Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Doug Miller <dmiller181983@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 5, 2021 8:10 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Casino State College PA

**ATTENTION:** This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Hello,

I would like to voice my opposition to the proposed casino in State College PA. An area such as State College and its outlying communities are very popular for their small town and "safe" feeling that people who live here enjoy. In my opinion a casino will only undermine the pleasant atmosphere of this area and lead to a decline in property values near the location and an increase in crime rate of the Centre County area.

Thank you,
Doug Miller
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To Whom It May Concern:

As new residents to State College, Paul and I wish to make known our opposition to a gaming casino in the Nittany Mall. We have moved from an area where there was a casino within one mile of our home. We have seen first hand the detrimental effects this has on a community. Most distressing to us was the realization that the "handicapped" parking spaces were nearly always filled, strongly suggesting that those who perhaps need the most help are the ones who stand to lose the most.

It is our opinion that a casino in the area would not enhance in any way the quality of life here.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul and Donna Shaffer (residents of the borough of State College)
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As one who has many happy years invested in the Centre Region and, College Twp in particular, I feel strongly that the issue of casino gaming in the Twp’s old Nittany Mall would be a big NEGATIVE for the future. I am aware of all of the arguments for approval of this venture as they are the same everywhere that legalized gaming casinos are locating but I have always been against all gaming operations being a part of our government...whether local, statewide, or on Native American reservations. Government’s role is to serve the public at large with services that our representatives agree together are in the best interests of the population at large and that such services should be funded by fair cost-sharing by the citizens being served. Gaming casinos seem to attract folks that can least afford to give up their more limited incomes ...the allure of "the big winner" is used by these ventures in slick advertising showing all participants very HAPPY...even our favorite groundhog is pushing for folks to "join in the fun" and be a "WINNER"! Our gov’t. representatives are never showing the faces of the vast majority...LOSERS! To each his own certainly applies here BUT...we will all pay the price of this "doomed to fail" activity...I make no moral judgements except as it involves our common government’s roles and taxation duties applying to ALL fairly. I also believe that this short-sighted activity will be, for our Native American long-suffering friends...the final nail in the coffin as gaming revenues fail and the bloated bureaucracy surrounding remains at taxpayer expense.

David Lepro
From: Jane Sleigh <janesleigh@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 6:10 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] SC Gaming OpCo

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

To Whom it Concerns:
This beloved, scenic and safe area is falling into the hands of wealthy people who do not care about the community. As someone who does care, I implore you to make a decision AGAINST a casino in State College.
Thank you for your consideration.
Lisa A Sleigh
Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Uhl, Christopher <cfu1@psu.edu>
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 11:06 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Gaming Casino at Nittany Mall

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

To: PA Gaming Control Board
From: Christopher Uhl

I want to voice my OPPOSITION to the proposed Gaming Casino for Nittany Mall.

Given the troubled/divided nature of these times, I find it difficult to imagine how a casino in the middle of Happy Valley will foster healing and wholeness?

Rather than promoting gambling, with its negative impacts on the common good, why not promote wholesome, life-sustaining projects that will make positive contributions to our collective wellbeing? How? By calling on our citizenry to submit truly innovative (regenerative) proposals for the Nittany Mall property that will make us all proud.

Sincerely,
Christopher Uhl
Professor Emeritus, Penn State
Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: GB, PGCB
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 7:38 AM
To: Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)
Subject: FW: [External] Casino in State College

From: Dorothy SANDUSKY <grossdds@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 5:19 PM
To: GB, PGCB <RA-PGCB@pa.gov>
Subject: [External] Casino in State College

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

I am writing to oppose the casino that is propose for the Nittany Mall in State College Pennsylvania. I am very much against it. I think it will only bring harm to our community. I was at the meeting that you had at the Penn Stater. If I heard Mr. Lubert correctly he said he was the sole investor and that he loves state college and bought a house here and he wanted nothing but great things for our community, which is wonderful words. Then I look up and find out that he built the casino at the King of Prussia Mall and then within six years sold it. I am sure that's what he's planning on doing here and I hear from other people in the area that he is not the sole investor in the casino. I really don't think that a casino would improve our community in anyway, I think it would bring nothing but more problems to our community. Thank you so much. Dottie Sandusky
ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Dear PA Gaming Control Board,
I am writing in very strong opposition to the plan to construct a casino in the now defunct Macy's store and the slowly dying Nittany Mall.

