

**Franklin County Agricultural
Land Preservation Board**

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Milton Rotz, Chair
Lori Rice, Vice-Chair
Brian Brake, Secretary

Staff Director:
Quentin Clapper

July 31, 2026

VIA Electronic Filing

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

To: Secretary Homsher

From: The Franklin County Agricultural Land Preservation Board
Lori Rice Vice Chair, Milton Rotz Chairman, Brian Brake Secretary, George Fries, Sam Small,
Sam Rotz IV, Tim Sponseller, Willie Hege, Vernon Horst

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

Franklin County participates in the Pennsylvania Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Program. Through the program, the state, county and local governments can purchase conservation easements from farmers to slow the loss of prime farmland to non-agricultural uses. Landowners apply to the County's Agricultural Land Preservation Board to participate in the Easement Purchase Program.

To be eligible, farms must be at least 35 acres and be part of an Agricultural Security Area established by the township where the farm is located. The farm must also have an active conservation plan in place. Landowners complete an application which is ranked and then forwarded to the State Agricultural Preservation Board for approval.

Millions of State and local dollars have been spent to ensure these lands stay in agriculture production. As of September 2025, Franklin County and the commonwealth have combined to invest more than \$45 million to preserve 170 area farms representing more than 20,600 acres of farmland.

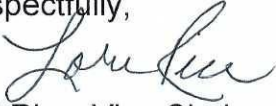
Franklin County's farming future depends on open farmland and natural resources. High voltage power lines pose significant impacts to agriculture. They can lead to economic losses from business disruption and increased operating costs. They also create limitations on farm infrastructure expansion, restrictions on easement and curtilage access, impacts on precision farming equipment, interference with GPS-guided planting, fertilizing, spraying, and harvesting,

and increased safety hazards for workers. Additionally, stray voltage can cause detrimental effects on cattle.

We oppose the taking of preserved farmland for high voltage power lines that do not benefit our state. We also oppose state-level preemption of local and county land use authority for the siting of energy generation and storage facilities.

Please deny Transource the use of Franklin County's preserved farmland for any high voltage power line.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lori Rice", written in dark ink.

Lori Rice, Vice Chair

The Franklin County Agricultural Land Preservation Board