

**CIVIL WAR PRESERVATION TRUST
NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
PRESERVATION PENNSYLVANIA**

January 26, 2010

Mr. David LeVan
1094 Baltimore Pike
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325

Dear Mr. LeVan:

We would like to reiterate our thanks for meeting with us and providing further insight into your proposal to add a casino to the amenities offered at the Eisenhower Resort and Conference Center, located on U.S. Business 15 south of Gettysburg. Further, we thank you for arranging to meet at the Eisenhower facility, allowing us to see first-hand the potential location of the proposed Mason-Dixon Resort and Casino.

We appreciate that significant effort has been expended to formulate a project you consider to have little negative impact upon Gettysburg's unique atmosphere and historic character. However, the concerns and objections our organizations raised to the 2006 Crossroads proposal remain valid and unresolved, and are raised by this project as well. Therefore, after due consideration, we must oppose this project.

Our concerns in this matter do not stem from an opposition to gambling per se. Our concerns arise from our longstanding commitment to ensuring that singular and significant historic sites — like the Gettysburg Battlefield — are treated with the respect and consideration they deserve. To this end, our primary concern remains the proposed casino site's proximity to the battlefield and national park. Our calculations place the entrance to the Eisenhower facility approximately one-half mile from the edge of Gettysburg National Military Park, significantly closer than the Crossroads project would have been. Locating and marketing a gambling facility at Gettysburg unavoidably conflicts with the essential meaning of this place in American history.

Further, as we attempted to illustrate, the Eisenhower site is located within a historically sensitive area, defined as the Gettysburg Battlefield "study area" by the American Battlefield Protection Program. Such a designation is not undertaken lightly and only comes after extensive study by the National Park Service and eminent scholars and historians. Moreover, the site is located along the Emmitsburg Road, itself an immensely historic feature of the region and the central artery of the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Scenic Byway and Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area. All of these designations reinforce our belief that this is a region of tremendous historic significance that we have a duty to safeguard for future generations.

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Moreover, opening a slots and table games facility at the Eisenhower Resort would have the potential to significantly increase traffic through the area, generate more incompatible large-scale commercial development, and would likely necessitate the kind of eye-catching signage that would be out of place in what has up to now been a relatively undeveloped area. This part of the county predominantly features residential dwellings and agricultural operations, with limited and generally small-scale commercial development.

Gettysburg National Military Park already provides a strong economic engine for the area. As the nation's premier classroom on the American Civil War, Gettysburg National Military Park attracted more than 1 million people in 2009 alone. A 2005 study of Gettysburg prepared by Davidson-Peterson Associates found that in that year park visitors spent more than \$121 million at local businesses and supported 2,653 local jobs. The combination of Civil War preservation and the family friendly nature of Adams County has created a proven, winning formula for the park and its neighboring communities. A casino will conflict with this proven economic engine—heritage tourism, and development compatible with and respectful of that heritage.

In addition to taking note of the enormous public opposition to a Gettysburg casino in 2006, the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board also indicated that the Crossroads location was at a significant economic disadvantage compared to other applicants. Today's economic climate is considerably different than that of three years ago. The economic viability of an Adams County casino is still highly questionable. A key argument made in the 2006 Crossroads application was that a Gettysburg casino would draw patrons from the Baltimore and Washington, D.C. areas, a logic that has also been applied to the Eisenhower site. However, in the past four years the mid-Atlantic region has seen an explosion in gambling facilities vying for the same customers as an Adams County location. These new gambling opportunities therefore make the current proposal even less economically viable than the 2006 Crossroads proposal.

Mr. LeVan, our organizations recognize your commitment to the Gettysburg area through numerous causes and philanthropic efforts. It is not our intention to diminish those accomplishments. However, in this instance we feel compelled to oppose your Gettysburg casino proposal for the reasons outlined above.

Again, we thank you for the opportunity to discuss the project with you, tour the facility, and discuss our concerns with you.

Sincerely,



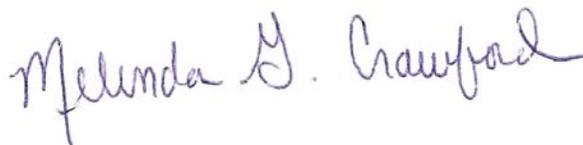
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