



**Centre Region Council of Governments
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION**

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January 24, 2005

Governor Edward G. Rendell
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Governor Rendell:

Resource Recovery LLC has proposed to build a 5,768 acre landfill in Rush and Snow Shoe Townships, both located in Centre County. The landfill is intended to accept trash from out-of-state providers. The company has asked the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to fund infrastructure improvements for the proposed facility.

This communication is to express the unanimous opposition of the six Centre County municipalities which comprise the Centre Region Council of Governments to the expenditure of state funds for this project. The Centre Region COG is a voluntary organization comprised of State College Borough and College, Ferguson, Halfmoon, Harris, and Patton Townships, and was established in 1969 to cooperatively produce public services for the member municipalities and to articulate shared concerns on common issues. The Centre Region COG's service area contains approximately two-thirds of the population of Centre County.

The Centre Region COG is concerned about the safety, environmental and economic consequences of the project. The COG recommends that the State not financially support the construction of the proposed landfill because:

- Truck traffic will significantly increase. This will create added safety hazards to our residents and the many visitors to our area. In addition to increased truck traffic on Interstate 80, there is also local concern about increased truck traffic on Route 322 and Interstate 99. Both roads run through several Centre Region municipalities. *The Centre Daily Times* has documented Resource Recovery's record of operating unsafe vehicles at its York County facility.

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- Air quality will be diminished. Diesel smoke is a primary contributor to poor air quality. Last year, Centre County was designated a "non attainment" area for compliance to federal air quality regulations. Significantly increasing the number of diesel-operated trucks into the area will further adversely affect our area's air quality, making it more difficult to obtain federal funding for transportation improvement projects.
- Hosting a 6,000 acre landfill may adversely affect or run counter to encouraging tourism and economic development in the area.

These concerns affect all Centre County residents, not just those in the immediate area. In conclusion, the Centre Region COG recommends that State funds not be expended for a project with such significant safety, environmental, and economic concerns. Thank you for considering our recommendation on this very important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas E. Daubert".

Thomas E. Daubert, Chair
Centre Region Council of Governments

TED/cmp

cc: Senator Jake Corman
Senator John Wozniak
Representative Kerry Benninghoff
Representative Lynn Herman
Representative Mike Hanna
Representative Camille "Bud" George
Centre County Board of Commissioners