters,
4 Knorrwood Antiques, Kranias, Incorporated, Kristi's
5 Custom Framing, Ltp Rentals, L&H Mechanical &
6 Electrical Service, L&S Furniture and Mattress
7 Outlet, Lincoln Trading Post, Lincoln Trading Museum,
8 Links of Gettysburg (sic), Lisa's Walkaway Sundaes,
9 The Lite-House, M&J Smith Construction, Mason-Dixon
10 Gaming Resort, Marvin Thompson's Pressure Washing ---
11 Washing (changes pronunciation), Merlin's Coffee, Mia
12 Bella's Gourmet Candles and Fine Products, Mike's
13 Towing & Recovery, Morelia Mexican Store, N.C. Knight
14 Fundraising and Motivational, No Croak Embroidery, No
15 Job Too Small, North Ridge Motel, PA United General
16 Contractors, Inc., The Paint Doctor, Patrick Arentz
17 General Services, Patriot's Choice Tax Service, The
18 Pike Restaurant, Pike Carry Out Express, The Pin Ups
19 Fine Apparel, PT Masonry, Quality Inn at General
20 Lee's Headquarters, the Red Carpet Inn, Redding's
21 Auction Service, RE/MAX of Gettysburg, that's Linda
22 Kane-Taylor, Rick's Auto & Crane Repair, Rick's Auto
23 & Truck Sales, Rick's Rollback Towing Service, Route
24 94 Motors, Rudisill's Automotives, Season Bakery &
25 Cafe, Scott W. Smith Building & Remodeling, Scott's

1 Tire Service, Shades of Tan, Sharrah Group Design,
2 Incorporated, Ski Liberty Resorts, Snack and Go Mart,
3 Soldier's National Museum, Steve & Bill's Backhoe
4 Service & Firewood, Steven J. Roth Photography,
5 Stonewall Motel, LLC, Sundown Concessions, TGM Home
6 and AV Service, Thomas Paint Horses & Goats, Thomas
7 Railing and Handyman, Tim Yepp Handyman Services,
8 Timmerman Self Storage, Tommy Gilbert's Hobby Shop,
9 Toni Realm's Beauty Shop, TRIMAC Company, LLC,
10 Unauthorized Enterprises, LLC, Uncle Moe's Soul Food
11 Concessions, LLC, the Union Cigar Club, the Union
12 Drummer Boy and Unique Cycle Supplies, LLC, Universal
13 Fuels, Vickie Curtis Mixed Media Arts, Western Inn,
14 Whites Computer Solutions, Wood Cutters, Gold Canyon
15 and Racey Auto Sales.

16 Some of these business owners are here
17 with me today, some couldn't be with us today.
18 However, all business owners that are a part of a
19 Board Coalition understand the economic shot in the
20 arm that Mason-Dixon Project will have on Adams
21 County. Also, these business owners know Dave LeVan.
22 He's a man of his word. I can personally vouch for
23 that. I have growed (sic) up with this man. I've
24 seen what he can do and I knew what he did with
25 Conrail. I'd like to thank you for listening to my

1 comments, those of the Adams County Pro-Growth
2 Initiative. You have a great decision to make for
3 Adams County. Businesses are working to keep their
4 doors open in Adams, Franklin and York Counties. And
5 I hope you will make the decision and grant
6 Mason-Dixon. Please, take our comments to heart,
7 know that they are true. Thank you very much for
8 hearing me today.

9 PRESIDING OFFICER:

10 The Board has one question ---

11 MR. GILBERT:

12 Yes, ma'am?

13 PRESIDING OFFICER:

14 --- for you. The list of businesses
15 that you provided, are they all business in Adams
16 County?

17 MR. GILBERT:

18 Those are all Adams County businesses.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER:

20 They're not all local.

21 MR. GILBERT:

22 No?

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER:

24 No.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER:

1 You forgot Coca-Cola.

2 PRESIDING OFFICER:

3 Okay. So, not all are Adams County
4 businesses?

5 MR. GILBERT:

6 I don't know. Most of these are Adams
7 County businesses.

8 PRESIDING OFFICER:

9 Does the documents that you're
10 providing with that list, do they list the address of
11 the businesses?

12 MR. GILBERT:

13 Yes.

14 PRESIDING OFFICER:

15 Okay. Thank you. The documents will
16 serve as the record of where the businesses are
17 located. If you would like those to be entered into
18 the record as exhibits for written comments, please
19 give them to Deb Joyce.