From viewing the video recorded hearing of August 16, it appears that this casino plan is one that will primarily line the pockets of the real estate investors. Other casinos were bid on, developed, and then sold (some six years later) for major profits. This will, in all likelihood, be what will also occur in State College. And we will be the ones who suffer, while the million dollar investors get richer and richer.

The investors claim that this space will become a venue for "family entertainment" -- with a casino as its center?

It will not revive the Nittany Mall into a space that is family friendly. And family friendliness and entertainment/recreation/new retail and restaurants are precisely what our community needs. This town needs a major infusion of culture, not decadence.

Who do these investors envision as prospective clients of this casino? The elderly, students, and neighbors here and in surrounding townships on fixed incomes trying to make their lives better as they play the slots or sit at gaming tables? Football visitors who want a little more excitement in their weekends? This is not Bellagio, Wynn, or Caesar's Palace. Folks will not be coming to play baccarat.

Casinos and alcohol are a natural mix, as if we need more alcohol-related problems/emergencies/accidents in State College.

Worse yet, alcohol, drugs, financial instability, mental health problems and guns are a horrifying mix...and TWO of the retail stores in that very same mall space sell firearms.

Where are the voices of reason here? Who truly stands to profit from this move?
We can do better, far better than this.

We live in a community of creative, highly skilled, and highly innovative entrepreneurs and forward thinkers. We obviously need help in re-imagining this mall space and transforming it into a newly vibrant all-seasons indoor center that can be enjoyed by the majority of our own community members and the thousands of thousands of guests who come to visit State College. We need more positive certainty (a win-win) and much less of a gamble. We need culture, fun, joy, and community, not gambling, drinking, and the illusion of benefit to our town.

Sincerely,
Susan Strauss
ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

As a longtime resident of State College (nearly 30 years), my family and I are hoping that the proposed casino does NOT come to the Nittany Mall. Our area struggles enough with income inequality, substance abuse, a transient population, and other issues.
Please do not approve this proposal.
Norman Spivey
ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Dear Friends,

We are lifelong residents of Centre County. A Casino in our area would drain resources further, create safety concerns, and introduce a host of issues that our community is not equipped to deal with nor should have to endure.

Residents of our community are already paying taxes to cover Penn State University’s infrastructure which is a troublesome burden mainly because Penn State offers no support to our Community. It is unfair and unrealistic to ask that we also stretch our tax dollars further to support a Casino that people that aren’t even part of our community can profit from.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind Regards,

Regina Brannen

Regina M. Brannen
814-404-6433

“For myself I am an optimist - it does not seem to be much use being anything else”
Winston Churchill
ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Casting a "no" vote on the casino issue in State College. Gambling is addictive! Millions of households have been impoverished by gambling. Gambling preys upon those who are already poor. The only real winners are the casino owners. There is not one positive reason for opening a casino in the Nittany Mall.

Christine Stuart

PO Box 393

833 Berry Street

Lemont, PA 16851
Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: DOROTHY WIRTZ <dotwirtz@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 10:05 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Nittany Mall Casino 🗴

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

To whom it may concern,

I have lived here all my life. I have seen a lot of changes. I am opposing the building of the casino at the Nittany Mall in College Township. Knowing that it will bring in more crime and drugs that State College does not need. My children and friends should not have to worry about this unsightly casino in our lives.

Thank you
Dorothy Wirtz
Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Elaine Rodino, Ph.D. <erodino@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 10:43 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Re Casino at Nittany Mall

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

I am strongly opposed to the creation of a casino at the State College Nittany Mall. I am a psychologist and know the devastating effects of addiction and of gambling addiction in particular. This casino would be located in a beautiful college town where there is a waiting cache of future gambling addicts. Again - as a psychologist - I know for sure that this will happen.

The Penn State students are a ready collection of future gambling addicts and this will change the course of their potentially wonderful and productive lives. The creators of such casinos know this and are in fact depending on this. The bar scene of college life will extend to the casino scene. This is why it is supported by so many investors in this effort.

Please do not allow this casino in or near Penn State University area and State College.

Sincerely,
Dr. Elaine Rodino

Elaine Rodino, Ph.D.
State College, PA
www.DrElaineRodino.com
ERodino@aol.com
ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Dear Sir/Madam,

We live and work in State College. We have one 8-year old son. We feel shocked to learn that there is a possibility to open a casino in our area.

