

7/6/26

Matthew L. Homsher, Esq., Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
400 North Street, 2nd Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: Transource Pennsylvania, LLC's Zoning Exemption Petition in Greene Township,
Franklin County

Docket No. P-2026-3062687

FORMAL ANSWER AND PROTEST / REQUEST TO HOLD IN ABEYANCE

Dear Secretary Homsher:

I am writing to file a formal Protest and Answer to the Petition of Transource Pennsylvania, LLC for Confirmation of an Exemption from Local Zoning Regulation in Greene Township. I request that the Commission deny this petition, or, in the alternative, immediately hold this matter in abeyance until Transource's core CPC Application (Docket No. A-2026-3062675) is fully and finally decided by the Commission.

Under Section 619 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC), zoning exemptions are strictly limited to verified public utilities. Because Transource's provisional certificate to operate in Franklin County was previously rescinded, it does not currently qualify as a public utility in our territory. Under the Commission's clear direction in the MARL Interlocutory Order (June 1, 2026), reaching the merits of a zoning exemption before a utility is formally certificated represents a procedural mismatch that violates public due process.

The Franklin County Farm Bureau (FCFB) represents Franklin County farmers, landowners, agricultural businesses and everyday consumers concerned with preserving our rural way of life. At this time, we are very concerned with the rapid manner that for-profit corporations are threatening the future existence of the richest farmland and natural resources not only in this country but in our county as well.

On an annual basis FCFB compiles information and writes policies that support the best interest of sustainable agriculture. As part of that process, county Farm Bureaus statewide, in turn, gather and vote on these policies. In November, over 200 proposed policies were brought forth for discussion, debate and a final vote.

The list below includes a partial compilation of those policies that touch on the issues that are currently jeopardizing Franklin County's farmland and agricultural future. Specifically, we are concerned with the losses, both direct and indirect, from solar farms, data centers, new electric transmission, spiraling electric rates and the use of eminent domain for profiting corporations.

- We recommend that prime soils (USDA Land Capability Classification 1-3) be prohibited for development of data centers and data mines.
- We recommend preventing the socialization of data center development costs including electrical transmission.
- We recommend that data centers be required to provide their own power source.
- We oppose state-level preemption of local and county land use authority for the siting of energy generation and storage facilities
- We support the right of the state to deny construction of all high voltage transmission for any reason, and support all state efforts to maintain that right, including the departure of the state from the PJM Regional Transmission Organization. (State)
- We oppose the addition of electrical transmission lines that primarily benefit neighboring states.

Economic losses due to business disruption and the cost bore to engage, the resources needed to house, construct and further maintain on an ongoing basis is counterproductive to our mission and not in the best interest of our farming community in Franklin County. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of Franklin County landowners to carry the burdens for these corporations. Franklin County's farming future depends on open farmland and natural resources.

Should this petition ever be reviewed on its merits, I strongly object to it on the following grounds:

1. Subversion of Local Democratic Control: Transource is actively attempting to strip away local municipal zoning authority over building, staging, and construction configurations for a massive 33-acre substation facility. This represents an unacceptable corporate overreach that tramples on Greene Township's historic municipal ordinances and municipal planning rights.
2. Mandatory Public Hearing Requirement: Under Section 619 of the MPC, the public hearing requirement regarding the specific situation of the building in question is mandatory. Greene Township and its local residents have an absolute right to appear,

present expert witnesses, and cross-examine Transource on the witness stand regarding the safety, noise, and visual necessity of the Rice Substation control module.

I respectfully request that the Administrative Law Judges enforce the law, put this petition on hold until the CPC docket is decided, and subsequently schedule the mandatory local public hearings to preserve Greene Township's planning rights.

Respectfully submitted,

Zachary Meyers, President Franklin County Farm Bureau

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Zachary Meyers', written over the printed name.

Ryan Meyers, First Vice president

Lynn Dietrich, Second Vice president

Faith Deimler, Secretary/Treasurer

Dean Ocker, Jeff Grove

Matthew Brake, Tyler Funk

Allen Rice