20 MR. GILBERT:

21 Okay. We will then. We will. Not
22 right now.

23 PRESIDING OFFICER:

24 Not right now, that's okay. At some
25 time in the future. You have 60 days to do so.

1 MR. GILBERT:

2 Correct.

3 PRESIDING OFFICER:

4 Thank you.

5 MR. GILBERT:

6 Thank you so much.

7 PRESIDING OFFICER:

8 Rich Kitner?

9 MR. KITNER:

10 I'll be speaking for several people
11 also.

12 PRESIDING OFFICER:

13 Go ahead.

14 MR. KITNER:

15 Dominic Bonatatis number 1504, Shirley
16 Keller 1532, Gerald Keller 1529, Clyde Funt 1111,
17 Harold Ray 1593, Charles Lewis 1476, George Guise
18 1118.

19 PRESIDING OFFICER:

20 That is seven individuals ---

21 MR. KITNER:

22 Yes, ma'am.

23 PRESIDING OFFICER:

24 --- that you're speaking on behalf of
25 as well? Okay. The record will reflect that. And

1 then you may begin.

2 MR. KITNER:

3 Okay. My name is Richard Kinter,
4 K-I-T-N-E-R. I reside in and am a property owner in
5 Cumberland Township, Adams County. I'm here today
6 representing the community group Veterans Supporting
7 the Casino. Even though Adams County is mostly a
8 rural county, there resides here over 9,000 veterans,
9 and the overwhelming majority support Mason-Dixon
10 Resort & Casino. These are the veterans for whom I
11 speak today.

12 Over the past seven months, we have
13 heard numerous comments about how the men who fought
14 here would feel about having a casino in the area.
15 You might notice I did not say built here, because
16 there's nothing to be built. The buildings are
17 already here. They will merely be repurposed. These
18 comments have included such quotes, as I didn't die
19 here, so a casino could be built here, or me and my
20 pard's didn't die here so a casino could be built
21 here. These highly questionable suppositions come
22 from the imaginations of individuals who have no idea
23 exactly what a soldier would think or how a soldier
24 would feel. The only individuals entitled to speak
25 for those who fought here and here died and were here

1 wounded are those that have themselves, in the voice
2 of President Lincoln, borne the battle. Only those
3 who have crawled on their stomachs through mud and
4 dirt while bullets fly overhead have the right to
5 speak for those soldiers of 147 years ago. Only
6 those who have actually smelled the stench of battle
7 have witnessed the utter destruction of battle and
8 who have heard the horrendous sounds of battle have
9 the right to offer the thoughts of those brave men.
10 These are the veterans for whom I speak today.

11 A soldier fights for three reasons.
12 They fight for freedom, they fight for the American
13 way and they fight that their families, their
14 descendants, might have a better way of life. This
15 held true during the Revolutionary War. This held
16 true during the Civil War. It holds true today. So,
17 we, as a voice united representing soldiers of all of
18 America's conflicts, state that so long as the resort
19 or gaming facility is not on or immediately adjacent
20 to any recognized place of final repose, there is no
21 justification for denying that facility.

22 As I previously stated, one of the
23 reasons a soldiers go goes to battle is to provide a
24 better life for themselves, their family and their
25 descendants. Those veterans who 147 years ago did

1 battle here are today speaking through us, America's
2 living veterans. They would say to you, that if a
3 resort and casino will provide a better way of life
4 for you and your family, if that resort and casino
5 would provide hope for the future for your children
6 and your children's children, then you open that
7 casino. You open that resort and you provide your
8 family with that better life. And you do so with our
9 blessings, because you are also honoring the purposes
10 for which we here fought.

11 I'd like to also address one other
12 point. A small group of individuals have made much
13 to do about the American Legion National Commander
14 speaking out against Mason-Dixon. When that
15 statement was released, there arose among the
16 membership of all three Adams County posts such an
17 uproar that the Commander of the American Legion,
18 Department of Pennsylvania, delayed a previously
19 scheduled trip to Scranton and traveled personally to
20 Gettysburg. This outrage can be attested to by the
21 following quotes taken from the Legion's own website.
22 From one post Commander, I quote, where was the
23 National Commander or the American Legion when in
24 November 1997, the National Park Service and the
25 so-called Preservation Group of Gettysburg Foundation

1 partnered up to build a 220,000 square foot building
2 on 45 acres almost directly in the middle of the
3 designated Gettysburg battlefield. From the past
4 commander of another veterans organization, quote,
5 the Commander should have done his own research on
6 this issue instead relying just on information or
7 misinformation being passed on by a very questionable
8 source. From another post Commander, quote, as a
9 history teacher with a full understanding of and
10 appreciation for the Civil War victory won at
11 Gettysburg, I say to the self proclaimed purist who
12 decry the plan as disgraceful or disrespectful, look
13 at the myriad of t-shirt and souvenir shops.
14 Commander Hill as spoken out of turn. It will honor
15 the American Legion for him to either retract his
16 comments or qualify them as personal, and not the
17 official stance of the American Legion.

