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FEB 22 1990

WILLIAMSPORT-LYCOMING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

454 Pine Street, Williamsport, Pennsylvania 17701, Phone (717) 326-1971

Congressman Peter H. Kostmayer
123 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

February 16, 1990

Dear Congressman Kostmayer:

This letter is in support of "The American Landscape Protection Act of 1990" as described in your news release of February 9, 1990.

With assistance from the Williamsport-Lycoming Foundation, the Williamsport-Lycoming Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the formation of a private land conservation organization for Northcentral Pennsylvania.

An informational meeting featuring speaker Richard W. Carbin, President of the Vermont Land Trust, was held in October 1989 and drew over ninety attendees. Since then, approximately seventy persons have been meeting to formally establish a land trust, or conservancy, to be officially named soon. Currently, these volunteers represent Lycoming, Clinton, Sullivan, Tioga, and Northumberland Counties, with the majority of activity to date centered in Williamsport and Lycoming County.

The organization is being formed in response to increasing and uncontrolled development pressures on our distinctive natural and cultural landscape in Northcentral Pennsylvania. It is the last relatively unspoiled region between New York City and Chicago, and we do not care for it to be "Poconoized" or otherwise destroyed. The Chamber of Commerce, recognizing the exceptional quality of life that is found here, wants to help protect that quality of life for future generations. Our long-term economy depends upon stewardship of both finite and renewable resources. It is certainly rare, and maybe unique, for a Chamber of Commerce to take such a stand.

Please let us know if there is any way we can assist you with your proposal, and thank you for your action for our American landscape.

Sincerely,


Peter A. Loedding
President
Chamber of Commerce


Cynthia L. Mengel
Interim Executive Secretary
land conservation committee

