

Willig, Robert A.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2025 8:07 PM
To: Willig, Robert A.
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Request for ACRE Law Review in Williams Township, Northampton County PA - Timber Harvest Permit Fees
Attachments: Email to Williams Township Supervisors.pdf; Fee Schedule.pdf

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Goodevening Mr. Willig,

I was wondering if you could conduct an ACRE Law review for the timber harvest permit fees in Williams Township, Northampton County PA. I live in Williams Township and conduct timber harvests. I recently heard they changed their timber harvest permit fee to \$50/acre which I know violates the ACRE Law. Once I heard about the change, I filed a right to know request form and requested a copy of all timber harvest permits issued in 2024. There was only 1 timber harvest completed in 2024 and it was a job that I conducted. Williams Township also has a 3rd party forester that they send the permit applications to so that he can review them for the township. I spoke with the township forester and he told me that he charges \$30/hour for office work or \$50/hour if he has to travel to the site to review the application. He told me on average; it only takes him an hour to review a plan from his office and maybe a few hours if he has to travel to the site. He currently reviewed a timber harvest application for a friend of mine doing a timber harvest in the township. The forester said it only took him an hour to review his plan. The timber harvest was for 22 acres and my friend was charged \$1,200 for the permit. I sent the board of supervisors a detailed email explaining this a few weeks ago. I have attached the email and also the township fee schedule. I told them that this violated the ACRE law and asked them to forward my concerns to the solicitor to review. I never heard a response from the supervisors. So tonight I went to the board of supervisors meeting and expressed my concerns and you could of heard a pin drop until the solicitor stepped in. The solicitor would not answer my questions and then just said that "someone from the township would be getting in touch with me to answer my questions". I know this fee violates the ACRE Law and I know my township wont do anything about my concerns. So I was wondering if you could open up an ACRE Law review for me. I appreciate your help with this.

Thanks!

[REDACTED]

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