18 I could continue with quotes for the
19 best part of an hour, but I'd like continue with a
20 Commander's personal visit. The Commander was given
21 a tour of Gettysburg by all three of County American
22 Legion Commanders as well as representatives of
23 almost all of the local veterans organizations. We
24 did a walking tour of the entire Eisenhower Resort
25 site, where he took numerous photos and very

1 systematically compared existing structures to the
2 Mason-Dixon conceptual drawing. Prior to departing
3 he addressed all present and stated that is it
4 readily apparent that the National Commander was sold
5 a bill of goods consisting of fictitious information
6 and lies and that he displayed a serious lack of
7 judgment by making any statement prior to personally
8 examining the facts. The State Commander is, as I
9 speak, at the National Convention in Milwaukee and is
10 presenting these facts, photo and the conceptual
11 drawings to the National Executive Committee and the
12 Commander and requesting that either a retraction or
13 a correction be made.

14 The overwhelming majority of Adams
15 County veterans stand firm in their belief that
16 Mason-Dixon Resort & Casino will in no way dishonor
17 those who fought here, nor will it diminish what they
18 accomplished here. And we respectfully request that
19 you and in the course of your deliberations remember
20 what we said here today and you award this Category 3
21 License to Mason-Dixon Gaming. Thank you for your
22 time.

23 PRESIDING OFFICER:

24 Thank you. Would the next group of
25 individuals please stand to be sworn as I call your

1 name? Suzette Love, Carol Miller --- oh, okay.
2 Emily Golden, Laura Pennings. Is --- Ms. Pennings
3 wave your hand. If you stood up, I can't see you.
4 And John Spangler. We'll wait and see if we can find
5 Ms. Pennings in the lobby. Okay.

6 SHORT BREAK TAKEN

7 PRESIDING OFFICER:

8 We haven't been able to locate Ms.
9 Pennings, so the four of you, if you could, be sworn
10 by the court reporter at this time? Thank you.

11 -----

12 WITNESSES SWORN EN MASSE

13 -----

14 PRESIDING OFFICER:

15 Suzette Love?

16 MS. LOVE:

17 My name is Suzette Love, and I will be
18 speaking on behalf of Cumberland Township Residents
19 for Mason-Dixon. And I also have some other names to
20 cluster.

21 PRESIDING OFFICER:

22 Okay. If you would like to give me
23 their numbers?

24 MS. LOVE:

25 The first number is number 814

1 Rosemarie Kitner. The next number is 1573 Angelo
2 Agosta, 1322 Kelly Kaiser, 922 George Lambert, 693
3 Jamie Eyler.

4 PRESIDING OFFICER:

5 And those five individuals have stood
6 to be counted, I believe. The record will reflect
7 that Ms. Love will --- statements will reflect their
8 thoughts as well. And you may begin.

9 MS. LOVE:

10 My name is Suzette Love, and I
11 represent Cumberland Township Residents for
12 Mason-Dixon. I live in Cumberland Township, and I
13 have been a resident of Adams County for 23 years.

14 I want to echo statements by Cumberland
15 Township Supervisor, David Waybright. We have a
16 tremendous appreciation of the Gettysburg National
17 Military Park, but are very cognizant of the amount
18 of land in our township that is untaxed, which
19 becomes a burden of our residents. While we embrace
20 our visitors, we realize that they do not contribute
21 to our tax base, yet utilize our police, our fire and
22 emergency services and our roads. These services do
23 not come cheap. Cumberland Township residents need
24 the tax relief that the Mason-Dixon Resort will
25 bring.

1 Cumberland Township residents also need
2 the local jobs and economic stability so that we can
3 stay in our homes and support a family. Far too
4 often, our Township residents drive countless hours a
5 week to find good-paying jobs. Many can't find work,
6 let alone a job that can support a family. With
7 Mason-Dixon, we have good-paying and stable jobs
8 right in our backyard.