We are afraid that the operation of casino will indeed negatively impact our public security. Casino could bring in crime, drug and a lot of social problems. We can not exchange the peaceful life with just the short time wealthy income from the casino. Because in the long run, it will need more money and more police force to treat the social problems. Eventually, in worse case people would leave the town due to high criminal rate and thus the housing cost can drop significantly. We should consider these long term loss of wealth, not just the quick money from opening a casino.

Please take our opinion into consideration. We really think it’s a bad idea to open a casino in State College. Please let it remain to be a clear and beautiful college town.

Thank you for your consideration.
Zhao's family
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People: make some contact with your consciences, not your pocketbooks! Even if PSU students did not frequent the proposed “cash cow”, the stigma of a casino would be in our community, possibly affecting future students’ choices of where to attend college.

I have been to casinos in New Jersey & Las Vegas. Entertaining, but certainly not wholesome! By entertaining I mean watching people who look as if they can scarcely afford it pump money into slot machines. (before the advent of credit cards). And, the ridiculous point that one speaker advocated, was that “we” need to have entertainment for visitors who come to State College for football games & other sports! REALLY!?!? Can’t say I was seeking a casino when I came here for years & years, prior to making Happy Valley my home. People, please don’t allow these charlatans ruin our lives!!!!

Thank you, Charlie Bainbridge

Sent from my iPhone
ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Please, no thank you!

For evidence in opposition to a local casino, I have relied primarily on independent research. A casino in State College? NOOOOOO! Let me count the reasons for my opposition.

Casinos depend on problem gamblers for their revenue base.

Living close to a casino increases the chance of becoming a problem gambler.

Problem gambling is more widespread than many casino industry leaders claim.

Problem gambling affects families and communities as well as individuals.

Young people are viewed as the future of casino gambling.

Working in a casino appears to increase workers’ chances of having gambling problems.

Working in a casino appears to increase workers’ chances of having health problems.

Casinos extract wealth from communities.

Casinos typically weaken nearby businesses.

Casinos typically hurt property values in host communities.

Please consider local residents opposition to a casino in State College.

Linda Barton

Linda Barton, Ph.D.
English Language Specialist
Excel in English
Specializing in American culture & idioms
eslinda54@gmail.com

light a candle instead of cursing the darkness.
ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Dear Board Members,

As a local resident, I am expressing my deep concern for the impact a casino would have on our local residence especially the young student population.

Casinos depend on problem gamblers for their revenue base.

Living close to a casino increases the chance of becoming a problem gambler. Problem gambling is more widespread than many casino industry leaders claim. Problem gambling affects families and communities as well as individuals.

Young people are viewed as the future of casino gambling.

Working in a casino appears to increase workers’ chances of having gambling problems.

Working in a casino appears to increase workers’ chances of having health problems. The Casino’s Health Impact The benefits of casinos are short-term. Casinos extract wealth from communities. Casinos typically weaken nearby businesses. Casinos typically hurt property values in host communities.

For the health and safety of our community and people, I adamantly object to a casino in our community at the mall or any other location. It is a terrible temptation with a huge adverse price tag for our community.

Respectfully,
Nancy Cone, concerned local resident
ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

To whom it may concern:
I am adamantly opposed to a casino in this area. Casinos are invitations to troubles and difficulties, not the least of which are increased police and EMS services. As a retired EMT, I truly do not want this type of facility in our area. Please reject this facility.
Margaret Terry
378 E. Curtin St.,
Bellefonte, PA 16823
Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Liu, Bangzhi <bul2@psu.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 3:45 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] No Casino in Centre County

**ATTENTION:** This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Dear PGCB:

As a local resident of Centre County, I am deeply concerned about converting Nittany Mall into a casino. Reports already showed that casino will hurt local economy, business, home value, and most importantly, it hurts family and the younger generation. As a parent of two young kids, easy access to a local casino will definitely be a big concern among other existing concerns. Please help preserve State College as a safe place and healthy place for our younger generation.

Sincerely,

Bangzhi Liu
ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Please do not allow a casino at the Nittany Mall, we live less than a mile away! This will not improve anything in this area but will degrade the area!

--
Barb Saxton
ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

It is my understanding that you are desiring to put a casino in the Nittany Mall. Casino's are so harmful to families because they cater to people who really do not have the money to gamble but have an addiction and cannot resist spending money that the don't have in hopes of winning, which rarely happens. Please do not allow this to happen in our community, consider the families who will pay dearly.

Thank you,
Beverly Haushalter
Hi,

I know that the need for funds to maintain and support our communities is important but how we do that is more important. Bringing in a casino in a college centric environment will bring nothing but trouble and anguish to young folks and their families. Please do not go down this path to raise revenues. Step back and consider the eventual negative results of pursuing this. If you through with this, do you have funds to set-up gambling addiction support, potential for more suicides, chances for lawsuits??

Regards
Girts Perkons
1737 Circleville Road
State College 16803
Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Randy Earhart <randy_earhart@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 5:06 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Proposed casino for State College Pa

**ATTENTION:** This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

I disapprove of the proposed casino for State College as I feel it will degrade the quality of life in Centre county. Casinos prey on society’s most vulnerable, and does not improve the areas it inhabits.

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad
From: Jeanne Walsh <jw19006@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 5:44 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Casino in State College

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Dear Sir or Madam,

I want to voice my concerns about a casino in our community. Aside from the monetary benefit, it will only cause crime and an influx of more people that only want to gamble and cause trouble. We vote no on the proposed casino.

Sincerely,
Cal and Jeanne Walsh
103 Aspen Drive
Boalsburg, Pa. 16827

Get Outlook for iOS
ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Hello,
My family and I are residents of Boalsburg. I am also a physician who practices locally. We are diametrically opposed to a casino in our area. It would not only have a negative effect on the health of our community but it would also contribute to moral and civil decline.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Don Schneider, M.D.
From: Julie Gittings <juliegittings@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 6:49 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] I oppose the Casino in the Nittany Mall.

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

I do - I am anti gambling. I am pro - "family values" - it's old fashioned but I am. People work too hard for their money to "gamble" with it. I know that many people regard gambling as a harmless recreational past time - But it is too addicting and places too much worth in money. The industry is ridiculously profitable because the real authentic winner is the house. The false hope that gambling creates in an individual is destructive more often than not. Entertainment and food can be made available without the casino structure which is basically and ultimately designed to cheat people. Generally, people who gamble too much are the very ones who can afford it the least.

The atmosphere of gambling is often accompanied by other excesses - and I am not claiming a cause/effect relationship. However, smoking, alcohol, disregard for speed limits and traffic laws, and violence both gratuitous and domestic all flourish in the same waters in which gamblers swim. I am a "normal" retired mom and grandma who has opposed gambling for all of my 67 years. I choose to live in a thinking, functioning university town that encourages recreation and education. Gambling and casino attractions are NOT an asset to Happy Valley.

Julie Gittings
814 441-0813
16801

Julie Gittings
ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

To whom it may,

I am not in favor of a casino at the Nittany Mall.

Peggy Jasper Bixler
From: Doug Sharp <sharpys@windstream.net>
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 7:11 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Oppose proposed casino in Centre County

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

I am writing to object to the proposed casino near the Nittany Mall in Centre County. Casinos do not add value to a community, but only increase crime, addiction, dependence on welfare, and heartache. I am a resident of Centre County and am strongly opposed to experiencing these ills in my community.

Doug Sharp

Sent from my iPhone
Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Heather Ricker-Gilbert <heatherrg160@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 7:34 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Proposed casino

**ATTENTION:** This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Centre County is populated by college students and retirees. Both groups will flock to a casino to gamble, increase traffic, and waste time. We already have numerous bars in State College and Bellefonte. Do we really need another center for excess drinking and possible violence? Surely the commissioners at the PGCB can find a more creative, adaptable use for the former Nittany Mall than a gambling casino.

Heather Ricker-Gilbert
State College, PA
ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

I object to the the casino it is not needed

Sent from my iPad
Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Patrick K <patski762@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 8:41 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Casino in State College PA

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

PA Gaming Commission,

I would like to voice my support for the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall in State College.

The Nittany Mall is in need of a savior and Centre County residents are in need of a local casino to play slots and table games that isn’t three hours away.

A local casino would provide those as well as local tax revenue and jobs. Centre Countians and many others would rather spend gambling money locally than in Pittsburgh, Philly, Wilkes Barre or Harrisburg, knowing their money is creating local jobs and doesn’t require a full day time investment with half of it going to travel time.

A Casino in the center of the State makes sense, given the current geographic distribution of other PA casinos, and what better place than the fastest growing town in PA, a town with good jobs, a young population, a strong middle class and a central location?

For the people of Centre, Blair, Clinton, Huntington, Mifflin and other local counties, I ask that you approve the casino at the State College Nittany Mall.

Thank you,

Patrick Kim
Julian, PA
Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Jeanne H <jvhouston@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 10:39 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Casino

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Hello,

I want to express my deep concern and opposition to the proposed casino in the current Nittany Mall in State College. As a resident of College Township, and Centre County, I believe this will cause nothing but grief and destruction of lives to the people who live here and who would be part of this either to work or to play. The so called revenue it would expect to bring comes at a huge price and not worth the lives that will be broken and oppressed by what it will bring. I live very close to the mall and this sort of business is known to prey on the elderly, women and low income people and affects them in the most insidious ways. It will bring with it to our valley all the nefarious things that accompany such a “business”: addictions, abuse, violence and trafficking that would have a new market if it is here. It will become a scourge on our way of life that we have been blessed to know up till now.

Sincerely,
Jeanne Houston

Sent from my iPhone
From: Linda Bonness <lrbonness@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 10:57 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Please dont bring a Casino to State College and the Nittany Mall

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to let you know that I hope you will NOT open a casino to State College at the Nittany Mall. We have a very special community and even with over 40,000 college students, it has the feel of a small town where people are connected and thriving. I understand that your reasons for bringing the casino are likely monetary, but I can't think of any positive outcomes for our area in having a casino. Many local businesses are already having trouble filling job openings, college students don't need an additional distraction outside of their studies, and the folks who come into our community to gamble are likely not the demographic that will benefit the businesses that are struggling to survive having just lived through Covid. Have a casino so accessible will also encourage negative behaviors related to addiction. For these reasons and many more, please reconsider moving forward with a Casino at the Nittany Mall in State College.

Regards,
Linda Bonness
From: lynn shields <lynnkshields01@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 10:57 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Casino at Nittany Mall

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Dear board clerk,

I am writing to register my opposition to the proposed casino at Nittany Mall. My opinion is that it will have a negative influence on our community that we all will be much better without.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Lynn Shields
Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Marsha Haack <marshahaack@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 9, 2021 6:55 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Casino in State College

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

I am apposed to a casino in State College. It is robbing from the poor to make the rich richer. I believe it is ethically wrong.

Marsha Haack, State College

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone
From: sarah@sarahwallbeckman.com
Sent: Thursday, September 9, 2021 9:13 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Please say no to the casino

**ATTENTION**: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Please do not move forward with the plans for the casino at Nittany Mall. While it might seem like there are advantages, those advantages will eventually be surpassed by harming Centre Co.’ citizen in income loss and addictive behaviors. It’s a short term solution that could have greater lasting consequences.

Sincerely,

Sarah Beckman
State College, 16801

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone
ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

To whom it may concern.

I am not in favor of a casino in State College. I oppose bringing such an entity to this region. I believe our money can be used in a more favorable manner while protecting those vulnerable to addiction and unseemly gains. I realize many folks consider this entertainment; however it also attracts some who foster selfish motives.

Thank you for considering the opinions of those against this endeavor.

Respectfully submitted,
E. Witter
State College
From: Nicole Kressler <witheritenicole@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 9, 2021 10:05 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] State College Casino

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I truly hope the decision for a Casino in State College is a no. This is liable to bring in higher crime rates. We already have a big college campus we do not need something to attract more crime. Penn State already has a reputation for being a party college because of all of the alcohol as it is. A casino is not a good idea.
Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Barbara Gross <bararakulp29@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 9, 2021 10:37 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Director of Hearings and Appeals - Casino at Nittany Mall

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The proposed plan to put a gambling casino in the middle of a small university town in a primarily agricultural region is a bad idea. It’s a moral and ethical challenge to a community based on family values. The truth is nobody knows what the actual costs or benefits will be. Sadly Casinos are more a temptation to the poor than the general public.

Barbara Gross
500 East Marylyn Avenue
State College, PA 16801

Sent from my iPad
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to the Director of Hearings and Appeals,

I realize this comment is after the hearing in Centre County, but I would like it to be added to other letters opposing College Township's Casino.

It is well documented that casinos promote addictive gambling, thereby harming the gambler but also contribute to the financial ruin of family members that can least afford the loss of funds. Casinos prey on those who are addicted to the "high" of risk. Family members cannot control an addicted gambler with a credit card.

Casinos are an extremely regressive and abusive means of avoiding tax hikes. I deplore the use of casinos for tax revenue

Furthermore, casinos degrade the area in which they are placed, with increased "sleaze." They prey on newbys who might try it for kicks and find they become regulars. This Casino is well placed to entice a number of the 45,000 Penn State students, who, if inebriated after a game, might well start their habit at a nearby casino.

Centre County is a mostly peaceful place, whose peace is being undermined by those who seek more profits through tourism. The proposed casino is a particularly ugly example of this tendency.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Dr. Dorothy Blair
632 West Main St.
Boalsburg, PA 16827
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Dear Director of Hearings & Appeals,

It has become imperative that more voices need to be recorded and heard regarding the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. A casino in our area spells many unwanted issues for our local officials to start dealing with on a daily basis. For my family the vote should be a resounding NO! And that opinion is not based upon a moral or ethical issue. Facts will speak for themselves from other communities that regret having such a venue for their citizens and the issues of helping to encourage a person’s weakness, monies that will be spent at the casino will assuredly be monies that would have a serious affect on local families meeting their household expenses. This type of access to gambling depends upon preying on people’s weaknesses. We in the State College community do NOT want all the myriad of issues dealing with something that prey’s on our friends and neighbor’s weaknesses. Our mental health agencies are overwhelmed as it is.

Thank you,
Claire Amick
Boalsburg, PA
ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

We strongly object of the idea of have a casino here in town.

Resident of centre county

Sent from my iPhone
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I am writing to you in opposition to that idea. I have a son who is a gambling addict, and while he was in school I know he would have spent every dollar, and every waking moment that he could possibly spare, in the Casino, if there had been one that he was close enough to get to, and that at barely age 18 he would have managed to get a fake ID in order to do that. And I know that his gambling addiction would have come to light much sooner than it actually did, if this had been the case, with truly disastrous results. Among the students at Penn State, I am sure that there are hundreds, if not thousands, of potential gambling addicts who will never even know that they have the disease, if there’s no casino nearby to bring it out.

The other reason that I oppose building this casino is that I used to live right between Connecticut’s 2 major casinos, Mohegan Sun and Foxwoods. Every one in the area knew of all the stories about unattended children left alone in locked cars while their parents gambled, it was a local scandal.

But what was just as bad, and that most of us did NOT know about, was the number of senior citizens that would spend all day playing the slot machines, and would even wear diapers so that when they had to go to the bathroom, they didn’t have to get up from their slot machine if they thought they were on winning streak, or if they knew there was someone waiting to replace them if they left their machine. I don’t know how many of the senior citizens gambled away their Social Security checks every month, instead of paying the rent and utility bills and buying food.

In my view, the revenue that a casino would bring into College Township and to Centre County is far outweighed by the social ills that it would bring in its wake. I hope and pray that the PGCB will vote AGAINST permitting the proposed casino in the Nittany Mall.

Very truly yours, Joan M. Bouchard
The Village at Penn State
Patton Township, State College
860-818-4421

Sent from the all new AOL app for Android
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To the PGCB Director of Hearings and Appeals,

I am writing to weigh in on the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall in State College, PA.

I vote NO.

1. Centre County's unemployment rate is relatively low. Centre County businesses have a hard enough time hiring help without competition from a casino.

2. Gambling is addictive. It targets the poor. The games are rigged against the players.

3. Gambling does not fit the community values of Centre County. We value education, the great outdoors, agricultural abundance, faith, and caring for our neighbors.

A casino is a dark, sterile, suffocating environment for human beings where people waste away precious time and money.

Vote NO to a casino in Centre County.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Ellen Peachey
106 Railroad St
PO Box 92
Spring Mills PA 16875
ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

I am writing in opposition to the proposed casino planned at the Nittany Mall in State College, PA. I truly believe that this is not in the best interest of the community, or to the student population at Penn State University.

Sheryl Myers
resident of Boalsburg, PA
From: Brian Roberg <robergb@dm.org>
Sent: Friday, September 10, 2021 12:01 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Nittany Mall casino project

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To whom it may concern,

As a longtime resident of State College, I have been dismayed as I've heard the reports of plans to place a casino in the Nittany Mall. I understand that you are still soliciting input from the community, so I'm writing to share my perspective.

I reviewed the impact report for the project. It's clear that people have thought a lot about money, infrastructure, policing, etc. But the impact report ignores the fundamental fact that casinos prey on vulnerable people for the enrichment of wealthy developers. (I noticed that the word "addiction" does not appear in the report.)

We don't want an outside developer to come to our community to build a facility for extracting money from residents, some of whom are trapped in addictions the casinos have deliberately cultivated. The tax revenue does not make it OK; in fact it makes the state and local governments complicit. Nor does the generation of a modest number of poor/mediocre-paying jobs justify the essentially predatory nature of the gambling industry that supplies those jobs.

This project will be good for Ira Lubert, but bad for State College and Centre County.

Perhaps there is no chance that someone at the Gaming Control Board will have ears to hear a perspective that represents a wholesale rejection of the "gaming" system. But as I don't know where else my concern can be shared, I submit it for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,
Brian Roberg
State College, PA
ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Dear Staff,

I am writing this to express my objection and my husband's to any casino or gaming business being brought into Centre county or central PA! There is no way that it will be a benefit to businesses or individuals.

The fact is gaming or any form of gambling destabilizes families and communities! Many years ago while my husband was in graduate school in SD, they allowed casinos to built and the following year there were double the number of bankruptcies than had previously taken place. Allowing this casino to go forward may bring more crime and negatives to our community than any positives you could possibly name!

Thank you for considering my comments before you make a decision!

Sincerely,
Richard and Susan McCoy
From: Susan <sr144@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 10, 2021 3:54 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Opposition to Proposed College Township Casino

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Dear PA Department of State,

I would like to express my opposition to the proposed College Township Casino for your consideration, please.
If I were looking for a place to live, I would never choose to live near a casino. Would you? The National Association of Realtors study indicated that property values significantly decrease when a casino is simply slated to be developed! I personally feel that casinos are a method for wealthy people to increase their wealth at the expense and detriment of desperate poor people and people who are prone to addiction. Although this is not the only people who gamble, it is a factor in every casino that exists. Gambling addiction and financial ruin remains a fact and a problem in our society that we are encouraging and supporting with the increase of casinos in our state. Then we (the residents in the community) are paying tax dollars to help correct the problems created. This means everyone pays for the problems created. I personally believe in hard-work ethics to make money and feel that supporting and encouraging the concept of making money through gambling is a detriment to our society and especially a very bad role model for college students (since this casino is located near Penn State University). I fear that the location of this casino near a college town is no accident and is shameful exploitation of young people at a vulnerable age where they are already struggling with independence and responsibility. Instead of responsible, working adults, these students are being tempted with a life of continual dependence on their parents and social support networks. Thank you for taking my opinions into consideration.

Susan Buda
State College, PA
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Dear Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board:

Please note my opposition to the proposed casino in Centre County.

As a Registered Nurse licensed to practice in Pennsylvania, I am familiar with health problems caused by addictions, including gambling. I am sure that you are aware that the health issues caused by gambling are primarily psychological. There is also physical component, however, as psychological issues such as depression have been linked to physical health issues.

Health issues associated with gambling are not necessarily limited to the gamblers themselves. Family is also impacted, just as with other forms of addiction. Again, the problems are primarily psychological, but there will be a physical component as well, including the potential for physical abuse during domestic disputes generated by gambling.

As you can see, gambling is a health issue as well as a money issue. Please make a positive decision for public health by denying approval of the proposed casino in Centre County.

Sincerely,

Daniel L. Shields, RN, BSN
125 Oakwood Drive
State College, PA 16801

Phone: 814-237-2878

Sent from Mail for Windows
ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

I am writing to strongly oppose the possible opening of a casino in the Nittany Mall near State College. We don’t need more crime in Centre County. A casino will bring every vice in the book. How anyone would think that this would be good for the community is a complete mystery to me. Of course the bottom line is money. Forget crime, organized crime, prostitution, wrecked lives due to gambling addiction, etc. Please do not approve this casino.

Judy Watson, Julian, PA
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To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to strongly oppose the approval of a Casino in State College. As a member of this community and a mother that is raising small children here, there are many concerns that I have. This is a rural town that sees an influx of 50,000 students each fall that brings challenges to our small community already. This community would not even be considered if it was not for the university. Our community’s role to the university and its students should be to support and encourage success. By allowing a casino, we are providing them with another distraction for their studies, which could lead to many different types of failure. The negative impacts of a casino should be strongly looked at. What could we be allowing into this community: increases in drug trafficking, sex trafficking, prostitution, increase in crime, others? We are currently seeing “Help Wanted” signs from all businesses in our community; where will employees be found if somewhere like Chick-fil-A has to close their indoor seating because of lack of staff? I hope that you strongly take into account the voices of those opposed and see the importance of keeping our children, community, and university community safe.

Thank you for your time!

~Allison Erickson
I apologize that this is late. I did not know where to send my concerns regarding the proposed gambling casino in State College, PA.

Gambling is not good and helpful. Plain and simple. It is not a positive thing for society.

Most people do not teach their kids how to gamble, practice gambling, and hope they will spend lots of time and money gambling in the future.

Gambling does not yield good results in a society or city. It leads to problems and trouble.

Gambling is not a good and desirable behavior and practice. So, why would we even want to consider opening up a gambling facility in town?

I realize that a relatively few people might get jobs. I realize that there will be tax income for the state. But the latter does not make an undesirable thing become desirable.

Legally selling all kinds of (currently illegal) drugs and narcotics could also bring in more tax money, but making illegal drugs available to everyone is also not something good and desirable that we want in our region.

Gambling typically attracts some undesirable behavior, actors, and activities. We do not want or need these in State College.

Gambling often impacts the poorest the most. It would probably hurt the poorer people of this region the most.

Gambling can lead to addictive behavior. Gambling can lead to debt.

It's just not worth the risk of bringing it to town.

This should be a no-brainer. There are hardly any significant benefits. A few people can find jobs elsewhere these days as there appears to be no shortage of job openings.

So, the only potential benefit is additional tax income. But promoting and establishing an undesirable activity for the sake of tax income is a bad idea.

In general, people do not want their children to grow up to be consistent and long-term gamblers. So, please, let's avoid all of the potential problems and dark activity that can go along with a gambling facility.

Please do not open up a gambling location in this region.

The only people who will make money, long-term, are the casino and the government via taxes. The large majority of people coming to the casino will lose money. The odds are against them.

So, why would we want to help people lose money? This does not make any sense.

And let's also help people avoid developing gambling problems or debt issues. We can do this by saying "no" to the proposed casino.
Thank you for considering scrapping the casino plans.

Sincerely,

John Pitterle

108 Kuhns Lane
State College, PA 16801
From: Genevieve Volgstadt <volgstadt101@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 11, 2021 5:30 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Casino in State College

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I do not want a casino in State College. It will be a great hinderance for college students. Why should the government make money off of our vices?

Sent from my iPhone
Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: wang.haifeng@yahoo.com
Sent: Sunday, September 12, 2021 9:54 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Oppose the plan that will turn the closed Macy's in Nittany Mall into a Casino in State College

**ATTENTION:** This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Dear PGCB members,

I'm writing this email to oppose the plan that will turn the closed Macy’s store in Nittany Mall into a Casino in State College because Casino gambling brings lifelong negative impact on individuals, families, communities, and society.

It has been found that individuals who regularly play slots become addicted three to four times faster than those who play cards or bet on sports. Modern slot machines are engineered to make players lose track of time and money and living close to a casino increases the chance of becoming a problem gambler.

Therefore I strongly oppose the plan to build a Casino in Nittany Mall in State College.

Sincerely,

Haifeng
Attention Director of Hearings and Appeals

Dear Sir/Madam,

I received this notice from the PA Gaming Control Board but never received a follow up indicating how to submit my comments in advance of the hearing in State College.

My comments are below:

Your submission has been received. Thank you. Your Registrant ID number is 5815. If your choice is to speak in person or online at the upcoming hearing, and not resubmit earlier testimony, please make a note of your Registrant ID number and await further information on how to provide your testimony.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

My comments:

I wish to communicate my opposition to the proposed mini casino in Sate College. We are a rural community with a large population of students. Introducing them to a gambling lifestyle is not advisable at their impressionable age.

While the owners of the casino propose spending 120 million dollars on the facilities, this provides a glimpse of how much money the plan to extract from the community.

Our downtown businesses which have survived the pandemic will be further impacted by the spending that will occur at casino’s restaurant and bar, especially on major event weekends. There is no doubt that money normally spent downtown and in the townships will be pocketed by Bally.

The most serious aspect of locating a casino here will be its negative effects on families. Gambling addiction will rise, putting strain on our rural families.

Please deny a license to this facility

Don Cstaro
603 Stoneledge Rd
State College, PA 16803
Dear Sir,

I would like to go on record in opposition to the proposed gambling casino to be located at the Nittany Mall. Using the guise of job creation is irresponsible, it cannot justify the financial problems it will cost local low income and elderly people. In addition, we do not need an influx of people from outside this area, we get enough of that from Penn State.

Bob Hohn
Bellefonte, PA