

May 24, 2001

The Honorable Tom Ridge
Governor
225 Main Capitol
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Governor Ridge:

We would like to bring to your personal attention the action taken by the Carbon County Board of Commissioners on April 26, 2001 to protect our environment from further destruction.

Ordinance #2001-01 was enacted by the Board of Commissioners and prohibits any entity from chemical spraying within the County of Carbon. A copy of which is enclosed for your perusal.

This issue is a fervent concern to us and is necessary in order to provide for the health and welfare of the citizens of Carbon County.

Correspondence requesting the support of the other 66 Counties of the Commonwealth has also been forwarded and a copy is enclosed.

The activities of the many state agencies, such as the departments of Agriculture, Environmental Protection and Transportation are in conflict with Section 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution.

Change is needed in the Pennsylvania Pesticide Control Act of 1973 that the Department of Agriculture relies on as a guide to regulate the application process of these chemicals and/or herbicides and also the other state agencies that use or allow the use of these substances. Other alternatives to control vegetation growth must be used. Spraying of chemicals and/or herbicides is being done as "convenience". Must we always take the easy way out?

We hope that you will review these documents and form a favorable opinion that now is the time for change in this Commonwealth. Your support is strongly needed and

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requested in order to protect the future of this Commonwealth and that of generations to come. We patiently await your reply.

Sincerely,

CARBON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Tom C. Gerhard, Vice-Chairman

Charles Getz, Commissioner

cc: Senator James Rhoades
Representative Keith McCall
Douglas E. Hill, CCAP Executive Director
Robert Uguccioni, Executive Director, Pocono Mountain Vacation Bureau