9 Many of us have done the research. I
10 find no host township that has suffered since gaming
11 was legalized in Pennsylvania. In fact, many
12 townships have flourished. We want that here. While
13 I stand here as just one voice, I also stand here as
14 part of a community group that has sprung up to
15 support this project. It's much different than it
16 was five years ago during the Crossroads debate. The
17 majority of local citizens want this project to
18 happen. Don't be fooled by the vocal minority. The
19 township residents that I have spoken to support the
20 casino project.

21 While we have had questions about the
22 issues that the township may face, traffic, water
23 being two of them, the Mason-Dixon team has been
24 forthright in their answers and their support of our
25 local concerns. We very much appreciate the

1 Memorandum of Understanding, or MOU, that has been
2 signed by our Township Board of Supervisors and
3 Mason-Dixon. This agreement guarantees that our
4 township will receive a minimum of \$1 million per
5 year. That is one-third of our tax income for the
6 entire township. What a relief that would be to
7 Cumberland Township taxpayers.

8 We know Dave LeVan. He has been a
9 tremendous supporter of many local projects for
10 years. I have had personal experience working with
11 Dave for more than five years while on the Board of
12 Directors of a Gettysburg nonprofit. I can speak
13 volumes about his character and his business ethics.
14 In fact, he has been a business mentor of mine for
15 many years. Dave taught me about being ever vigilant
16 and proactive. Working with Dave, I've learned that
17 he will quickly fix an issue that is brought to his
18 attention. Dave LeVan has earned the trust --- Dave
19 LeVan has earned the trust he has gained in this
20 community because of his dedication and generosity to
21 so many worthy causes. We trust that this project
22 and the means in which it will be done will be to the
23 betterment of Cumberland Township, our families and
24 our way of life.

25 We, the Cumberland Township Residents

1 for the Mason-Dixon Project ask that you grant
2 Mason-Dixon a Category 3 Casino License. Not only
3 will you save a waning resort, you will bring a much
4 needed boost to the local economy. Thank you for
5 listening to our concerns and taking into account
6 what local citizens have to say on this matter.

7 PRESIDING OFFICER:

8 Thank you. Carol Miller?

9 MS. MILLER:

10 Good afternoon. I've been asked to
11 speak on behalf of Families Who Support Mason-Dixon.
12 There are eight people whose names and numbers I will
13 read. Lynn Ann Sukeena number 1345, Michael A. Byers
14 number 1619, Linda Kernan number 1102, Joan Roberts
15 number 1519, Gail D. McLucas number 1609, William M.
16 Fleet, II, number 1570, Jack Liller number 1598 and
17 William Fleet number 1570.

18 PRESIDING OFFICER:

19 And I count eight individuals, ---

20 MS. MILLER:

21 Yes.

22 PRESIDING OFFICER:

23 --- but somehow we have --- okay. The
24 record will reflect that your comments are those held
25 by those that you've listed. And you may begin.

1 MS. MILLER:

2 My name is Carol Loftus-Miller. I was
3 born in Scranton, Pennsylvania in 1960. So, I'm a
4 good ole Pennsylvania girl. I've lived in Adams
5 County for nine years.

6 Families Who Support Mason-Dixon Resort
7 & Casino come from every walk of life. They are a
8 cross-section of Adams County. I hope our time here
9 today gives you a little insight to what is happening
10 in Adams County, and why we want to see the
11 Mason-Dixon Project happen. Let me put it bluntly,
12 families are hurting in Adams County. Mothers and
13 fathers are forced to spend long hours away from
14 their families to travel to jobs that they have the
15 ability to provide a family-sustaining paycheck.
16 Many of these jobs aren't found locally, but in
17 Harrisburg, Frederick, Baltimore and Washington D.C.
18 Families clearly are having a hard time finding good
19 well-paying jobs. Families' budgets are being
20 stretched to the max with high taxes, high energy
21 costs and escalating healthcare costs. Some families
22 have, are and will deal with life-threatening
23 diseases. Struggling families in Adams County see no
24 end in sight. It's a shame that we have to say such
25 things in this day and age, but it is the truth.

1 The Families Supporting the Mason-Dixon
2 Project that we represent see the economic potential
3 that the Mason-Dixon Project can bring to Adams
4 County. It's no wonder that more than 300 people
5 showed up at Penn National Information Night to hear
6 more about jobs, economic opportunities, charitable
7 giving that will come from the Mason-Dixon Project.
8 The people that showed up didn't just show up for
9 jobs. They wanted information to make an informed
10 decision on the subject. We believe that they have
11 that decision. The families that I have talked with
12 are happy that Mason-Dixon has been very open about
13 their plans and why Mason-Dixon would be the right
14 fit for Adams County.

15 We stand here today as a cohesive body
16 that has done the research and understands the huge
17 potential that is right in front of us. The
18 potential for better jobs, economic growth and the
19 chance for us to stay here in Adams County and not
20 have to move away from our extended families. We
21 also understand that the debate is healthy. This is
22 what made America great. There are opposing views on
23 this issue obviously. That's fine. Like any issue,
24 people will have different opinions just as families
25 have internal decisions and debates about their

1 future. We are having one today about the economic
2 future of Adams County. But let's be clear about one
3 thing. This debate is not about the battlefield or
4 the National Park, yet families have come to a
5 decision that it is best for their entire family.
6 One that leads the family unit to a better place than
7 they have today. We wholeheartedly believe that the
8 best decision for Adams County a fully-operational
9 Maxon-Dixon Resort & Casino.

10 In closing, our Adams County families
11 need jobs, economic relief and most of all tax
12 relief. We ask that you grant Mason-Dixon its
13 application for a Resort Casino License. Thank you
14 for listening to us today, and hearing our support
15 for the project.

16 PRESIDING OFFICER:

17 Thank you. Emily golden?

18 MS. GOLDEN:

19 I'm Emily Golden, G-O-L-D-E-N, 1533. I
20 am speaking on behalf of several other people as
21 well.

22 PRESIDING OFFICER:

23 Okay.

24 MS. GOLDEN:

25 Jennifer Terry number 835, Travis

1 Mathna 1523, Michelle Spitzer 1604, Richard Wise
2 1491, and Lester Bucher 1370.

3 PRESIDING OFFICER:

4 The record will reflect that you are
5 speaking on behalf of these individuals, as well as
6 yourself. And you may begin.

7 MS. GOLDEN:

8 Okay. As I said, my name is Emily
9 Golden. I lives in Gettysburg. Please excuse me,
10 I'm not a public speaker, so you are going to have to
11 maybe listen to me through my nerves.

12 I stand before you today in
13 representation of today's young adults. I'm the head
14 of a group called Adams County Youth Collective,
15 which consists of young adults, like myself, who, as
16 the title of our group would suggest, live in Adams
17 County. This is an important day for the future of
18 Adams County, when the opinions of all generations
19 will can come together to decide my generation's
20 future job opportunities. Unfortunately, some of the
21 older generation have a 1950's concept of casinos and
22 gaming that evidently stems from movies like Casino
23 and The Godfather. Many of these older people feel
24 that they know best about the future of Adams County
25 yet their concepts of life and progress are

1 hopelessly mired in the past.

2 Some people here today simply have a
3 personal issue with gambling. That's okay for them,
4 but when these financially secure elders on these
5 moral issues try to meddle with our future, I take
6 personal offense to that.

7 I hope that you will not be fooled by
8 the cries of save the battlefield. This in many
9 cases truly is not about preservation. This facility
10 has been here for 35 years and no one had a problem
11 with the location. There are a development plans all
12 over the battlefield. As it's been said before, the
13 hotel that we are in was built only feet from
14 gravestones, including that of Jennie Wade, the one
15 and only civilian who was killed during the battle of
16 Gettysburg and it's a short walk from where Lincoln
17 gave the famous Gettysburg address.

18 Just look at the site that is next to
19 the Giant store on York Road. This area was once
20 part of Fort Letterman and is for sale today. Where
21 are all of the concerned preservation groups? The
22 Civil War Preservation Trust has shown no interest in
23 this site. Now, they want to save Gettysburg from a
24 casino that isn't anywhere near the battlefield.
25 Let's just clear the smoke screen and see it this for

1 what it really is. People who have an objection to
2 gaming.

3 The Gettysburg region is blessed with a
4 willing, able and education --- educated --- let me
5 say that word right, Maybe we'll actually sound a
6 little educated --- an educated young workforce.
7 Unfortunately, we encounter a brain drain of sorts.
8 Gettysburg's is a nine-months tourist town at best.
9 So, even hospitality jobs are not permanent and full
10 time. Pellup (phonetic) was the last big company to
11 move to town and that is when I was a toddler. We
12 really need more employment opportunities here in
13 Adams County. Our educated youth are being forced to
14 seek employment elsewhere.

