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Jan 4, 2017

TO: Office of Attorney General

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JAN 09 2017

From: [REDACTED]

PA Office of Attorney General  
Consumer Protection - Harrisbu

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JAN 11 2017  
BCP - WRO

Dear Sirs,

My name is [REDACTED] I am a 5th Generation Fruit & Vegetable Farmer in The [REDACTED] P.A. Approx. 2 months Ago My local Twp.-(Peters Twp.) Posted an Ordinance that Eliminated Their mineral extraction Overlay. Which Banned drilling from my Families 170 Acre Farm and from All 12,000 Acres of the Twp.-(expt. 136 Acres Zoned industrial). Since we use Natural Gas to heat our 60,000 Square ft. of Greenhouses we had plans To expand The Greenhouses and Grow Tom, Peppers, Cucumbers ect... year round. This would have been possible only with the lease we had with Range Resources, And we would have used the Gas or the money from The Gas to heat the Greenhouses. We would have Grown local fresh Vegetables right hear in P.A. This practice is not new. [REDACTED] farm in [REDACTED] PA

has been using Free Gas in Greenhouses To Grow Vegetables for 30 years +. Nearly every Vegetable farm in our Area dose The Same. So The use of Natural Gas in Vegetable Production is a "Normal Farming Practice."

When Peters Twp. Posted This new law it took all our mineral rights away and banned drilling on our farm. Peters Twp. Signed An Ag Security Agreement with All the farmers in The twp. Also, witch has Specific language that Prevents limiting farming.

It Should also be noted that peters twp. did many Studies that identified Our farm and Farms Around us as Good, Safe Places for drilling.

My family dose not have the time, Resources, or the money needed to fight Peters Twp. I am asking the Attorney Generals office to Consider this under The ACRE Act or any other method To help us.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

E-mail

Phone -

cell -

Fax -

Included:

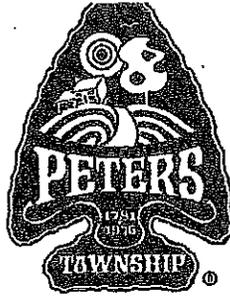
- ① Copy of The Twp. ordinance
- ② Copy of letter from Peters Twp  
Identifying our farm As Good for  
drilling.
- ③ Copy of "Ag Security" Area

MICHAEL A. SILVESTRI, *Manager*  
F. LAUER, *Assistant Manager*

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April 25, 2016

Memo to: Property Owners

From: M. A. Silvestri, Township Manager

Topic: Special Agricultural District

Peters Township has been studying the options relative to zoning provisions that impact gas drilling/mineral extraction activity. The Township's current ordinance provisions have been deemed not in compliance with the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Decision that overruled the Act 13 revisions to the Gas Act. Currently the Township has a pending ordinance that would eliminate the overlay district and increase gas drilling regulations as well as place drilling activity in the Industrial district. This is not an ideal solution, but one that may satisfy legal requirements.

The Township is reviewing the option of identifying certain areas in the Township as a Special Agricultural District. This district is designed to create an area of the Township that will permit mineral extraction, which would include unconventional gas drilling. The district would limit activity to solely agricultural activities and mineral extraction. These are area that currently have limited infrastructure and large land area.

If the Township pursues this course of action, it will need to revise the Comprehensive plan to allow for such uses and subsequently develop a corresponding Zoning District. The Council has asked me to contact the property owners to obtain their input prior to determining if they wish to formally proceed with the revisions.

Recognizing that one rationale for allowing gas drilling is that it will permit farming to continue on a long term basis by providing another source of income. Also it is understood that although initially gas drilling will involve significant industrial type activity for a period of about 1 year, this would not be the extent of that activity. With the multiple shale layers available and the need to refracture existing wells, the intense periods of gas drilling will occur multiple times. For this reason a permanent 500 ft. or more property line buffer from well sites is being considered. To avoid spot zoning concerns a significant area needs to be considered that have similar characteristics.

As a property owner in the area under consideration, the Township would like your opinion as to this approach and whether or not you wish to be included in a Special Agricultural district. Peters Township would be interested in meeting with you to discuss your opinions further.