



West Pikeland Land Trust

Preserving Open Space • Protecting Land • Promoting Conservation

**Executive Committee of
the Board of Directors**

James Rowan
Curt Grogan
Thomas Williams
Ann Orth
Suzanne Kaplan

January 14, 2009

Board of Supervisors
West Pikeland Township
1645 Art School Road
Chester Springs, PA 19425

Dear Supervisors:

The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the West Pikeland Land Trust strongly recommends that West Pikeland Township deny granting conditional use for the ACMEC Temple as currently proposed.

The mission of the West Pikeland Land Trust is to serve the needs of West Pikeland Township in the preservation, conservation, and stewardship of open spaces that are environmentally sensitive, agriculturally productive and/or historically significant. We believe that our mission gives us standing to issue this recommendation in the conditional use hearing process.

We are familiar with the property in question and its environmental assets and constraints, and its historical assets, and note that it neighbors existing farmland and other designated historic resources.

We agree with and endorse the public statement made by John Hoekstra of Green Valleys Association at the January 8, 2009 public conditional use hearing, which we believe eloquently addressed the potential for environmental damage to the site if the proposed plan were to be implemented. In particular, as stewards of land preservation, we wish to emphasize the incongruity of this proposal to shoehorn an overly expansive development into a restricted home site in an environmentally and historically sensitive area of the property.

We hope that you will take our recommendations to heart and vote to deny granting the conditional use.

Sincerely,

James Rowan
For the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors