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**From:** Merlin Ritz <fritzritz@att.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 1, 2022 4:10 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from fritzritz@att.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Evidently you did not receive the following email. It is repeated below.

On Sat, Jul 23, 2022 at 11:44 AM Merlin Ritz <[fritzritz@att.net](mailto:fritzritz@att.net)> wrote:

I am concerned that your prior approval of the proposed casino was based on incomplete information concerning the long-term negative impacts of such businesses on the local environment. I understand that a concerned citizen has provided each member of the council a thought-provoking document that explores the deleterious effects endured by communities unfortunate enough to be home to a gambling establishment. I urge you to review carefully this information before making a final decision.

Sincerely,  
Merlin Ritz  
State College

•

ve my July 23 email concerning the proposed casino. I am resending it below.

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**From:** Daniel Materna <sailordan76@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 4, 2022 12:40 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** mike@centrecountypa.gov; mark@centrecountypa.gov; sdershem@centrecountypa.gov; Adam Brumbaugh; Mike Bloom; Jennifer Snyder  
**Subject:** New Comments Posted Regarding Nittany Mall Casino (received May 22 thru June 12)  
**Attachments:** SC\_Gaming\_comments\_from\_Website\_May\_22\_June\_12\_2022.pdf

Dear College Township Council members and the College Township Manager,

The Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) has **recently discovered 44 pages of previously submitted public comments** concerning the proposed Nittany Mall Casino. The comments were submitted to the PGCB from **May 22** through the **June 12** deadline announced by the PGCB.

The attached comments were just posted on the PGCB website at this link:

[SC Gaming comments from Website May 22 June 12 2022.pdf \(pa.gov\)](#)

Please include them in the meeting packet as correspondence in the Consent Agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the College Township Council.

Thanks very much!

Sincerely,  
Dan Materna  
Centre County, PA

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:01 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

David Schulte,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5932**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**David Schulte**  
1248 Mayberry lane  
State college , Pa 16801  
8142371423  
dlschulte@aol.com

Special Needs:  
WRITING in OPPOSITION

I thought it odd that college township actually went out of their way to make sure that there was somewhere in the township that was zoned to permit legal gambling. Public sentiment in the township seems to be overwhelmingly opposed to gambling, so one wonders why there is this disconnect between what the residents want and what the township government has done and will do.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/24/2022 2:58:12 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:02 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Jonathan Keim,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5933**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Jonathan Keim**

PO Box 460 236 Whitehill St

LEMONT, Un 16851

8145745297

jpkeim@gmail.com

Special Needs:

WRITING in OPPOSITION

I do not support in any fashion placing a casino/slots facility at the Nittany Mall, nor any other location in Centre County. Gambling offers no benefits to our community that are not outweighed, and dramatically so, by the costs. Please do not approve this project.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/24/2022 6:01:08 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:05 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Elise Smalley,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID 5934.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Elise Smalley**

228 Bradley Ave Apt 16

State College, PA 16801

5187529539

eliseesmalley@gmail.com

Special Needs:

WRITING in SUPPORT

I grew up near Saratoga Springs, one of the safest cities in NY that's known for its gambling. Casinos offer not only gambling but also a space for adults that isn't focused solely on alcohol. It could add another performance venue potentially to our region as well that is unaffiliated with the college. It will also add more jobs that are not in the downtown area so parking and transportation will be less of a challenge than employment in the borough.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/24/2022 9:15:05 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:06 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Andy Keppel,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID 5936.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Andy Keppel**  
638 Fieldstone Dr  
Moon Township, PA 15108  
4123035006  
andy@keppel-insurance.com

Special Needs:  
WRITING in OPPOSITION

The support infrastructure in and around State College is not able to support any more weekend traffic. There are already too many cases of price gouging by hotels for so many weekend events that attract non-residents of Center County and the other services needed to support the weekend swell of visitors cannot support any additional traffic from a Casino.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/25/2022 10:10:08 AM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:07 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Ricky Bunning,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5937**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Ricky Bunning**

5585 Black Moshannon Road  
Philipsburg , Pa 16866  
8143422288  
rbunning16866@yahoo.com

Special Needs:

WRITING in SUPPORT

The financial benefits and job opportunities from this casino for us residents and taxpayers would have a positive impact on local school tax and unemployment. The PA Skills games are unregulated, untamed and doesn't provide a lot of job opportunities.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/25/2022 10:35:45 AM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:09 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

James R Carlson,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5938**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**James R Carlson**  
3020 Broadmoor Lane  
State College, PA 16801  
717-571-8615  
carlsbad56@verizon.net

Special Needs:  
WRITING in SUPPORT

Establishing a mini-casino in State College can only help the area's economy. Its location -- The Nittany Mall -- can be brought back to vibrancy with the casino and its restaurants and entertainment. That may well spark storeowners to want to open businesses either in the mall or nearby. This isn't the 1920s; casinos don't attract mobs and gangs and create dangerous situations. They create entertainment and excitement. Does a person have to be careful with his or her financial resources inside a casino? Of course. But people must be smart about each of their financial decisions. Students, too, can make the decision on whether to attend the casino. It's not like they can walk there; they also can seek entertainment, something Centre County is lacking in many aspects. The good that a casino can bring far outweighs any disadvantages, none of which come to my mind at the moment. Please proceed with this particular business/entertainment venture as quickly as possible.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/25/2022 11:15:23 AM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:10 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Charles W Wakefield,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5939**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Charles W Wakefield**  
1313 Haymaker Rd  
State college , Pa 16801  
814-360-2295  
wakewake@comcast.net  
Special Needs:  
WRITING in SUPPORT  
I am in favor of the casino

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/25/2022 11:19:17 AM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:12 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Marc H McCann,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5940**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Marc H McCann**

108 Gardner Lane Pennsylvania Furnace  
PENNSYLVANIA FURNACE, PA 16865  
18148805183  
marc.mccann88@gmail.com

Special Needs:

WRITING in OPPOSITION

Literature suggests that while communities experience an initial boost in economy when a new casino is built, they then experience the opposite effect and there is an increase in crime and other negative outcomes. The modest initial gains are unsustainable, and gambling-related problems (including addiction) lead to negative socioeconomic outcomes to the host communities: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41599-022-01055-1> My (limited) personal experience in casinos stems from occasional trips with friends while traveling to observe, from Reno and Las Vegas to Windsor, Ontario and Pittsburgh and Atlantic City, is that these are depressing places frequented by down-and-out and desperate people, many of whom are making poor decisions fed by false hope or a gambling addiction. Keep the casino out of our town, as it'd be one more temptation for our college students, younger students (high school), and those who can afford it least. \*If these folks want a casino experience, they can drive to Pittsburgh or Harrisburg to get it.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/25/2022 11:31:22 AM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:13 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Rob Peeler,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5943**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Rob Peeler**

163 Dorchester Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823  
2673030165  
peeler.rob@icloud.com

Special Needs:

WRITING in SUPPORT

I support this casino.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/25/2022 12:46:49 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:14 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Vickie Trunnell,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5944**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Vickie Trunnell**  
246 Wooded Way  
State College, PA 16803  
814-308-9887  
trunnell11@gmail.com

Special Needs:

WRITING in OPPOSITION

Gambling is a slippery slope and negatively effects people in many ways. While it may bring in a few jobs, the negative far outweighs the positive. The money earned from the casino will take away from local businesses. I believe that it will negatively effect students, who won't live too far from the casino. This will have them failing on life before they really even get started. The temptation is too large, and there's more of a tendency of doing 'get rich quick' schemes than older adults. Let's not set up our community and our students for failure. I fully oppose a casino.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/25/2022 1:02:21 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:15 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Shasta D Langenbacher,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID 5946.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Shasta D Langenbacher**  
2524 Oak Avenue  
Altoona, PA 16601  
8143128944  
shasta.kurtz@gmail.com

Special Needs:

WRITING in SUPPORT

This would be of great benefit to the region and would provide a safe venue for additional entertainment. It would be nice to have one more thing to draw people to Centre County. If people are concerned that gambling addictions might rise, propose having an additional part of PSU orientations covering the signs and symptoms of gambling addictions. This information can also be included at other public venues and festivals.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/25/2022 1:34:05 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:16 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

David Mierwald,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5949**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**David Mierwald**  
354 E BEAVER ST  
BELLEFONTE, PA 16823-1715  
814-441-6453  
mierwald@yahoo.com

Special Needs:

WRITING in OPPOSITION

I think this would bring too many people into the area just looking to party and we get enough of that on football weekends.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/25/2022 3:28:21 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:17 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Janice L Hemminger,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID 5950.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Janice L Hemminger**  
215 Chadham Ct  
BELLEFONTE, Pa 16823  
814-359-7079  
Sadie5022@gmail.com

Special Needs:

WRITING in SUPPORT

I would hope the approval for the casino would go forward. It would bring jobs and revenue to the area. There is a casino in Washington Pa near a university and it does not cause any negative effects.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/25/2022 3:48:45 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:33 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Janet Neff,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5951**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Janet Neff**

145 E. Pine Grove Road, Box 318

Pine Grove Mills, PA 16868

8148800408

jneff145@comcast.net

Special Needs:

WRITING in SUPPORT

I think it is a good idea to approve this casino. It will bring in income for the county. Plus people who want to gamble won't have to drive a long distance.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/25/2022 6:19:06 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:34 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Kurtis L Rooker,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID 5952.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Kurtis L Rooker**  
142 Mitch Ave  
State College , PA 16801  
5707686735  
Kurtisrooker@gmail.com

Special Needs:  
WRITING in OPPOSITION

My wife and I recently purchased a home in Houserville. We are both in our mid thirties and our property on Mitch Ave is our first home. We moved from Reading, PA because it was too congested, noisy and never felt like home. Since moving we've been excited about beginning our new lives in a place that has most everything a family is looking for: rather easy access to downtown, a multitude of places to shop for essentials and variety of outdoor activities, including hiking Mount Nittany and biking the large network of connecting trails. I can't see how a casino adds any value to those things that attract people to this area. Property value is likely to take a hit in the surrounding area, a real problem for those buying and those who are looking to buy in an already inflated market. You can be sure that Lemont will lose its appeal as the traffic through that small, serene area is already far too heavy. 26 is likely to explode with traffic and Houserville is already plagued with the sound created by large trucks traveling 99. Not to mention, there is already enough happening downtown with the traffic created by the university. HAS ANYONE THOUGHT ABOUT A TIME WHEN COVID IS NO LONGER AND PSU TRAFFIC MEETS FUTURE CASINO TRAFFIC? That feels like a time and place I'd rather avoid. My vote is no, as in hell no. Kurtis Rooker, PT P.S. I travel for work as a physical therapist providing in-home care to Centre County's 65 and older population. I'd like to continue to do that without additional congestion/traffic.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/25/2022 7:33:24 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:35 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Hillary Carter,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID 5953.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Hillary Carter**  
142 Mitch Avenue  
State College, PA 16801  
7173078962  
hc1192@gmail.com  
Special Needs:  
WRITING in OPPOSITION

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/25/2022 7:37:28 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:41 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Daniel Sharp,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID 5955.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Daniel Sharp**  
206 Steele Hollow Rd  
Julian, PA 16844  
8143218302  
dansharp2007@windstream.net

Special Needs:

WRITING in OPPOSITION

I strongly oppose the proposed casino in Centre County.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/25/2022 8:09:40 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:43 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Stephen M Hilton,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5957**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Stephen M Hilton**  
363 Oakley Drive  
State College, PA 16803  
8144410961  
stephenhilton363@gmail.com

Special Needs:  
WRITING in SUPPORT

As a long-time resident of the State College Area and one who enjoys taking a turn at the slots or trying the tables, I urge you to award the license for a middle of the State mini casino to the applicants for the space at the Nittany Mall. There should be no reason that residents need to drive 2 hours or more in any given direction to visit a gaming facility. Being conveniently located off Intertate 99 and near I-80, this seems to be a logical location to bring gaming to the masses who want it. Additionally the potential economic boom to the mall, to the hotel and restaurant industry and to local tourism would be a win-win for all. Those who oppose are free to avoid the facility if they so choose but I believe the potential pros more than outweigh the cons of this venture. Please vote YES to award a license to the State College Region. thank you

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/25/2022 9:20:56 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:44 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Jeremy Amaismeier,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5958**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Jeremy Amaismeier**  
100 Cherry Ridge Road  
State College, PA 16803  
7245544591  
amaismeierj@gmail.com

Special Needs:

**WRITING in OPPOSITION**

I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposed casino in State College. These kinds of establishments bring demonstrable harm to the communities they are in and those surrounding them. Having had a grandfather who couldn't go a week without gambling, I've seen firsthand the impacts a place like this has on families. Please say `no` to putting a predatory business like this in our community.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/25/2022 9:34:26 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:46 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Michael H Sienkiewicz,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5959**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Michael H Sienkiewicz**  
501 west college ave  
State College, PA 16803  
5704414362  
MikeSienkiewicz053@gmail.com  
Special Needs:  
WRITING in SUPPORT  
I fully support the casino going in

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/26/2022 1:07:46 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:48 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

James Allerheiligen,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID 5960.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**James Allerheiligen**

2095 Mountain View Ave  
STATE COLLEGE, Pa 16801  
3345498530  
theninjaseal@gmail.com

Special Needs:

WRITING in SUPPORT

I think it would breathe new life into the dying mall

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/26/2022 3:34:30 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:49 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Jeffrey M Powers,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5961**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Jeffrey M Powers**

24 Fredericksburg Court

State College, PA 16803

8142375823

jpowers66@yahoo.com

Special Needs:

WRITING in SUPPORT

Operating a business in the State College area can be difficult during the summer months when Penn State Main Campus is not in full session. I believe this casino would help bring much needed additional revenue to surrounding businesses during these lower revenue times of year. Thank you.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/26/2022 4:45:30 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:50 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

John E Summerson,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5962**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**John E Summerson**  
211 S McAllister St 1  
Bellefonte, PA 16823  
509-423-6844  
johndwardsummerson@gmail.com

Special Needs:  
WRITING in OPPOSITION

As much as I appreciate the desire to stimulate the local economy, it seems like a casino is more likely to accrue money from the socioeconomically disadvantaged. Poor folks tend to be the ideal consumer for casinos, at least according to a paper published in The Journal of Behavioral Addictions in June 2014 (<https://www.buffalo.edu/news/releases/2014/01/001.html>). It's been a hard few years. People are looking for a way out of all sorts of hardship -- and financial precarity is certainly a leading factor -- with inflation, and all. A casino would draw cash out of the most vulnerable populations in the area, creating increased instability. Anecdotally, I've seen this lead to more substance abuse, violence, and houselessness. I think a casino would be a largely harmful force in the community.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/26/2022 6:51:23 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:52 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Jamie N English,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID 5963.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Jamie N English**  
960 Crabapple Drive  
State College, PA 16801  
2065034572  
english.jamie@live.com

Special Needs:  
WRITING in OPPOSITION

This city can't accommodate any more people, especially when College is in session. There is no low income housing close enough to house the type of workers needed to work in a casino. We can't even staff the businesses already in existence because low-income workers can't afford to live here, let alone pay for gas to drive here. The entire city needs overhauled with Penn State's assistance to upgrade the roads and housing.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/28/2022 10:32:45 AM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:54 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Bruce Grinder,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5964**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Bruce Grinder**  
3399 E College Ave  
Bellefonte, PA 16823  
8144414856  
begrinder@comcast.net

Special Needs:  
WRITING in SUPPORT

I support the license application for the casino in Centre County at the Nittany Mall. I believe that the economic benefits to our community will outweigh the negative impacts that it may also generate. Further, since the potential casino operator is operating within due guidelines for a permitted activity, I believe that there would require a high bar to deny the permit, not simply the comment, `I don't want it.` with no verifiable reasoning. Thank you

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/30/2022 8:12:07 AM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:56 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Kathleen M McKinnon,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID 5965.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Kathleen M McKinnon**  
817 Saxton Drive  
State College, PA 16801  
814-883-0161  
katemckinnonpsu@gmail.com

Special Needs:

WRITING in OPPOSITION

As a longtime resident of State College, I oppose the proposed casino slated for the Nittany Mall. Our town is home to Penn State University, and as such, we host the many thousands of students who attend the University. Their families send them to University Park to live and learn. Without the University, our community would be a shadow of what it is - the University and the students, directly and indirectly, benefit State College and Centre County. As hosts to these young, vulnerable students, we have a responsibility to help keep them safe. The development of a casino puts them at serious risk. As a community, we do not need a casino. There are several throughout the state and within driving distance. Employment does not justify the casino. Centre County does not have high unemployment, and any new business will add employment. In the long run, the casino corporation will pull more money out of the region than it will contribute. To be good stewards of our college students and our community, we need to think beyond immediate gain to what is sustainable and beneficial to our community. History shows that casinos are neither sustainable nor beneficial. I appreciate the opportunity to voice my opinion, and I hope it resonates with the board. Sincerely, Kate McKinnon

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

5/31/2022 5:55:59 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

---

**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:57 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Susan Person,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID 5966.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Susan Person**

281 Saddle Ridge Rd  
Port Matilda, PA 16870  
8146928883  
slp341@outlook.com

Special Needs:

WRITING in OPPOSITION

There are many disadvantages to having a casino in our community. Please do not approve it. Thank you.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

6/6/2022 3:30:58 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 9:59 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Tsultrim Datso,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID 5967.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Tsultrim Datso**  
1008 Glenn Circle North  
State College, PA 16803  
814-357-5389  
tsultrimdatso@cs.com

Special Needs:  
WRITING in OPPOSITION

As a citizen and professional psychologist, I strongly oppose granting a license for a casino to be located in the Nittany Mall area of Centre County for the following reasons: 1. This college town and county already have the public health problems of addiction to alcohol and opioids. A casino would provide easy opportunities for developing gambling addictions. 2. Casinos contribute to problems such as disturbing the peace, interpersonal conflict in private and public, and economic hardship. 3. In a community and time when many people are stressed and depressed due to the pandemic, economic challenges, academic pressures and world events, developing a gambling disorder is more common. 4. A casino in our area is not a good example of a sustainable, life-giving activity for 40,000 students. The fact that the main investor was a member of the Penn State University Board of Trustees suggests profiting from the very students he was charged with protecting, educating, and preparing to launch into life as happy and productive citizens. There are many other kinds of investment projects that would enhance rather than detract from the wellbeing of residents in Centre County. Thank you for considering my sincere comments.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

6/10/2022 8:51:28 AM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 10:01 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Sandra L Adams,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5968**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Sandra L Adams**  
174 Hillview Ave  
State College, PA 16801  
814 574 3371  
sla-09@comcast.net  
Special Needs:  
WRITING in SUPPORT

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

6/10/2022 8:51:28 AM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

---

**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 10:04 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Dean Christian,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID 5969.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Dean Christian**  
1054 Taylor St  
State College, PA 16803  
8145743062  
dean.christian@gmail.com

Special Needs:  
WRITING in OPPOSITION

I would like to go on record with my opposition to the proposed casino in State College, PA. I do not want a casino built anywhere near our town. As a State College Borough resident, raising my family in the town, I have grave concerns about the long term effects on the local population. There are numerous studies that show the path from gambling, to addiction, to broken families, bankruptcy, and increased levels of crime. With the large student population at Penn State University I believe that a casino would prey on a vulnerable demographic.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

6/10/2022 8:51:28 AM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

---

**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 10:05 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Langston J Fitzgerald III,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5970**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Langston J Fitzgerald III**  
124 Ramsey Way  
Boalsburr, PA 16827-1904  
8144411919  
ljf11@psu.edu  
Special Needs:  
WRITING in SUPPORT

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

6/11/2022 2:45:51 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 10:09 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Mardi Frye-Dunkleberger,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5971**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Mardi Frye-Dunkleberger**

177 Stevenson Road  
Port Matilda, Un 16870  
8142388569  
mardifrye@gmail.com

Special Needs:

WRITING in OPPOSITION

I am opposed to the proposed casino. A casino at the Nittany Mall would bring increased gambling addiction, poverty, and crime to our community in State College.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

6/12/2022 7:39:28 AM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

---

**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 10:10 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

David Dunklebarger,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5973**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**David Dunklebarger**  
177 Stevenson Road  
Port Matilda, PA 16870  
8143218971  
dunklebarger@comcast.net

Special Needs:

WRITING in OPPOSITION

A casino at the Nittany Mall would bring increased gambling addiction, poverty, and crime to our community in State College.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

6/12/2022 7:43:15 AM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

---

**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 10:14 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Joseph C Griffin,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5972**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Joseph C Griffin**  
133 North Spring St.  
Bellefonte, PA 16823  
8145487177  
cbproduce@comcast.net

Special Needs:

WRITING in OPPOSITION

Although local tax revenue and jobs make this project appealing to decision-makers, the damage it would inflict on Penn State students provides sufficient grounds for discontinuing it. It is folly to reduce the effectiveness of our County's principal industry, Penn State. There can be little doubt that the proposed casino will injure hundreds of students annually and thus lower the value of Penn State as an educational destination. We should protect the golden goose that serves as the foundation for much that we value in Centre County.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

6/12/2022

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

---

**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 10:15 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Joanna G Jones,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID 5974.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Joanna G Jones**  
1121 Haymaker Rd  
State College, PA 16801  
814-234-9077  
joanna.jones88@gmail.com

Special Needs:

WRITING in OPPOSITION

I oppose the casino build in my township. Our relatively small police force and EMTs are not equipped to deal with the issues gambling clientele bring in . College students are already a constant issue with behavior, alcohol, and medical needs. Intentionally drawing people to town when we have full hotels, full employment, and no affordable housing so some millionaire can make more millions off gambling (and the state of PA can too) is not something we need or want. Build us some Section 8 housing for the good folks working so hard in a bad economy, but I'd sooner see the mall razed for that than become a casino.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

6/12/2022 8:29:01 AM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 10:16 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Margaret Higgins,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID 5975.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Margaret Higgins**  
1143 Oneida St  
State College, PA 16801  
8147534020  
teragram86@gmail.com

Special Needs:  
WRITING in OPPOSITION

This casino threatens the economic health of the most vulnerable populations in our community who are lured by a quick distraction from boredom and loneliness, and primarily benefits a corporation, not the local economy. In the current economic climate, seniors and low-income residents are increasingly challenged to cover basic expenses. Quoting David From in his article, `A Good Way to Wreck a Local Economy: Build Casinos` published in The Atlantic, `Affluent and educated people visit casinos less often than poorer people do for the same reasons that they smoke less and drink less and weigh less.` The benefits of a casino are grossly overstated. `Casinos donâ€™t encourage non-gaming businesses to open nearby, because the people who most often visit casinos do not wander out to visit other shops and businesses. A casino is not like a movie theater or a sports stadium, offering a time-limited amusement. It is designed to be an all-absorbing environment that does not release its customers until they have exhausted their money.` Other Pennsylvania casinos are struggling to sustain revenue due to market saturation. The last thing we need to add to the Nittany Mall property is a shuttered casino.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

6/12/2022 9:31:50 AM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 10:18 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

David werner,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5976**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**David werner**  
1324 Appletree Circle  
State College, Un 16803  
8142345078  
davidwernersc@gmail.com

Special Needs:  
WRITING in OPPOSITION

I was a two term Ferguson Township Supervisor. I was a three year chief of staff at Mt. Nittany Med. Center. I began my ophthalmology practice in State College in 1978. My wife, Susan Werner, was on the school board for 11 years and president for 7 years. We both hold a variety of other board positions in State College. We are both strongly opposed to a casino in State College/Bellefonte. It will have a negative social and financial impact on our community.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

6/12/2022 9:54:23 AM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 10:20 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Jennifer Robertson-Oesterling,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5977**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Jennifer Robertson-Oesterling**

189 Murray School Lane

Spring Mills, PA 16875

8144417462

Jrobertson.oesterling@gmail.com

Special Needs:

WRITING in OPPOSITION

I am opposed to the proposed Casino at Nittany Mall as these type of gaming establishments typically have significant negative impacts on the local community.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

6/12/2022 10:39:37 AM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

---

**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 10:24 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Brett R Oesterling,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID 5979.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Brett R Oesterling**  
189 Murray School Ln  
Spring Mills, PA 16874  
8149336199  
jrobertson.oesterling@gmail.com

Special Needs:

WRITING in OPPOSITION

I am opposed to the proposed Casino at Nittany Mall due to the negative impacts these establishments can have on the local community.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

6/12/2022 10:43:31 AM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 10:25 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Melissa L Brannen,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID 5980.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Melissa L Brannen**  
591 Melissa Lane  
State College, PA 16803  
814-359-6226  
melissabrannen@ymail.com

**Special Needs:**

**WRITING in SUPPORT**

I would like to resoundingly support the proposal to transform a portion of the Nittany Mall to a casino. I grew up in a community with a large vibrant mall that brought many jobs and dollars to the area. Century III Mall (West Mifflin, PA) which once thrived, now looks like something out of a post-apocalyptic movie. Not only are there no longer any businesses and no tax revenues coming in, but it is a blight on the community. It makes me feel awful every time I visit my family in the area. What once brought vitality to the area has become a burden on the community. Although Nittany Mall is not as large as Century III Mall and in much earlier stages or dying out completely, I see the same symptoms. Nittany Mall is on a path to succumbing to the same fate. Rather than letting the mall die, lets re-use this space for recreational gaming and performances. In addition to the direct jobs and foot traffic that it will bring to the mall, it will help to support all of our small businesses. Our small businesses thrive on football weekends and other large Penn State events, but this would be a destination all year round to add to the mix to keep revenues more consistent. Instead of continuing on its downward spiral, Nittany mall can be used for something that will keep more dollars in State College, give visitors a reason to stay a bit longer and spend more money, create good paying service jobs, and inject more tax revenue into the community. I know that the people against the casino are much louder, but I have my doubts that they are in the majority. They just have more passion against gambling in general and are good at organizing/activism. The thing is, they don't have to go to the casino, but can still enjoy the economic benefits. Many of the arguments that I see are regarding gambling addicts, increases in crime, and moral objections. With online gambling legal in PA, addicts are throwing away money in the privacy of their own homes. I don't see a local casino increasing the problem that already exists. The solution is for them to get help, not to limit recreational gaming for those who don't have a problem. Use some of the tax revenue to do just that and help the online gamblers have rehabilitation options locally. Also, there are enough casinos spread across PA that there is no threat of a significant increase in the concentration of crime in this specific area to worry about versus the economic gains. I look to the mall in Greensburg (Live! Casino) that I visited with my father as a successful example of revitalizing a dying mall. I was shocked at how much busier the area was compared to the last time I was there (pre-pandemic even). You could see groups meeting in the parking lot and splitting up between shopping and the casinos. For us, we spent a few hours gambling. I shopped for a bit while my Dad played a while longer and then we explored the area until we found a restaurant to try. It was a great day trip for us to a community that we normally would have zero reason to visit. These are all reasons why I think the community should embrace the idea, but on a more personal level, I would love to be able to go to a casino in my own community instead of traveling to Pittsburgh, Greensburg, or Harrisburg like I do now. I have been going on adult family recreational gambling outings like these for 30 years and will continue to do so. I know my Dad will visit more if the casino opens. It may not be "high-brow" entertainment, but we enjoy it and it's more affordable than tickets to a show at the

Bryce Jordan. I am also hoping that the casino will bring in more live national entertainment that may not be a good fit for the Bryce Jordan or the State Theatre. I typically like casino entertainment because the tickets are more affordable than other national live entertainment acts and are different than what we already have here in the community. Finally, I think the casino will attract more retail shops which would be a welcome change. We have limited choices now and it would be nice to not have to do my clothes shopping in Altoona or Pittsburgh and maybe purchase less things online. I always try to buy local first, but with more small businesses failing, I do more and more online. My conclusion is that the casino isn't a bad thing. In fact, I think it will be good for the community. You can look at the numbers on both sides of the argument to make your case, but both sides are cherry picking studies and statistics that support their arguments. Widespread legalized gambling is new-ish in PA and the new models really do change things making old studies no longer applicable. The variables have changed too much to be able to use any of these studies as predictors and admittedly, my experiences are anecdotal. However, we also need to look at the whole picture and use some common sense. I hope more voices who see the casino as an alternative to mall blight and as a likely injection of dollars into local community are heard.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

6/12/2022 12:22:05 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 10:30 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Alan R Popovich,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5981**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Alan R Popovich**  
PO BOX 99 100 Boalsburg Road  
Lemont, Un 16851  
8145718887  
apopovich@aparchitects.com

Special Needs:

WRITING in OPPOSITION

Please DO NOT allow the casino the be built in College Township. I work 2.5 miles from the proposed casino and live in a quaint, safe and quiet National Historic District. The fact that no other township nor municipality in the Centre Region is testimony that this project will does not have public support. Concerns, to name only a few, include 1) having a detrimental impact on the quality of life in Lemont and College Township, 2) detrimental to the safety of the community, 3) adjacent to Penn State and targeting the high risk young adult student population, 4) opening the door for increased crime, 5) decreasing property values in the Historic district and Township, and 6) running risk of encouraging increased poverty and 7) information supplied to the Township is generally inaccurate and being spun as being advantageous. PLEASE SAY NO TO THE CASINO IN COLLEGE TOWNSHIP. We love this and the University's surrounding area as it is and wish to maintain the quality of life we cherish.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

6/12/2022 3:10:35 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 10:34 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Christine Popovich,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5982**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Christine Popovich**

252 circle drive  
state college, pa 16801  
8143600147  
cxp23@psu.edu

Special Needs:  
WRITING in OPPOSITION

I am concerned about what the negative impact the gambling industry will bring to our community and neighborhoods.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

6/12/2022 4:14:12 PM

**Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 3, 2022 10:35 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Katherine H Restori,

The following submission has been received for forwarding from Registrant ID **5983**.

Hearing: **SC Gaming OpCo, LLC Centre County - August 16, 2021**

**Katherine H Restori**

177 Stevenson Rd  
Port Matilda, PA 16870  
814-325-1380  
Khr114@psu.edu

Special Needs:

WRITING in OPPOSITION

My husband and I believe that having a casino in the area will increase crime and also be detrimental to the mental health of citizens, especially young college students.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

6/12/2022 4:15:07 PM

---

**From:** Susan Streit <susankaystreit@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 5, 2022 10:08 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** proposed casino

You don't often get email from susankaystreit@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council members,

I am a resident of State College and have lived in College Township for almost 30 years. I am exceedingly troubled and distressed over the proposed plans for a casino in State College. Instead of a business that brings vitality and life to a community, casinos bring a host of social ills... lawlessness, fiscal irresponsibility, abuse of alcohol, violent behavior and more. These consequences will further over-burden our local law enforcement officers.

I am writing to urge you to commission and instigate your own independent impact study to accurately evaluate the level of crime that will be generated by the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. Please deny a license if the anticipated level of crime will exceed the amounts indicated in the initial impact report.

I thank you for considering my request in earnest. This is a very urgent matter to so many of us in the community.

Sincerely,

Susan Streit

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**From:** D. Richard Francke  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 8:42 AM  
**To:** Daniel Materna  
**Cc:** Jennifer Snyder  
**Subject:** Re: College Township "white paper" on Nittany Mall Casino

Thank you for your email, Mr. Materna. Having been sent to all members as you indicate, it will be included in our Consent Agenda for official receipt and inclusion in our Casino sharepoint on the website. We will look for your PGCB response in the future.

D. Richard Francke  
Chair, College Township Council  
rfrancke@collegetownship.org  
[www.collegetownship.org](http://www.collegetownship.org)

---

**From:** Daniel Materna <sailordan76@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 6, 2022 11:34 AM  
**To:** D. Richard Francke <rfrancke@collegetownship.org>  
**Subject:** College Township "white paper" on Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from sailordan76@verizon.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good morning, Mr. Francke,

I'm sending these same details to each of your College Township elected colleagues rather than including these details in one group email to the council's group email address.

One year ago in August, most elected officials in College Township may have viewed my casino opposition only as feedback from just a lone dissenter in the community.

A lot has changed since then and all of it is posted on the township website as well as included on the <https://saynocasino.org> website. Never before in our nation's history has there been such an unprecedented all-in-one place collection of casino-related opposition data. Even skimming through the content of the links there would require an entire day.

Regarding the planned white paper on the proposed Nittany Mall Casino, I have already asked the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) the question about what the township *can* and *cannot* do at this point.

Here is the question I asked the PGCB via a Right-To-Know Law request of last week:

QUOTE

*Please provide a copy of the section of the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act ("Act") or any other applicable Pennsylvania regulation that specifically states that once a municipality has chosen to not opt-out of the siting of a Category 4 facility within that municipality, that decision is final and may not be later rescinded by the municipality.*

*Additionally, please provide an official reference showing that when a municipality properly chose to not opt-out of the siting of Category 4 facility and did so prior to the 12/31/2017 deadline, that they may not later rescind that decision for any reason prior to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board voting to approve a Category 4 casino license application for a casino within the municipality's jurisdiction.*

*Section 1305.1(A.1) of the Act clearly states that a municipality that rescinds its prior prohibition according to this subsection may not subsequently prohibit the location of a Category 4 licensed facility in the municipality. The Act does not specifically delineate the circumstances or criteria that would allow the municipality to rescind an initial decision to not opt-out from the siting of a Category 4 casino in their jurisdiction. Please advise via email if the municipality can later change their mind and reverse their earlier decision to not opt-out prior to approval of the Category 4 casino license application.*

UNQUOTE

I will keep you informed of the PGCB's reply. It will be useful for inclusion in your white paper.

Separately, as you are already aware, the Nittany Mall is owned by the Namdar Realty Group. Namdar's business model and strategy is well-known (except in Centre County). As you will see in the links below, they are nationally known for making a profit from dying shopping malls until the lights are finally turned off. It is all consistently and thoroughly outlined in the links below. They have no hope or plan for their distressed and dying shopping malls to bounce back to success. How many area residents of College Township are aware of this? None. This would all be shocking news to each of them. Here are the links just mentioned:

[Namdar Realty Group - Wikipedia](#)

[Nittany Mall sold in part to Nadmar realty group | Centre Daily Times](#)

[Dino's Pizza Closes in Nittany Mall | State College, PA](#)

[Igal Namdar: The billionaire 'bottom feeder' who buys malls as others run away | Financial Post](#)

['Bottom Feeder' Comes Out on Top: A Billionaire's Bet on Struggling Shopping Centers \(msn.com\)](#)

[New Acadiana Mall owner has reputation for little progress at other sites \(theadvertiser.com\)](#)

[Namdar Realty Group Plows Forward as Mall Properties Decay \(therealdeal.com\)](#)

[Who is making money from struggling U.S. malls? | Reuters](#)

Thank you for your consideration of everything I have provided above.

Sincerely,  
Dan Materna

---

**From:** Daniel Materna <sailordan76@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 4:28 PM  
**To:** D. Richard Francke  
**Cc:** CTCouncil; Adam Brumbaugh; Mike Bloom; Jennifer Snyder  
**Subject:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) reply to RTKL Request 2022-17  
**Attachments:** 8.8.2022.Materna II final response ltr (1).pdf

Good afternoon, Mr. Francke,

Thank you for your email from earlier this morning. This afternoon I received the official response from the PGCB regarding my RTKL Request 2022-17 received by the PGCB on August 1.

My request was **DENIED** by the PGCB for the reasons outlined in the PGCB's attached response. I strongly encourage College Township to officially ask the PGCB to advise whether or not the township can rescind its previous decision to not opt-out from a Category 4 casino in your jurisdiction. I am confident the right to rescind is **absolutely not out of the hands** of College Township.

Please include this email and the attachment in the Correspondence section of the Consent Agenda for the next council meeting.

Additionally, please include this topic as a New Business agenda item for the next regularly scheduled College Township Council meeting.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Daniel Materna

-----Original Message-----

From: D. Richard Francke <rfrancke@collegetownship.org>  
To: Daniel Materna <sailordan76@verizon.net>  
Cc: Jennifer Snyder <jsnyder@collegetownship.org>  
Sent: Mon, Aug 8, 2022 8:42 am  
Subject: Re: College Township "white paper" on Nittany Mall Casino

Thank you for your email, Mr. Materna. Having been sent to all members as you indicate, it will be included in our Consent Agenda for official receipt and inclusion in our Casino sharepoint on the website. We will look for your PGCB response in the future.

D. Richard Francke  
Chair, College Township Council  
rfrancke@collegetownship.org  
[www.collegetownship.org](http://www.collegetownship.org)

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**From:** Daniel Materna <sailordan76@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 6, 2022 11:34 AM



PENNSYLVANIA GAMING CONTROL BOARD  
303 Walnut Street  
Commonwealth Tower, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg PA 17101  
[www.gamingcontrolboard.pa.gov](http://www.gamingcontrolboard.pa.gov)

*Deborah C. Joyce*  
*Open Records Officer*  
Phone: (717)346-8300  
Fax: (717)346-8350  
Email: [pgcbtrklrequests@pa.gov](mailto:pgcbtrklrequests@pa.gov)

*Chairman*  
DENISE J. SMYLER

*Commissioners*  
FRANK DERMODY  
SARA MANZANO-DIAZ  
T. MARK MUSTIO  
NEDIA RALSTON  
FRANCES J. REGAN

August 8, 2022

*Ex-Officio Members*  
STACY GARRITY  
C. DANIEL HASSELL  
RUSSELL C. REDDING

**Via email**

Daniel Materna  
948 Two Mile Road  
Howard, PA 16841  
Email: [sailordan76@verizon.net](mailto:sailordan76@verizon.net)

Re: Right to Know Law Request 2022-17

Dear Mr. Materna:

On August 1, 2022, the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (“PGCB” or “Board”) received your request for documents pursuant to the Pennsylvania Right-To-Know Law (“RTKL”) 65 P.S. §67.101 *et seq.* A copy of your request is attached for reference.

Specifically, you requested: *“A copy of the section of the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act ("Act") or any other applicable Pennsylvania regulation that specifically states that once a municipality has chosen to not opt-out of the siting of a Category 4 facility within that municipality, that decision is final and may not be later rescinded by the municipality.*

*Additionally, please provide an official reference showing that when a municipality properly chose to not opt-out of the siting of Category 4 facility and did so prior to the 12/31/2017 deadline, that they may not later rescind that decision for any reason prior to the PGCB voting to approve a Category 4 casino license application for a casino withing the municipality's jurisdiction.*

*Section 1305.1 (a.1) of the Act clearly states...Please advise if the municipality can later change their mind and reverse their earlier decision to not opt-out prior to approval of the Category 4 casino license application.”*

Your request is **Denied**, for the following reasons:

- Your request is asking the Board to conduct legal research and the Board is not required to conduct legal research for a Requestor. *See* Camburn v. Montgomery County House. Auth., OOR Dkt. AP 2016-0705 (holding that a request seeking rules, regulations, and guidelines for a housing program, impermissibly sought legal research). *See also* Nye v. Halifax Sch. Dist., OOR Dkt. AP 2016-0638 (seeking the law, rule, policy, procedure etc. specifically cited, and copied, that substantiates a superintendent’s statement at a referenced meeting.)
- Please review the links below to the Gaming Act and the Board’s Regulations, which provide all requirements of licensure in the Commonwealth, which should help you conduct your research:

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/WU01/LI/LI/CT/HTM/04/04.HTM>

[https://gamingcontrolboard.pa.gov/files/regulations/Final\\_Regulations\\_Master.pdf](https://gamingcontrolboard.pa.gov/files/regulations/Final_Regulations_Master.pdf)

- Also, the RTKL is a mechanism to seek records from a Commonwealth Agency. You have not identified or described any records which you are requesting, as required by Section 703 of the RTKL, rather, you are asking a question. The Office of Open Records (“OOR”), as well as, the Commonwealth Court have found that requests to answer questions are not proper for a RTKL request. *See* Gingrich v. Pennsylvania Game Commission, 1254 CD 2011(citing to Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission v. Murphy, 25 A.3d 1294 (Cmwlth. Ct. 2011) (finding questions do not trigger a response under the RTKL). *See also* Richard Frame v Menallen Township Sewage Authority, OOR Dkt. AP 2011-1678.

Please note that you have a right to appeal this decision in writing to Liz Wagenseller, Executive Director, Office of Open Records (OOR), 333 Market Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101. If you choose to file an appeal, you must do so within 15 business days of the mailing date of this response. In order to appeal, you must send to the OOR and simultaneously to me, in the same manner as the appeal is sent to the Office of Open Records (e-mail, fax, mail or hand delivery):

- 1) your request;
- 2) this response;
- 3) the appeal form that is available on the OOR website at:  
<https://www.openrecords.pa.gov/Appeals/AppealForm.cfm>

All of the above must be submitted for the appeal to be valid.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deborah C. Joyce". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "D".

Deborah C. Joyce  
Agency Open Records Officer

Attachments

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**From:** Jackie Bonomo <teachmspc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 10:32 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino in Nittany Mall

You don't often get email from teachmspc@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello Township Council Members,

As a 20+ year resident of College Township, I am disappointed in your hands off response about eliminating the possibility of residents having to suffer an unwanted casino in the Mall. Please do something creative to use that space productively without resorting to a casino! The casino idea would be a detriment to our community - please don't let it happen.

Thank you for hearing my request,  
Jackie Bonomo  
from Susquehannock land

"Climate change mitigation may be one of the most important anti-racism projects of the 21st century." - Eric Toensmeier

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**From:** Debra Trudeau <debtrudeau@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 10:51 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

[You don't often get email from debtrudeau@icloud.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

You have the power to impact the entire county because of the proposed casino. Please do your due diligence and take a scrupulous look at the plans and think of the long term effects. Does State College “need” yet another way to waste money, energy, send profits out of the area? Does SC have the resources to remediate the harms caused? Does your township have a responsibility to its neighboring townships to be a source of success instead of a source of failure?

Be good stewards. Vote NO.

From Debra Trudeau  
Ferguson Township

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**From:** Susan Smith <suesmith1288@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 11:02 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino Opposition

Please add our voices to the protest against the casino coming to the Nittany Mall. You should be able to reverse your previous "decision" after hearing from your constituents.

Affordable housing would be a much better alternative! Thank you, Sue and Ron Smith

Susan F Smith (Sue)  
PO Box 1026  
Lemont PA 16851  
814-238 1288

*"Even a wounded world is feeding us. Even a wounded world holds us, giving us moments of wonder and joy. I choose joy over despair. Not because I have my head in the sand, but because joy is what the earth gives me daily and I must return the gift."*

*—Robin Wall Kimmerer, in Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants*

*One of the deep secrets of life is that all that is really worth doing is what we do for others. Lewis Carroll*

*Our heads are round so our thoughts can change direction. Francis Picabia*

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**From:** Nestor Handzy <nzhandzy@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 11:09 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from nzhandzy@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Council Members,

I have lived in State College off and on since 1996 - working for the university first as a graduate research assistant, now as a teaching professor.

I have seen this town evolve in that time, experiencing tremendous growth. I was always impressed with the new housing developments, the clean and well maintained parks, shopping malls on North Atherton, and the apartment buildings downtown.

I returned to the area in 2010 to settle down and raise a family, knowing it was a safe and beautiful area for children with some amazing schools and a diverse population drawn by the university.

In the past 5 years though, I have repeatedly taken pause to re-evaluate this area. Marijuana stores and a casino. What's next, Pawn shops?

This is your vision for our town?

Nothing else could spur economic progress?

I am concerned that a casino would take money from those in the surrounding areas who cannot afford to lose, it would likely aggravate tensions caused by the disparity in wealth between the local population and wealthy students. It is no stretch to think crime will increase and that the wealthier residents of State College will be targeted with home invasions and car jackings. While no one can see the future, your decision is creating the **potential for greater crime and violence** in our town.

When that begins, the blame will easily be placed at your feet and you should expect a very vocal political opposition.

Please **be much more responsible** in your stewardship of this town.

Respectfully,  
Nestor Z. Handzy

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**From:** jmc628@juno.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 2:21 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** casino

[You don't often get email from jmc628@juno.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

I would like you to deny approval for a license for a casino at the Nittany Mall. Gambling would increase crime in our area and cost locals a lot of money.

Justin Collins

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**From:** George Harrigan <geoharrigan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 3:20 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil; Paul Takac  
**Subject:** College Township Council Clear and Present Responsibility to it's Constituency

Evidence is mounting that public sentiment is strongly negative to the Nittany Mall Casino site. Overwhelming support against it has displayed itself especially over the last few months and the Board must reconsider it's earlier position. Any intelligent reader of the statistics would have to agree that inaction by elected officials to address the discontent is completely illogical. The concept that , in light of the clamour , that there isn't a comprehensive and independant impact study being undertaken borders on government incompetence

George J Harrigan State College, Pa.

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**From:** Beth Richards <bethkbb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 5:27 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** STOP the casino

You don't often get email from bethkbb@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To Council ,

I am disappointed with your lack of creativity and unresponsiveness to your constituents' concerns, please do everything in your power to stop the proposed casino from being developed.

There is so much this town has to offer and we are so fortunate to live here.

Given the student high rises downtown, the smoke shops up and down Atherton and perhaps a casino in your township, the town is turning into something unrecognizable and IMHO will destroy the peaceful, safe and lovely environment we have become accustomed to.

B

BETH RICHARDS | c 814.360.4045 | [bethkbb@gmail.com](mailto:bethkbb@gmail.com)

beth richards | sandy stover group  
2300 s atherton street | state college | pa | 16801  
p 814.234.4000 x 3128  
w [beth richards | sandy stover group](#)

[Consumer Notice](#)

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**From:** CHARLIE BAINBRIDGE <cbain007@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 5:49 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

[You don't often get email from cbain007@aol.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

PLEASE do not grant a gambling license to those who want to desecrate our university area with a sleazy, non-wholesome enterprise that will bring undesirables to our community.

Do your research/homework and read what has occurred in other communities. It is not rocket science, it is good, old-fashioned morals!!

Do you really want to expose our children to such a scourge that can be avoided?

Charlie Bainbridge, State College

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Cheryl George <cag6557@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 8:08 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Proposed Casino

[You don't often get email from cag6557@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Good afternoon Elected Councilman

I am disappointed in your lack of creativity regarding the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. I know you do not need to be reminded that your positions are elected positions & your indifference to listen to constituents in the Centre region is disappointing. Please at least try to conduct a survey of how a gambling casino would impact the Centre region, especially those residents living closest to this detestable monstrosity! Please ask yourselves if you truly want to be responsible for the addictive outcomes this will have in the students at the major university in our community, as well as the young & old residents! Are you as elected officials prepared to accept the rise in crime that follows depraved past times such as a casino offers.

Sometimes the offer of large amounts of funding only bring regret & sorrow, not community & healthy living. State College is a dying community compared to Altoona that maintains shopping availability & restaurants. Most of the restaurants that vacated State College are still thriving in Altoona! Bellefonte is in a revitalization with new businesses & opportunities. State College can offer a plethora of banks, mattress stores, Mexican & Chinese restaurants. The shopping availability's are disappointing & the council seems unconcerned to make a move to bring in anything but discount stores & now a casino!!

Please, please think about what you are doing. Your council positions could depend on it.

A very concerned Centre county resident.

C. George

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Carol Camargo <carolwcamargo@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 9:49 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Hoping you will oppose the casino

You don't often get email from carolwcamargo@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Council,

It is my hope that you would write an official letter opposing the casino. We need to do everything possible to keep the problems it would create away from our community.

Thank you for considering this and other requests.

Sincerely, Carol Camargo

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

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**From:** Phyllis Gardener <ptgard62@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 4:53 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from ptgard62@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am exceedingly disappointed in the council's unresponsiveness to constituents concerns about the casino proposed for the Nittany Mall.

PLEASE do everything in your power to stop this casino from being developed.

Thank you.  
Phyllis Gardener



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**From:** me <bouchardjm@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 5:14 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** A casino doesn't belong within a few miles of the University!

You don't often get email from bouchardjm@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am the mother of a gambling addict, and if there had not been a casino handy when he was still underage and could get somebody to give him a fake ID, he would probably have never started. And I lived in Connecticut within driving distance of Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun, and when I went down there to hear musical performances, it was so sad to see the senior citizens wearing diapers so that they wouldn't have to leave their slot machines to go to the bathroom when they thought they were on a hot streak, gambling away their Social Security checks every month.

You approved this plan, and it is in your power to withdraw that approval on the basis of a casino being a social nuisance, which it most certainly is. Think about what you're doing to this area and how much harm this could do to the young people who are studying here, and please listen to what the greater State College community is saying - WE DON'T WANT A CASINO HERE! You'll be remembered as public servants who did the right thing, and not ones who brought disgrace and a bad reputation to your community. Thank you -

Joan M. Bouchard, The Village at Penn State, Patton Township

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**From:** jack@igoe.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 7, 2022 9:47 AM  
**To:** Jennifer Snyder  
**Cc:** D. Richard Francke; Carla Stilson; Paul Takac; Dustin Best; L. Eric Bernier; Adam Brumbaugh  
**Subject:** RE: CT Alternate PC Member

Thank you for your email and attachments.

As I responded to Rich during the interview, I would not commit unless I am able to fulfill that commitment. After reviewing the information I received during the interview, and in the attachments to your email, I do not feel I can reasonably fulfill the obligations of the position.

Therefore, I must respectfully decline the appointment. Thanks to you for your communications and to the Council for their consideration in this matter. I wish you all well in finding a well-qualified and productive candidate.

Regards,  
Jack Igoe



Support Ukraine

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**From:** Jennifer Snyder <jsnyder@collegetownship.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 5, 2022 12:13 PM  
**To:** jack@igoe.com  
**Subject:** CT Alternate PC Member

Mr. Igoe,

Welcome onboard. Please see the attached regarding the actions of Council last evening. I will need to have you stop in to be sworn into to office. I am available today but off next week Monday – Wednesday so my next available day would be August 11 or 12. Looking forward to working with you.

*Best Regards,*

JEN

**Jennifer Snyder, CGA**  
**Assistant Township Secretary**  
College Township, Centre County  
1481 E. College Avenue  
State College PA 16801  
814-231-3021

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**From:** David Hatfield <drh5001@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 11, 2022 4:59 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** please consider reversing casino approval

You don't often get email from drh5001@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello. As a State College resident (148 Jay Lane) I would like you respectfully ask you to reconsider your approval of the casino that is pending development at the Nittany Mall. I know I am not alone in my concern over the multiple negative effects this casino could have on our community. I am aware that you have the ability to review these possible negative outcomes, to request that the Pennsylvania Gaming Commission deny the casino's license, and to reverse your decision to approve the casino based on the information that has come out since your decision to approve it. Since you have this authority, again, I'm asking you to use it for the good of your constituents (not to pass the buck to another organization) and reverse your original decision as soon as possible. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this matter.

David Hatfield

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**From:** Strauss, Susan G <sgs9@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2022 3:12 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Overwhelming community opposition to the Nittany Mall casino

Dear College Township Council,

I have been a resident of College Township since 1998. I now have six adopted children, all of whom have been working and also paying their local taxes to the township. We, as a family, are disappointed with the township's lack of action in response to the overwhelming opposition to the planned casino at the Nittany Mall.

It is patently clear that a large majority of College Township residents are strongly opposed to the introduction of a casino in our township.

We have voiced concerns regarding public safety, crime, property values, negative impacts on area businesses outside of the mall, gambling-related issues (e.g. addiction, bankruptcy), the proximity of this type of establishment to Penn State (including the students who will be occupying the future 651-bed development currently under construction on Squirrel Drive), and many more. We have also voiced concerns over apparent inaccuracies and missing relevant information in the impact report that was prepared to facilitate the development of this casino.

In contrast with many surrounding municipalities which explicitly opted out of potentially hosting a local casino, College Township did nothing, said nothing, and consequently opted in, possibly due to the apparent potential financial gain that such an establishment might bring to the Township. College Township's leaders deliberately and knowingly made this decision without seeking input from their own community – the very people the municipality should be protecting, and the very people who elected you to office to represent their interests.

Your own community has suggested numerous alternatives to revive the dying Nittany Mall. You are located among the brightest, most creative, most innovative, and most talented individuals whose expertise and insight you could easily leverage to brainstorm other ways to make use of that now defunct retail space.

It is disappointing that College Township's leaders did not query the community for input prior to the passing of the December 31, 2017 deadline. It is astonishing that College Township's leaders continue to do nothing and to say nothing in response to the overwhelming community opposition to the planned casino.

It is not yet too late. As you know, your constituents were largely unaware of the initial public hearing about the casino when it took place last August, but the community is now very aware of the planned casino and our neighbors are looking for ways to make their voices heard. There is nothing to prevent College Township from holding its own town hall meeting to discuss the planned casino before the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board hears oral arguments about the casino's license on October 19th.

Such a meeting would provide you with the opportunity to hear your constituents' concerns and to address them directly. It would also provide clarity regarding the community's attitudes towards the planned casino for you as the Township leaders, for the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board, and for the planned casino's developers. Having as much accurate information as possible before the decision about the casino's license is made later this year would be in everyone's best interests.

To date, the only responses that we have received are simply acknowledgements of our correspondence – which is tantamount to doing nothing and allowing the development of the casino to move forward with your blessing as the township’s leaders.

As your constituents, we are asking for substantive responses. Your hands are not tied, and there is still much the Township can do to stop this casino from being built in our backyard. We request the opportunity to discuss our concerns and the options that College Township has available to it at a town hall meeting before the vote on the casino’s license takes place later this year.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Susan Strauss and family

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**From:** Strauss, Susan G <sgs9@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2022 4:28 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Snyder  
**Subject:** Re: Overwhelming community opposition to the Nittany Mall casino

Thank you, Jen.

When is the next CT Council meeting?

We, as your CT community, are hoping to have some kind of response by the Township to our concerns and requests (beyond simple acknowledgment of receipt and adding our letters as correspondence to the meeting).

There is overwhelming opposition to the Township's decisions (especially since the Township has not taken into consideration the viewpoints of your residents) and the silence is becoming more and more problematic to us as these weeks and months wear on...with no substantive word from the Township.

I have recently been in touch with managers of neighboring municipalities who have opted out of the casino project and their sensitivity and concern for their own residents' perspectives and opinions is palpably different from what we are sensing from our own Township.

Correspondence entails bidirectionality...two-way communication. We have all sadly been experiencing unidirectional messaging....The Township has its messages. We have ours. There is no exchange, no request for input by the Township of your residents.

Your residents are now and have been requesting input from the Township.

We do hope it will come soon.