15 I have done my homework on this issue,
16 as have many of the young adults in this region and
17 all of the people that I know. After considering the
18 points of both the anti and pro casino factions, we
19 overwhelmingly have come to the conclusion that the
20 sensible decision is to request that you, the
21 Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board, grant a Casino
22 License to Mason-Dixon for the benefit of
23 Pennsylvania taxpayers, but more importantly for the
24 future of Adams County. Thank you.

25 PRESIDING OFFICER:

1 Thank you. Has Laura Pennings entered
2 the room, by any chance? No. All right. John
3 Spangler?

4 MR. SPANGLER:

5 Good afternoon. My name is John
6 Spangler. I serve as Executive Assistant to the
7 Seminary President of the Lutheran Theological
8 Seminary of Gettysburg. I thank you for the
9 opportunity to speak and for the fact that you are
10 receiving input today from a wide swath of the
11 community, especially organizations and institutions.
12 Schools such as the Lutheran Theological Seminary of
13 Gettysburg have a long-term interest in this place
14 and we steward the Lutheran tradition's oldest
15 institutions of higher education, which has been
16 educating here since 1826 and hopes to be doing so
17 for a long, long time in the future.

18 We view Gettysburg as a national trust.
19 One in which many in this community, and well beyond,
20 perceive a kind of responsibility. And this
21 proposal, like the last one, brings a high degree of
22 controversy to a community like this one. Five years
23 ago, the Board of Directors at the seminary, adopted
24 a 750-word statement registering its opposition to
25 the proposed casino for the Gettysburg area. Last

1 spring, somewhat surprised that another application
2 was being put forward, the 28-member Board of
3 Directors reviewed its statement, and without descent
4 reaffirmed on April 28th, 2010 what it stated for the
5 record in May of 2005. Since I read that statement
6 before the commission at the time of those hearings,
7 I will not repeat it in full now. Rather, we will
8 include that in written comments that you are
9 receiving in connection with the present hearing.

10 Briefly, the seminary opposes the
11 development of a casino in this area because over the
12 long term, gaming operations are known to undermine
13 the local economic, health and services. In a
14 community the size of Gettysburg area, it could
15 easily overwhelm and burden current capacity for
16 social services, Gettysburg seminary is a graduate
17 and professional school who students attend after
18 college, completing college and university
19 educations. We educate leaders for church and
20 society and some of those students are engaging in
21 this education after a first or second career. And
22 many of those have spouses with professional
23 experience who are seeking employment during their
24 multiyear degree work with us. This development does
25 not enhanced their employment opportunities. And in

1 fact, may become in time a detriment to those
2 enterprises evaluating this area for suitability as a
3 setting for their development.

4 In summary, the seminary's opposition
5 derives from the school's historic commitment to
6 economic justice, for gambling and casino oppositions
7 tend to be regressive taxes, also a commitment to a
8 high quality of community life and its symbolic role
9 Gettysburg plays in the nation.

10 I conclude by quoting the last
11 paragraph of the 750-word statement. Therefore, with
12 careful consideration and deliberation, it is the
13 conclusion of the Board of Directors of the Lutheran
14 Theological Seminary of Gettysburg that the expansion
15 of gambling is not healthy for this or any other
16 community that cares about its quality of life and
17 its commitments to education, history and the common
18 good. This seminary calls upon the greater
19 Gettysburg community, its institutions and
20 governmental authorities to join in opposition
21 against any plans to develop a legalized gambling
22 enterprise in Adams County of the Commonwealth of
23 Pennsylvania. Thank you.

24 PRESIDING OFFICER:

25 Thank you. That concludes the comments

1 from the community groups, or at least the list I've
2 been provided. If, for some reason, you believe you
3 signed up to represent a community group, if you will
4 see me at the break, we will see what has happened.
5 We are going to take about a ten-minute break at this
6 point, bathroom break. Or maybe let's make it 15
7 minutes, and come back at 4:30, when we will begin
8 with the individual speakers. Thank you.

9 SHORT BREAK TAKEN

10 * * * * *

11 PUBLIC INPUT HEARING CONCLUDED AT 4:16 P.M.

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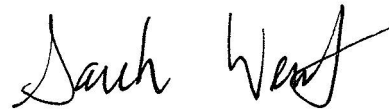
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CERTIFICATE

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3 I hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings,
4 hearing held before Presiding Officer Lloyd, was
5 reported by me on 08/31/2010 and I Sarah Wendorf
6 read this transcript and that I attest that this
7 transcript is a true and accurate record of the
8 proceeding.

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