Sincerely,  
Susan Strauss

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**From:** Jennifer Snyder <jsnyder@collegetownship.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2022 3:14 PM  
**To:** Strauss, Susan G <sgs9@psu.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: Overwhelming community opposition to the Nittany Mall casino

Thank you for your email. It will be added as correspondence at the upcoming CT Council Meeting.

*Best Regards,*

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**From:** Joshua Pake <josh.pake@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2022 9:11 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Pending Casino Decision

You don't often get email from josh.pake@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Board Members

I wanted to write to you regarding the upcoming plans for the casino in the Nittany Mall. I wanted to ask you to reconsider your approval and to further evaluate the effects this would have on our community.

Our community revolves around Penn State. That is fact. The University and the students drive the local economy. What affects the health and well being of the students affects our community as a whole.

Many studies have shown the negative impacts casinos have on college students. Many of these students are experiencing independence for the first time. They are making their own decisions and working towards financial independence from their parents.

Teen agers and young adults are impulsive with financial decisions at this age. They are subsequently at higher risk for developing gambling disorders. These students often carry student loans which add mountains of debt they have to overcome after college as they begin their careers.

Opening a casino in state college would negatively impact our Penn State students. It would lead to gambling addiction, increased poverty, increased debt, etc. This would affect their mental health as well as jeopardize their financial future. As the student population suffers our community will also suffer.

I urge you to reconsider the effects this will have on our Penn State Community. Included are a list of studies that have been done on this topic.

Barnes, G. M., Welte, J. W., Hoffman, J. H., & Tidwell, M. C. (2010). Comparisons of gambling and alcohol use among college students and noncollege young people in the United States. *Journal of American College Health*, 58(5), 443-452.

Blinn-Pike, L., Lokken Worthy, S., Jonkman, J. (2007). Disordered gambling among college students: a meta-analytic synthesis. *Journal of Gambling Studies*, 23, 175-183.

Chambers, R. A., & Potenza, M. N. (2003). Neurodevelopment, impulsivity, and adolescent gambling. *Journal of Gambling Studies*, 19(1), 53-84.

Engwall, D., Hunter, R., & Steinberg, M. (2004). Gambling and other risk behaviors on university campuses. *Journal of American College Health*, 52(6), 245-255.

Giacopassi, D., Stitt, B., Nichols, M. (2006). Motives and methods of under-age casino gamblers. *Journal of Gambling Studies*, 22, 413-426.

Goudriaan, A. E., Slutske, W. S., Krull, J. L., & Sher, K. J. (2009). Longitudinal patterns of gambling activities and associated risk factors in college students. *Addiction*, 104(7), 1219-1232.

- Huang, J. H., Jacobs, D. F., Derevensky, J. L., Gupta, R., & Paskus, T. S. (2007). Gambling and health risk behaviors among U.S. college student-athletes: findings from a national study. *Journal of Adolescent Health, 40*(5), 390-397.
- LaBrie, R.A., Shaffer, H.J., LaPlante, D.A., Wechsler, H. (2003). Correlates of college student gambling in the United States. *Journal of American College Health, 52*(2), 53-62.
- Ladouceur, R., Dube, D., & Bujold, A. (1994). Prevalence of pathological gambling and related problems among college students in the Quebec metropolitan area. *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry, 39*(5), 289-293.
- Lesieur, H. R., Cross, J., Frank, M. L., Welch, M., White, C. M., Rubenstein, G., et al. (1991). Gambling and pathological gambling among university students. *Addictive Behaviors, 16*, 517-527.
- Pedrelli, P., Bitran, S., Shyu, I., Baer, L., Guidi, J., Tucker, D. D., et al. (2011). Compulsive alcohol use and other high-risk behaviors among college students. *American Journal on Addictions, 20*(1), 14-20.
- Petry, N. M., Weinstock, J., Morasco, B. J., & Ledgerwood, D. M. (2009). Brief motivational interventions for college student problem gamblers. *Addiction, 104*(9), 1569-1578.
- Rockey, D., Beason, K., Howington, E., Rockey, C., Gilbert, J. (2005). Gambling by Greek-affiliated college students: An association between affiliation and gambling. *Journal of College Student Development, 46*(1), 75-87.
- Serras, A., Saules, K. K., Cranford, J. A., & Eisenberg, D. Self-injury, substance use, and associated risk factors in a multi-campus probability sample of college students. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors, 24*(1), 119-128.
- Shaffer, H. J., & Hall, M. N. (2001). Updating and refining prevalence estimates of disordered gambling behaviour in the United States and Canada. *Canadian Journal of Public Health, 92*(3), 168-172.
- Shaffer, H. J., Hall, M. N., & Vander Bilt, J. (1999). Estimating the prevalence of disordered gambling behavior in the United States and Canada: a research synthesis. *American Journal of Public Health, 89*(9), 1369-1376.
- Slutske, W. S., Jackson, K. M., & Sher, K. J. (2003). The natural history of problem gambling from age 18 to 29. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology, 112*(2), 263-274.
- Stuhldreher, W.L., Stuhldreher, T.J., Forrest, K.Y. (2007). Gambling as an emerging health problem on campus. *Journal of American College Health, 56*(1), 75-83.
- Weinstock, J., Whelan, J. P., & Meyers, A. (2008). College students' gambling behavior: when does it become harmful? *Journal of American College Health, 56*(5), 513-521.
- Weiss, S. (2010). Cross-addiction on campus: More problems for student-athletes. *Substance Use & Misuse, 45*(10), 1525-1541.
- Welte, J. W., Barnes, G. M., Tidwell, M. C., & Hoffman, J. H. (2008). The prevalence of problem gambling among U.S. adolescents and young adults: results from a national survey. *Journal of Gambling Studies, 24*(2), 119-133.
- Wickwire, E. M., Jr., Whelan, J. P., West, R., Meyers, A., McCausland, C., & Leullen, J. (2007). Perceived availability, risks, and benefits of gambling among college students. *Journal of Gambling Studies, 23*(4), 395-408.

Winters, K., Bengston, P., Door, D., Stinchfield, R. (1998). Prevalence and risk factors of problem gambling among college students. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 12(2), 127-135.

Winters, K. C., Stinchfield, R. D., Botzet, A., & Anderson, N. (2002). A prospective study of youth gambling behaviors. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 16(1), 3-9.

I appreciate your consideration of this email and I thank you for your time.

Joshua Pake

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**From:** Dorothy Sandusky <grossdds@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2022 4:45 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** The Nittany Mall Casino

[You don't often get email from grossdds@comcast.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

I'm just writing asking you to reconsider letting the casino go in the Nittany Mall. To me this is a slap in the face to people living in College Township we were not considered when you approved it you just approved it at least we should've been able to vote on that. I am worried about the kind of people that will be brought into our township, the crime the drugs. We don't need this in our community please reconsider and some way let us vote on it thank you Dottie Sandusky Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** CANDAC KENT <ckent869@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 14, 2022 12:52 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from ckent869@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council,

I am writing to let you know that I strongly oppose the planned casino at the Nittany Mall. I believe that it will have a very negative impact on the entire Centre Region.

Although I am not a resident of College Township, the bad influence of this plan will permeate far beyond the borders of College Township. I strongly encourage you to reconsider bringing this detrimental force into our communities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Candace D. Kent, Patton Township Resident  
869 Galen Drive  
State College, PA 16803-1123  
[ckent869@comcast.net](mailto:ckent869@comcast.net)

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**From:** Bob Bauer <rjbauer@earthlink.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 14, 2022 4:07 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Re: casino

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**Do not let it go into the Nittany Mall. It will cause nothing but trouble.**

**Robert J. Bauer**

**Pennsylvania State Police**

**Retired**

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**From:** Kathy Pollard <kpollard500@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 9:14 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino a Shameful Consideration

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What a distasteful addition to our Happy Valley a gambling casino would be! It's hard enough for our community members to support themselves, and you will be making our most vulnerable victim to inevitable financial loss. Who will benefit? The township coffers and the developer.

SHAMEFUL!

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Sent from Gmail Mobile